



Mississippi Mills United

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Child Protection Policy

As a soccer club primarily focused on delivering soccer programs to children, we must always, as coaches and club officials, be attentive and ensure that the environment is safe and supportive to their needs. As such, Mississippi Mills United (MMU) expects all those directly involved with children in soccer, to always be and present a positive and ethical representation of themselves and MMU, and to always take into account children's safety.

Mandate for Coaches and Staff, must not:

- Engage directly for personal reasons not pertaining to soccer related issues with children through the phone or social media channels such as: email, Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, texting, etc. Club and team-based group communication sites such as Spond are to be utilized whenever possible.
- Participate in any direct meeting with a child that is not in an openly visible location to another adult such as the team manager, assistant coach and/or the child's parent or guardian. Ad-hoc direct feedback before, during or post games/practice scenarios is encouraged but must always be done at the training ground or similar venues within a visible setting.
- Be alone with a child in a non-visible place and/or enclosed space, such as a car, change room or similar area or provide transportation to and from practices, tournaments, festivals and games to children unless accompanied by the child's guardian or with the guardian's consent.

- Leave children alone after a game or practice if their parent/guardian has not arrived to pick them up. If such a situation were to arise, it is the responsibility of the coach to ensure that another adult or person remains in the company of the coach and child wherever possible if not in an openly visible location.
- Use profanity, swearing, ridicule or violence towards a child.

Given the importance of the role of a coach or club official and their interaction with players, parents and families, attention to the above is required and appreciated. If at any time a coach is faced with a “grey” situation, take the side of caution or seek guidance from the club.

As a coach / club official, you must also be aware and keep all requirements as part of Ontario Soccer up to date. Please reference this links for more information:

[Respect In Sport Program](#)

[Protecting Children & Youth in Sport](#)