



CHILD PROTECTION CODE OF CONDUCT

OKD Soccer Club

Purpose of This Code

The Child Protection Code of Conduct is an essential part of the *Commit to Kids: Sport Edition* program, designed to strengthen child safety in sport environments.

At OKD Soccer Club (OKD), this Code establishes clear expectations for staff, team officials, and volunteers to ensure all children are protected, respected, and supported. It outlines appropriate behavior, helps identify concerns, and provides direction on how to respond when issues arise.

This document is intended as a guiding framework and may be adapted to reflect specific risks or situations within OKD.

Our Commitment

OKD Soccer Club is dedicated to creating a safe, respectful, and positive environment for every child. The safety, rights, and well-being of children are our highest priorities.

This Code supports that commitment by:

- Defining acceptable and unacceptable behavior
- Promoting healthy relationships and boundaries
- Providing clear reporting expectations

Expected Standards of Conduct

Respect and Boundaries

All staff, team officials, and volunteers are required to:

- Treat every child with dignity and respect
- Establish and maintain appropriate boundaries with children and families
- Be mindful of their own behavior and that of others
- Promote a safe, inclusive, and supportive environment

Appropriate Interactions

All activities and interactions must:

- Be related to official club duties
- Be transparent and, where appropriate, known to parents/guardians
- Be approved by the club
- Support the child's development within the sport

Always consider how a child may perceive or react to interactions. If any concern arises, it must be discussed with club staff or the designated safeguarding representative.

Unacceptable Conduct

The following behaviors are strictly prohibited:

General Misconduct

- Embarrassing, shaming, blaming, or humiliating a child
- Intimidating, threatening, or making fun of a child

- Any action that undermines a child's confidence or well-being

Physical and Personal Boundaries

- Engaging in physical contact that may be inappropriate or unwelcome
- Spending time alone with a child outside authorized club activities

Communication Violations

- Personal phone calls unrelated to club duties
- Private messages, texts, emails, or social media interactions not tied to responsibilities
- Excessive or secretive communication

Favoritism

- Providing special treatment, gifts, or privileges to specific children

Use of Images and Devices

- Taking photos or videos of children using personal devices
- Sharing or storing images of children for personal use
(All official images must remain the property of OKD and be used only for club purposes.)

Sexual Misconduct

- Making suggestive comments or jokes
- Sharing or showing inappropriate or explicit content

Responsibility to Report

All staff, team officials, and volunteers have a duty to report any concerns, including:

- Suspected child abuse
- Inappropriate behavior
- Any situation that may put a child at risk

Where to Report

1. Illegal or Criminal Behavior
(e.g., child abuse or exploitation)

- Must be reported immediately to law enforcement and/or child protection authorities

2. Inappropriate Behavior

- Must be reported to OKD club staff
- Staff will escalate the matter to the designated safeguarding person

If there is uncertainty about whether behavior is inappropriate or illegal, seek guidance from club leadership immediately.

Follow-Up and Investigation

OKD Soccer Club will take all reports seriously:

- Allegations of illegal behavior
 - Reported to law enforcement and/or child welfare agencies
 - May also result in an internal review
- Allegations of inappropriate behavior
 - Reviewed internally to determine necessary action

Escalation may occur if behavior:

- Is repeated

- Involves multiple incidents
- Is considered serious

In such cases, OKD may refer the matter to external authorities.