



# Right to Play Policy

- 1) The Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association (EIYSA) is committed to providing a safe and inclusive environment for all players and program participants. EIYSA's Right to Play policy encompasses the rights afforded to all players participating in Club programs, as well as the Codes of Conduct that the Club has in place to protect youth players as well as adult players, coaches, staff, volunteers, match officials and spectators.
- 2) Violation of any of these rights or Codes of Conduct is taken very seriously by the Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association, and EIYSA is committed to acting swiftly and appropriately in response to any complains of misconduct. Parties found to be in violation of any of the codes are subject to disciplinary measures as decided by EIYSA, the Alberta Soccer Association, Canada Soccer and potentially Regional Police Service.
- 3) The Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association Player Rights are as follows:
  - a) All players have the right to learn the sport of soccer and develop at their own pace.
  - b) All players have the right to voice questions and concerns without fear of repercussions or judgement from fellow players, coaches, spectators and/or Club officials.
  - c) All players have the right to enjoy the sport and Club programs free from abuse of any kind (physical, verbal emotional, cyber or otherwise) from any players, coaching staff or any other person in a position of authority of influence. All players have the right to say no to physical contact or interaction with another person or Club representative.
  - d) All players have the right to feel comfortable while participating in any Club sanctioned activity. Players should never be made to feel uncomfortable, nervous or compromised by a coach, parent or Club official.
  - e) All players have the right to be treated fairly regardless of age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, ethnic background, religion or race.
  - f) All players have the right to have fun.
- 4) EIYSA Codes of Conduct encompassed by the Right to Play Policy:
  - a) Fair Play Code of Conduct (Includes Codes for Players, Coaches, Officials, and Parents/Guardians)
  - b) Coach & Manager Code of Conduct
  - c) Friendly Fan Policy
  - d) Discipline Policy
  - e) Serious Occurrence Policy
  - f) Anti-Bullying Policy
- 5) The above policies can be found on EIYSA's website and are available to all Club members and the public.
- 6) The Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association recognizes its responsibility to protect all players involved in EIYSA programming. As such, EIYSA requires all staff and volunteers over 18 years of age to obtain a Vulnerable Sector Screening which are kept on file at EIYSA and are to be updated every two years. EIYSA also requires acknowledgement of all policies and procedures from staff and volunteers involved in the organization. Allegations of abuse and misconduct are taken very seriously by EIYSA. Any reports of abuse or misconduct should be made to EIYSA via EIYSA's Serious Occurrence Policy by way of EIYSA's Serious Occurrence Report Form.



- 7) In the absence of this form, reports made to Association staff will be relayed to the appropriate program supervisor who will bring the matter to the attention of the Executive Director for immediate action.
- 8) The Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association's number one priority is the wellbeing of its players and will continue to work with local clubs and authorities to review its policies and procedures to ensure that the best interests and safety of its members are paramount at all times.