



Tobacco-Free Policy

The Ottawa TFC (OTFC) is located in the province of Ontario and is therefore subject to the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*. Under this Act, it is illegal to smoke or hold lighted tobacco on or around public and private school property (including playgrounds and sports fields), children's playgrounds and publicly owned sports fields and surfaces such as soccer fields, splash pads, swimming pools, basketball surfaces, and tennis courts. For more information about Smoke-Free Ontario legislation, go to

<http://www.mhp.gov.on.ca/en/smoke-free/legislation/how-the-act-affects-you.asp> and <http://ottawa.ca/en/residents/public-health/healthy-living/information-event-organizers>.



Scope

The OTFC is committed to providing a healthy environment for participants, volunteers and spectators involved with our organization. Our club has a responsibility to provide a healthy environment for all those involved in our sport, and to model positive health behaviour with regard to tobacco use.

The OTFC has taken Ontario's smoke-free position a step further by adopting a **tobacco-free** environment as well. The OTFC's Tobacco-Free policy will apply during all OTFC activities including, but not limited to, games, tournaments, competitions, practices, training sessions, events (e.g., fundraising, meetings, press conferences, etc.) or any other activity sanctioned by our Club.

Introduction

We believe that soccer is a sport that promotes physical activity and healthy living and is not compatible with tobacco product use. We recognize that no level of tobacco exposure is safe and that children and youth gain positive images of being tobacco-free when they see role models, leaders and individuals modeling and respecting tobacco-free living. A tobacco-free environment is important to keep youth from trying, and using, tobacco products.



Definitions

Smoke free prohibits the use of smoke-producing tobacco products because of the health effects on other people due to the exposure to second hand smoke.

Smoking is defined in the City of Ottawa Parks and Facilities By-Law No. 2004-276 as the carrying of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other lighted or heated smoking equipment used to smoke tobacco or non-tobacco substances.

Tobacco-free prohibits the use of **any** tobacco product. While the City of Ottawa's by-law covers lit tobacco products, this policy covers unlit tobacco products, clove cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products (otherwise known as dip, chew, snuff, or spit).

Policy

The OTFC will comply with these legal requirements by ensuring players, participants, volunteers, officials, coaches, leaders, parents, spectators, directors, contractors, and other individuals who perform duties on behalf of the OTFC not use any of the above mentioned products when attending any OTFC sanctioned activity (no matter where that activity is taking place).



In addition, the OTFC will not use tobacco products in any fundraising activity and will not accept any sponsorship from the tobacco industry or from companies that rely on the manufacture and/or sale of tobacco or tobacco products.

Promotion

We will promote our tobacco-free policy by:

- posting signs at the OTFC Clubhouse in the following locations: bulletin board, boardroom, equipment room, and washrooms.
- making the policy visible throughout the year by including information and a tobacco-free logo on our website.
- ensuring all new and returning directors, contractors, and volunteers are aware of the policy and their role in supporting and promoting it.



- providing a copy of the policy in all orientation, or in all information packages or first soccer schedules so that all new and returning coaches, convenors, officials and volunteers know about the policy from the start.
- having the coaches explain this policy to their coaching staff, players (and their parents and guardians) and ask them to explain this policy to others who may come to the game or activity.
- reviewing and sharing the policy with other organizations or groups who may attend visit our facilities or participate in our events.
- encouraging all coaches and players to promote an active, healthy lifestyle free for the use of tobacco products

Enforcement / Reinforcement

We will ensure that all those attending and participating in OTFC activities have access to a tobacco-free environment by using the following steps:

- Assume the individual is **not** aware of this tobacco-free policy;
- Encourage all OTFC directors, contractors, coaches, players, members, officials and volunteers to respectfully remind individuals who are using tobacco at OTFC activities about the tobacco-free policy; and
- Call the proper authorities if an individual persistently or willfully disregards this policy and have that person removed from the area.
- The individuals may be subject to disciplinary action as is applicable.

Approved for EXTERNAL use
by the OTFC Board of
Directors May 12, 2015

