

# **Cultural Sensitivity Policy**

At Chestermere United FC, we are committed to fostering an inclusive and respectful environment for all individuals involved in our soccer programs and activities. We recognize and value the diversity of cultures, backgrounds, and experiences that our participants bring, and we strive to create an atmosphere that promotes cultural sensitivity and understanding. This policy is in line with the guidelines set forth by Canada Soccer and aims to ensure that everyone feels safe, respected, and included.

## 1. Respect for Diversity:

We promote and celebrate diversity in all its forms, including but not limited to race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, and ability. We expect all participants, including players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and spectators, to treat each other with respect and dignity, regardless of their cultural background.

#### 2. Anti-Discrimination:

Discrimination of any kind, including racial, ethnic, religious, or cultural discrimination, will not be tolerated within our organization. We are committed to providing equal opportunities and fair treatment to all individuals, and any form of discrimination will be addressed promptly and appropriately.

#### 3. Cultural Awareness and Education:

We encourage all participants to develop cultural awareness and understanding. We will provide educational resources, workshops, and training opportunities to promote cultural sensitivity and to address any misconceptions or stereotypes that may exist. We also encourage open dialogue and the sharing of cultural experiences to foster a more inclusive environment.

#### 4. Language and Communication:

We recognize that language plays a crucial role in cultural sensitivity. We encourage the use of inclusive language that respects and acknowledges different cultural backgrounds. Participants are expected to communicate respectfully and avoid any derogatory or offensive language that may be hurtful to others.

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# 5. Dress Code:

We respect and accommodate cultural and religious practices related to dress codes. Participants are encouraged to express their cultural identity through appropriate attire, as long as it does not compromise safety or fair play. Any concerns or questions regarding dress code should be addressed with sensitivity and understanding.

# 6. Inclusive Programming:

We strive to ensure that our soccer programs and activities are accessible and inclusive for individuals from all cultural backgrounds. We will make reasonable accommodations to meet the needs of participants, taking into consideration cultural practices, religious observances, and individual preferences whenever possible.

## 7. Reporting and Addressing Concerns:

We have a zero-tolerance policy for any behavior that violates this Cultural Sensitivity Policy. Any concerns or incidents of cultural insensitivity, discrimination, or harassment should be reported immediately to the designated authority within our organization. We will investigate all reports promptly and take appropriate action to address the situation.

# 8. Ongoing Evaluation and Improvement:

We are committed to continuously evaluating and improving our cultural sensitivity practices. We will regularly review this policy, seek feedback from participants, and make necessary adjustments to ensure that our organization remains inclusive and respectful.

By adhering to this Cultural Sensitivity Policy, we aim to create an environment where everyone feels valued, respected, and included. Together, we can promote cultural understanding, celebrate diversity, and enhance the overall soccer experience for all participants.

# Chestermere United FC

May 2023

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