



## **Child Protection & Intervention Policy**

### **Executive Summary**

The issue of child abuse is a complex problem that has an impact on all areas of society, including participation in organized sports and recreational activities. Protecting children from abuse is a responsibility that we must all undertake.

Through the implementation of strategies that assist in preventing child abuse from occurring, Illinois Fusion, NFP has taken a pro-active role in relation to protecting our children.

The strategies outlined in this document will help foster a safe and positive environment for our student athletes to participate in organized soccer. In addition, our organizations policies outlined in this document will help create an effective method for preventing child abuse issues in organized sports.

The information contained in this document outlines our framework and provides direction for staff, officials, coaches, volunteers, and parents of children involved in the Illinois Fusion, NFP.

### **Our Philosophy**

The Illinois Fusion, NFP is committed to ensuring that the safety, welfare and well being of our student athletes are maintained at all times during their participation in activities run by our organization.

We aim to promote a safe environment for all children and to assist all staff, officials, coaches, members and volunteers to recognize child abuse and neglect and follow the appropriate notification procedures when reporting alleged abuse to local authorities in Bloomington Illinois.

The focus of this policy and our guidelines is the prevention of child abuse in our organized sporting environment.

This policy and the guidelines included in this document promote the care and protection of children participating in soccer. This policy and guidelines contained herein will assist the Club in establishing coordinated strategies for dealing with the problem of child abuse and neglect in a responsible, effective and consistent manner.

Through the development and publication of this policy, the objectives of the Illinois Fusion, NFP are to:

- *Provide information to assist staff and volunteers in dealing with all forms of child abuse.*
- *Provide comprehensive guidelines mitigating risk and reporting/notification resources.*
- *Promote and adopt principles for child protection and intervention among staff, volunteers, coaches, members and parents of children participating in our programs and organized competition.*

This policy is applicable to all leadership and staff (paid, voluntary, permanent or casual) of the Illinois Fusion, NFP.

### **Our Policy**

Illinois Fusion, NFP promotes and supports protecting our student athletes from any and all threats. We support McLean County Illinois initiatives [for the prevention of abuse](#).

Illinois Fusion will always act in the best interests of our student athletes. We will do this by:

- Meeting all requirements outlined in child protection legislation.
- Promoting a safe and supportive environment for all student athletes participating in our organization's activities.

- Increasing awareness and emphasizing the importance of child protection in sporting environments to all those involved with our organization. This includes administrators, volunteers, coaches, officials, athletes, parents and their children.

Coaches and officials are often seen as role models. They have significant influence on the children they come into contact with and therefore have significant responsibilities to ensure they act honestly and ethically in all their dealings that represent Illinois Fusion, NFP.

We will review this policy annually and make any required updates. We will ensure that we have a proactive and significant impact on the positive environment we have created to promote the sport of soccer.