

## **Edina Soccer Club**

### **Parent/Chaperone Guidelines for Out-of-Town Overnight Travel**

Edina Soccer Club (ESC) uses parent chaperones when traveling out-of-town to tournaments or other competitions that require an overnight stay. In some cases, particularly for our younger age groups, all parents who make the trip will be expected to act as chaperones. For age groups U13 or older, teams may decide to designate certain parents as chaperones for the trip.

#### **Role of the Chaperone:**

The role of a chaperone is to facilitate a safe and comfortable experience for all players, provide direct supervision for all players at all times, and to support the direction of the team coach. Chaperones often provide transportation for the players to and from the hotel, games, meals and other team events. Chaperones are the players' parent away from home. Chaperones are also a representative of ESC and should act accordingly at all times. The mature, responsible support and guidance of each chaperone is critical to a successful traveling experience for the entire team. Each chaperone shall use reasonable care in performing these duties and overseeing all players for the duration of the trip.

#### **Team schedule and compliance with ESC Player Code of Conduct:**

All ESC chaperones must be familiar with and ensure that players adhere to the ESC Player Code of Conduct for Out-of-Town Overnight Travel (the Code of Conduct).

It is within the coach's discretion to set curfew times and the specific schedule for players during the trip. It is the chaperone's role to assist the coach in adhering to this schedule by planning for meals, snacks, bedtimes, rest times and travel time to games and other events, and in ensuring that the players are rested, have all their necessary equipment, water and other essentials. Depending on the circumstances, chaperones may need to help care for a player who becomes ill or injured, retrieve water or medications, launder uniforms, and perform other tasks as needed to ensure the health and comfort of the players. Some players have food allergies. Chaperones should know that information and help ensure that those special needs are accommodated.

Chaperones should check in with their players to see that they are getting adequate food and rest, are getting along with their teammates, and are following the Code of Conduct. Chaperones should monitor players in the hotel to ensure that other hotel guests are not disturbed in any way. Curfews, swimming limitations, room visitation restrictions and all other rules set forth in the Code of Conduct should be strictly enforced.

#### **Transportation:**

Only adults with a valid driver's license may drive youth players to and from events while traveling out of town. Each vehicle must be insured, either by the adult's own auto insurance policy, or by accepting the option offered by the car rental company if a vehicle is rented for transportation. Each chaperone and player should wear a seatbelt at all times.

#### **Limitations on Alcohol Use by Chaperones:**

Chaperones may not consume any alcohol or controlled substances while providing supervision to players or prior to or while driving any youth players. The consumption of alcohol by a chaperone in a player room is strictly prohibited.

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Thank you for volunteering your time for the players, their parents and ESC. Our teams could not travel to out-of-town tournaments without you!