



Tobacco-Free Policy

Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club

BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

The Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club is committed to providing a healthy environment for participants, volunteers and spectators involved with our organization. We recognize that there is significant evidence demonstrating the negative health impacts of tobacco use and exposure (including second-hand smoke from the use of tobacco indoors and exposure to drifting smoke outdoors) and that no level of tobacco exposure is safe. We also recognize that children and youth gain positive images of tobacco use when they see role-models, leaders and individuals that they respect using tobacco.

All smoke is harmful, whether it comes from tobacco, cannabis (marijuana) or from a hookah pipe (waterpipe); SMOKE IS SMOKE. While it is well known that there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke, many are not aware of the health risks associated with exposure to smoke from cannabis or a hookah pipe. Just like tobacco, both produce second-hand smoke.

Cannabis

Smoke from cannabis (marijuana) has been shown to have many of the same toxic chemicals as tobacco such as fine particles, heavy metals and carbon monoxide. Breathing in second-hand cannabis smoke could negatively affect the health of those exposed.

Hookah

A hookah or waterpipe is a device used to smoke tobacco and herbal products called shisha. Both tobacco and herbal shisha can produce toxic chemicals. The charcoal used to heat the shisha produces very high levels of carbon monoxide, heavy metals and cancer causing chemicals.

E-cigarettes

Even though electronic cigarettes may be less harmful than tobacco, it doesn't mean they are safe. If you don't smoke, don't vape.

COMMITMENT We believe that soccer is a healthy sport that promotes physical activity and healthy living. Players, coaches and volunteers involved in our organization and sport have a responsibility to model positive health behaviour with regard to tobacco use.

POLICY:

Activities including but not limited to games, tournaments, competitions, practices, training sessions, and events (e.g., fundraising) and other performances sanctioned by our organization will be tobacco-free.

DEFINITION:

Tobacco-free means that the use of tobacco by players/ participants, coaches/leaders, parents/caregivers, spectators and officials is prohibited during all activities sanctioned or engaged in by our organization. *Tobacco products include:* cigarettes, **e-cigarettes**, cigars, pipes, cigarillos, tobacco chew, plug, or snuff, snus, hookah, bidis and kreteks, **and as of July 1, 2018, Cannabis.**

SCOPE AND LOCATION:

The Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club tobacco-free policy will apply to all activities including, but not limited to games, tournaments, competitions, practices, training sessions, events (e.g., fundraising) and other performances sanctioned by our organization. Locations for each of these activities will vary, however our policy will apply to all locations while Saltfleet Stoney Creek Club sanctioned activity is ongoing.

The tobacco-free policy also states that no person shall “smoke” within any public playing field or spectator bench areas or fenced in field areas. And will request that no person (players/participants, coaches/leaders, parents, spectators and officials) shall smoke within view of the playing field during practices and/or game situations.

Hamilton’s Prohibiting Smoking within City Parks and Recreation Properties By-law No. 11-080 (PDF, 221 KB) came into effect on May 31, 2012. This By-law prohibits smoking in or on:

- parks
- playgrounds
- recreation centre property, including parking lot area
- arena and stadium property
- sports or playing fields
- skateboard parks
- beaches
- outdoor pools
- leash-free dog parks
- some trails

Check names and addresses of places where smoking is not allowed under this By-law (PDF, 221 KB)

POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

We will promote the tobacco-free policy at all our activities by:

- Providing a copy of the policy and explaining it to coaching staff. Coaching staff will explain the policy to parents/caregivers.
- Reviewing and sharing the policy with others organizations/groups who may attend or participate in our activities, including all visiting teams as well as all local teams.
- Including the policy in all orientation and information packages provided to coaches, officials, players, members, volunteers and teams/organizations attending or participating in our activities and/or using our facilities.
- Making the policy visible throughout the year using various channels/opportunities including information on our website, banners/signage at events and encouraging coaches and all players to promote a tobacco-free lifestyle.

POLICY ENFORCEMENT

We will enforce the tobacco-free policy to ensure that all those attending and participating in Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club's activities has access to a tobacco-free environment.

We will use the following steps to enforce our policy:

1. Post signs about our policy where our activities take place, using signs, banners and include in information materials available at the activity.
2. Encourage our coaches, players/members, officials and volunteers to respectfully remind individuals using tobacco at Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club activities about the tobacco-free policy.
3. Provide one verbal warning to individuals who repeatedly do not follow the policy. Verbal warning will be delivered by an official representative of Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club including member of the executive, (referee), team coach or manager. The Saltfleet representative will inform the Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club executive about the verbal warning including the date, location and name of the individual who was warned.
4. The Executive will provide a formal written warning to the individual. Following a written warning, the individual violating the policy again may be brought to Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club for disciplinary actions which could include being banned from all Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club events.

POLICY APPROVAL:

This policy will be reviewed by the Saltfleet Stoney Creek Soccer Club Board of Directors.

Policy Approved: May 2018