

CSC POLICY ON CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

January 2017

Every employee or volunteer working for Culpeper Soccer Club, who in his professional or official capacity, has reason to suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child, shall immediately report the matter to:

- 1) The local department of social services where the child resides or where the abuse or neglect is believed to have occurred or the Virginia Department of Social Services toll-free child abuse and neglect hotline if the local social services department is not open; and
- 2) The President of Culpeper Soccer Club, or his designee, who shall make the report immediately if a report has not already been made.

If the allegation involves a CSC volunteer or coach, the President of CSC will notify all Board members of the allegations in order to determine if the allegation or abuse/neglect warrants suspension of the volunteer and/or coach pending an internal investigation and/or investigation by the local department of social services. If the decision is made that a suspension is warranted, the President of CSC will notify the volunteer and/or coach of the Board's decision. If the decision is made that the allegation does not warrant a suspension, no further action will be taken pending the outcome of the investigation by the local department of social services. If the outcome of this investigation results in a founded case of abuse or neglect, the perpetrator will be immediately removed from the volunteer or coaching position with CSC.

LEGAL REFERENCE: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended 22.1-253.13:7 (A), 22.1-291.3, 63.2-1509, et seq.

ACCOMPANYING REGULATION

REGULATION CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

1) Generally

- a. The Code of Virginia requires that all persons working with youth report suspected child abuse and neglect.
- b. An abused or neglected child shall mean any child less than (18) years of age whose parent(s) or other person(s) responsible for the child's care:
 - i. Creates, inflicts, or threatens to create or inflict, upon such child a physical or mental injury by other than accidental means; or creates a substantial risk or death, disfigurement, or impairment of bodily or mental functions;
 - ii. Neglects or refuses to provide care necessary for the child's health; provided, however, that no child who in good faith is under treatment solely by spiritual means through prayer in accordance with the tenets and practices of a recognized church or religious denomination shall for that reason alone be considered to be an abused or neglected child;
 - iii. Abandons such child; or

iv. Commits or allows to be committed any sexual act upon a child.

2. Reporting Procedures

- a. Any volunteer or paid staff working for Culpeper Soccer Club who has reason to suspect that a child is an abused or neglected child shall immediately report their concerns to the local department of social services or state hot-line if after hours and notify the President of Culpeper Soccer Club, or his designee.
- b. The President, in consultation with the Board, shall report the matter to the local department of social services if report has not already been made.
- c. The Department of Social Services has, by law, the responsibility for receiving and investigating complaints and reports. In accordance with the Code of Virginia, section 63.2- 1518, a child protective services worker or a police officer may talk to any child suspected of being abused or neglected, or to any of his/her siblings, without the consent of and outside the presence of the parent or legal guardian. In cases of interviews of children in the presence of CSC volunteers and/or paid employees, the child protective services worker or police officer will furnish proper identification and make appropriate arrangements for the interview.
- d. If a report of abuse or neglect is unfounded, the Department of Social Services is required to transmit a report to such effect to the person who reported the suspicion as well as the person reported of suspicion of abuse or neglect.

3. Penalties

Any person required to file a report regarding suspected child abuse and neglect who is found guilty of failure to do so may be dismissed from the volunteer or paid duties for CSC at the discretion of the Board.

4. Immunity

Any person who makes such a report or who participates in a judicial proceeding resulting there from shall be immune from any civil or criminal liability in connection therewith, unless it is proven that such a person acted with malicious intent.