



## Tobacco/Vaping/E-Cig-Free Policy

The London – St. Thomas Croatia Soccer Club recognizes that there is ample research demonstrating the health hazards of the use of tobacco products, including smoking and the breathing of second-hand smoke. Soccer is a healthy sport and as such, we have a responsibility to the players, participants and the community to demonstrate healthy choices. The LS Croatia SC has therefore developed this policy in the best interest of the health and safety of the players, participants, and the general public.

### **Policy:**

All games, activities, tournaments, competitions, practices, training sessions, events and other performances sanctioned by our organization will be tobacco-free. Tobacco-free means no smoking, snuffing, dipping, or chewing tobacco by players/participants, coaches, parents, spectators and officials within 9 meters (30 feet) of any LS Croatia SC activity.

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

- Having coaches explain the policy to players/members and provide parents with a letter to review and share with others who may come to their game, practice or tournament.
- Including the policy in the manuals provided to coaches every year so that all new and returning participants, their parents/guardians, coaches and officials/managers know about the policy from the start.
- Making the policy visible throughout the year using various messages, including a page on the website, banners/signs at events, and encouraging coaches and all players to promote an active, healthy, tobacco-free lifestyle.

The LS Croatia SC will reinforce the tobacco-free policy at all our activities by:

- Encouraging all coaches, players/Members, and parents to respectfully remind someone using tobacco about the tobacco-free policy.
- Consistently applying consequences with people who repeatedly break the policy – repeated violations by players/Members, parents/guardian, spectators or coaches may result in a verbal or written warning from LS Croatia SC.
- Following a written warning, the individual violating the policy again may be brought to the Club for disciplinary action which could include being banned from all LS Croatia SC events.

Note: Under the *Smoker-Free Ontario Act (SFOA)*, smoking, or holding lit tobacco, is banned on all elementary & secondary school properties in Ontario.