

Tobacco Free Policy



COMMITMENT

We recognize that there is ample research demonstrating the health hazards caused by the use of tobacco products, including smoking, smokeless tobacco and breathing second-hand smoke, and understand our responsibility to the participants of our program to model and promote tobacco-free lifestyles.

We stress to our coaches, parents, spectators, and all others involved, the importance of maintaining a tobacco-free environment while working with young people.

POLICY

All practices, activities, competitions, events, and other performances sanctioned by our organization will be tobacco-free. Tobacco free means no smoking, snuffing, dipping, or chewing tobacco by participants, coaches/leaders, parents, spectators, and officials.

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

- Having coaches/leaders explain the policy to our athletes and ask them to explain the policy to their parents and others who may come to their practices/performance.
- Including the policy in the first newsletters so all new and returning participants, their parents/guardians, and coaches know about the policy from the start.
- Making the policy visible throughout the year/season using various messages, including logos, banners at events and encouraging coaches and athletes to promote active, healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles.

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

- Encouraging all coaches, athletes, 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 athletes or their parent/guardian may result in a verbal and written warning from the coach/leader, or the association executive in the case of a repeat coach violation. Following a written warning the individual violating the policy again may be asked to leave the practice/event.