



## Tobacco-Free Policy

### Background and Rationale

The **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** is committed to fostering a healthy environment for participants, volunteers, and spectators involved in our programs. We acknowledge the substantial evidence demonstrating the negative health impacts of tobacco use and exposure, including second-hand smoke indoors and drifting smoke outdoors. No level of tobacco exposure is considered safe, and we believe that children and youth benefit from positive role models who demonstrate tobacco-free living. A tobacco-free environment is essential in preventing youth from trying or using tobacco products.

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### Commitment

We emphasize to all involved—leaders, teachers, coaches, officials, parents, spectators, and others—the importance of maintaining a tobacco-free environment while working with young people. The **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** is committed to ensuring that all members promote and respect a tobacco-free lifestyle.

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### Policy

All activities, including games, tournaments, competitions, practices, training sessions, events, and other performances sanctioned by the **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League**, will be tobacco-free. The use of all tobacco products by players, volunteers, officials, coaches, leaders, and spectators is strictly prohibited during any organization-sanctioned event.

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## Definitions

- **Tobacco-Free:** No smoking, snuffing, dipping, or chewing tobacco products by players/participants, coaches/leaders, parents, spectators, or officials within a 9-meter (30 ft.) radius of any **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** activity.
  - **Tobacco Industry Products:** Includes any form of lit or unlit cigarettes, cigarillos, cigars, pipes, bidis, hookahs, clove cigarettes, or smokeless tobacco products.
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## Policy Implementation

The **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** will promote the tobacco-free policy at all activities by:

1. **Communication:** Coaches and leaders will explain the policy to players and encourage them to share the information with their parents and others attending the game or activity.
2. **Visibility:** The policy will be included in all schedules and notices about the sport or recreation group, ensuring all new and returning participants, their parents/guardians, coaches/leaders, and officials/managers are aware of the policy from the outset. The policy will also be displayed throughout the year using banners at events and by encouraging coaches and older players to promote healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles.
3. **Promotion:** We will reinforce the tobacco-free policy by:
  - Posting signs about the policy at our activity venues, including signs, banners, and informational materials.
  - Training coaches, players/members, officials, and volunteers on how to inform individuals using tobacco about the **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League's** tobacco-free policy.
  - Encouraging coaches, players/members, officials, and volunteers to respectfully remind individuals using tobacco about the policy.
4. **Enforcement:**
  - A verbal warning will be issued to individuals who fail to comply with the policy. This warning will be delivered by an official representative of the **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** (such as a member of the executive, an official, coach, or manager). The representative will report the verbal warning to the executive, including the date, location, and name of the individual.
  - If the individual does not adhere to the verbal warning, a formal written warning will be issued. Further violations after a written warning may result in disciplinary actions, including a ban from attending **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** events.

**Note:** There is no smoking allowed on any City of Ottawa property or school board properties, including parks and fields.

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This policy ensures that the **Ottawa Islamic Soccer League** provides a healthy and supportive environment for all its members, free from the harmful effects of tobacco. Through clear communication, consistent enforcement, and respect for all participants, we strive to promote healthy, tobacco-free lifestyles within our community.

**Date Revised: September 2025**

