

Sun County United Soccer Club

Facility and Equipment Safety Policy & Procedures

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all facilities and equipment used by Sun County United Soccer Club (SCUSC) are safe, well-maintained, and appropriate for training and competition. This policy applies to all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and staff.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All SCUSC practices, games, tournaments, and events
 - All club-owned, rented, or borrowed facilities
 - All equipment used by SCUSC participants
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3. Responsibilities

Club Leadership

- Establish and enforce safety standards
- Provide training and guidance on safety procedures
- Ensure reporting systems are in place

Coaches

- Conduct pre-use inspections of fields and equipment
- Remove unsafe equipment or players from unsafe areas
- Report hazards immediately
- Ensure players use equipment properly

Volunteers & Staff

- Assist with inspections and setup
- Report unsafe conditions
- Follow safety procedures

Players

- Use equipment properly
 - Report hazards or damaged equipment
 - Follow all safety rules
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4. Facility Safety Procedures

Field Inspection (Before Every Use):

Coaches or designated volunteers must check for:

- Holes, uneven surfaces, rocks, glass, or debris
- Standing water or muddy conditions
- Unsafe goalposts or anchors
- Nearby obstacles (fences, poles, benches)
- Weather-related hazards (lightning, extreme heat, poor air quality)

Unsafe Conditions:

- Activities must be suspended if a field is deemed unsafe
- Hazards must be reported to the Club Safety Officer or Club Director
- Only approved and safe fields may be used

Weather Safety:

- Lightning: Immediate suspension of activity
 - Extreme heat: Mandatory water breaks and reduced activity
 - Poor visibility or air quality: Activities may be delayed or canceled
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5. Equipment Safety Procedures

General Equipment Standards:

- All equipment must be age-appropriate and in good condition
- Damaged or defective equipment must be removed immediately
- Only club-approved goals, cones, nets, and training aids may be used

Goal Safety:

- Goals must be securely anchored at all times
- Portable goals must be checked before every use
- Climbing or hanging on goals is prohibited

Player Equipment:

- Shin guards are mandatory
 - Cleats must be in good condition and free of sharp edges
 - Jewelry is not allowed during play
 - Casts or braces must be padded and approved by a coach and referee
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6. Storage and Transport

- Equipment must be stored in a safe, dry location
 - Heavy items must be lifted properly
 - Equipment must not block exits or walkways
 - Transportation of equipment must be done safely and securely
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7. Incident Reporting

All injuries or near-miss incidents related to facilities or equipment must be reported to club leadership within 24 hours. Reports should include:

- Date and location
 - Description of hazard
 - Action taken
 - Names of individuals involved
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8. Training and Awareness

- Coaches and volunteers will receive safety orientation annually
 - Players will receive age-appropriate safety education
 - This policy will be available to all members
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9. Compliance

Failure to follow this policy may result in disciplinary action, including removal from activity or suspension from the club.

10. Review and Updates

This policy will be reviewed annually by Sun County United Soccer Club leadership and updated as needed.