



Hamilton Serbians Soccer Club / Hamilton Serbians Youth Soccer  
PO BOX 99002, Stoney Creek - Ontario L8J2P7

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RE: Letter of Commitment to uphold a respectful and positive sport community to align with Canada Soccer core values and the Canada Soccer mandate for Club Licence as "Quality Soccer Provider (QSP)"

To: Canada Soccer and whom it may concern,

Hamilton Serbians Soccer Club has been established since 1958 and includes teams from grassroots to adult programs. We are a small club with a passion for soccer development and continuing our legacy with dedicated members that uphold integrity at all times, to support equal opportunity, prohibit discriminatory practices and provide a community environment for all to be treated respectfully and thrive within our soccer programs, activities and events.

Hamilton Serbians offers youth programs from U4-U18, with an average of 8-10 competitive youth teams per season including approximately 200-250 players each year. We also offer at least 1-2 competitive adult teams, and several old-timer teams each year.

***Commitment to Long-Term Player Development:***

At the heart of Hamilton Serbians is our youth players and growing our program to ensure we have age-appropriate programs for athletes of all ages to enjoy the game and keep coming back each year to play. Many of our players continue after their years to participate in soccer as game officials and return to volunteer in our club programs, events and many past players have certified themselves as our current team coaches.

All our programs are led by dedicated volunteers that follow the Ontario Soccer Grassroots and Talented Pathway development model under the lead of our Technical Director. The Technical Director provides weekly and monthly training guidelines to ensure all our coaches are delivering age-appropriate training for athletes to have fun, learn new skills and enjoy their experience playing soccer and building friendships.

Our club is committed to supporting the development of our coaches/managers by reimbursing their Canada Soccer certification courses. We strive to ensure all team officials have the necessary training and appropriate screening in order to work with our athletes to develop our players soccer skills and give effective feedback, in a safe and appropriate environment for all.

***Commitment to Safe Sport:***

Hamilton Serbians takes player safety seriously and ensures all that are working with our players are trained to provide safe soccer activities to ensure player health is top priority under our care. We ensure:

- All teams have coaches that are fully Ontario Soccer certified or certification in process
- All adults working directly with youth are screened with Criminal Records Check/Vulnerable Sector Check
- Concussion protocols are taken seriously and any hit to the head means no return to field
- Club policies established for Code of Conduct, Zero Tolerance, Code of Conduct to Protect Children, Coaching policies for certification completion
- Ensure our facilities are safe, well maintained and in good condition. Team of volunteers for field maintenance, contract for field service maintenance opening/during/closing of outdoor season, coaches vigilant to inspect field prior to use and ensure all activities are in open for spectators to watch

***Commitment to Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards:***

Hamilton Serbians youth soccer programs have been fortunate to thrive each season due to our dedicated volunteers and coaches, and families that can't wait for their child to be of age to start participating. Based on demand we run annual summer programs for U4-U7, U8 festival teams and U9-U18 competitive teams within our district association. Majority of our players return for indoor season training and our goal is to ensure the first experience players have with soccer will ensure they keep coming back each year to play and grow with the game.

Our Technical Director ensures each coach is prepared with appropriate resources, soccer training supplies and a practice focus for each session to build skills appropriately throughout our summer/indoor programs. It is key for effective communication between our Technical Director and coaches to ensure timely player assessment and monitoring to recognize when players need to be further challenged based on their Social/Emotional, Psychological, Physical and Technical abilities to offer the best program for their needs. The Technical Director leads all evaluation processes and forms based on Ontario Soccer guidelines in accordance with our district association.

***Commitment to Ontario Soccer Talented Player Pathway:***

Hamilton Serbians recognizes the importance of the opportunities to advance top players in the province and our coaches/Technical Director have the awareness to inform players and their families when appropriate, especially when noticed before or at the U13 level. Our coaches are committed to offering the best for each player every step of their development by submitting player recommendation reports when appropriate.

***Commitment to Integrity and Good Community Relations:***

Hamilton Serbians is dedicated to upholding integrity in all aspects of our soccer organization programs, events and activities. This transfers to the expectations we have of all our members to uphold integrity in all actions they perform within the volunteer duties an individual fulfills for our club. Our club executive tirelessly commits their time to ensuring we are organized; we deliver quality soccer programming; and that our club has policies in place to educate and hold our members accountable for all actions and responsibilities we have with our participants and community.

Hamilton Serbians executives follow our club constitution and by-laws, ensuring we hold required executive meetings and annual general meeting procedures and protocols. For our community we ensure they have access to our information through social media news and club website resources.

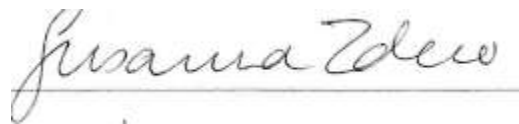
Our club also endeavours to engage our community throughout the year with fun events for our players and families such as easter egg hunt, outdoor movie nights, and year end family picnics.

We value and maintain strong relations with many community sponsors and businesses to continue the growth of our club and our soccer program resources. Hamilton Serbians also gives back to our community by donating to local fundraisers with focus on youth; and to families in need.

For decades, Hamilton Serbians has maintained professional and courteous relations with our district association members and staff. It is always our commitment to ensure we abide and are compliant with the rules and regulations of our district as equally of the Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer directives. Even in the need to resolve conflicts Hamilton Serbians executive members uphold respect for all and adhere to the processes in place for appropriate resolution. Our executives will continually strive to lead all our club and membership actions to meet the expectations of our governing organizations, including not interacting with unsanctioned organizations, unless approved by Ontario Soccer.

Hamilton Serbians soccer club executive actions and leadership have an unwavering dedication to the commitment of compliance of our governing organizations; to player safety and development; to coaches training and development; to positive community relations; and to providing enjoyable soccer experiences for all participants. These values and commitments will continue to be at the forefront of all Hamilton Serbians soccer club actions today and into the future.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of 2024 Hamilton Serbians Youth Soccer Club executive, and myself,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susanna Zdero", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and connected, with a horizontal line underneath it.

Susanna Zdero  
Secretary / Chairperson  
Hamilton Serbians Soccer Club