



Washington Youth Soccer

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Dear Washington Youth Soccer member,

In today's times, more and more people are using the internet to communicate with their players and administrators, via their WEB pages. Many club teams' now have their own websites posted on the Internet for use by the team and their families. Does your team/Club/Association have a website? If so, do you know if each of these websites is operating in a safe manner?

Here are some important questions to know the answers to concerning any websites you, your team and family members are visiting and/or associated with:

- Is the website COPPA compliant?
- Does the website post any of the following information in a manner making it available to the general Public?
 - Pictures that identify children by name.
 - Team practice schedules, league schedules, times and locations.
 - Names, phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses of children or their families.

Although the Internet is a wonderful tool, these are serious safety issues that must be addressed. During the recent 2008 National Workshops presented by US Youth Soccer, one workshop covered the topic of "Risk Management Guidelines for Youth Websites". This workshop presented a general overview of the potential problems faced and recommended solutions to ensure our websites are safe for our members. Visit the USYouthSoccer.org Risk Management Page to view the complete presentation.

Washington Youth Soccer takes the issue of website security and website practices very seriously. In 2002, Washington Youth Soccer initiated its own Web Site/Home Page Policy (7004-2) that outlines not only the minimum requirements for the Washington Youth Soccer Website, but also any websites operated by any of its members (District/Association/Club/Team). To view Washington Youth Soccer's Website Policy visit wsya.com, regulations and policies, #7004-2 Website Home Page Policy.

Due to the importance of these issues, failure to obtain a parental release and the failure to secure your website when posting personal identifying player information may jeopardize any available insurance coverage. Please take the time to review this information and insure you as well as your team's, club's, Association's and District's are following the guidelines. Our players are our most important asset and need our protection.

Feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns on this issue.

Thank you

Pam Copple
Washington Youth Soccer Risk Management Director

Affiliates:

FIFA

US Soccer Federation



What's on your list today? You'll find it at
Fred Meyer



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