



TOBACCO FREE POLICY

Adopted May 12, 2011

In conjunction with the Humboldt County Department of Public Health's "Tobacco-Free Humboldt" program, Mad River Youth Soccer League has adopted a 100% Tobacco-Free Sports Policy in order to provide a healthy environment in which youth can play and learn. This policy also educates coaches, referees, and parents about the importance of being tobacco-free role models for young people. This policy is meant to discourage youth from using tobacco products, and to promote healthy lifestyles among our youth.

Because of the health dangers of tobacco and the risk tobacco poses to our youth, Mad River Youth Soccer League supports a 100% Tobacco-Free Sports environment, and in particular:

- All tobacco products are prohibited by all persons during games, practices, and all other MRYSL-sponsored activities. Tobacco use is prohibited on sports fields, restrooms, concession stands, spectator seating areas, and event parking lots.
- Tobacco advertising is prohibited at all MRYSL events and in MRYSL publications, in order to eliminate the mixed messages that children receive through tobacco advertising and its association with sporting events.
- The sale of tobacco look-alike candy is prohibited at all sporting events.
- This policy will be in effect at all MRYSL sponsored events regardless of location and includes schools, parks, and private locations.
- Notice of this policy shall be given to all parents, coaches, and visitors. Any person smoking will be politely asked to stop and be reminded about MRYSL's tobacco-free policy. A second violation will be addressed in a similar way by a league or field representative. A third violation will result in the person smoking being asked to leave the field or event.
- MRYSL will endeavor to post "Tobacco-Free" signs or posters at all MRYSL-sponsored events.
- MRYSL supports the efforts of staff, volunteers, and players who are trying to quit or reduce their use of tobacco around the team. This support includes referrals to cessation services like California Smokers' Helpline at 1-800-NO-BUTTS.