



St. Catharines Club Roma Soccer

Accessibility Policy (AODA Compliance)

1. Purpose

St. Catharines Club Roma Soccer ("the Club") is committed to providing an inclusive, accessible environment that respects the dignity and independence of all individuals. This policy complies with the **Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act (AODA)** and aligns with **Ontario Soccer standards.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all:

- Board members
 - Staff and volunteers
 - Coaches and team officials
 - Players and participants
 - Parents/guardians and spectators
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3. Statement of Commitment

The Club is committed to:

In the bottom right corner, there are several overlapping geometric shapes in shades of pink and magenta, creating a modern, abstract design.

- Providing inclusive soccer opportunities for all participants
 - Identifying and removing barriers across facilities, programs, and services
 - Promoting accessibility in all Club operations
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4. Club Facilities & Accessibility

4.1 Outdoor Fields

The Club utilizes multiple outdoor fields within St. Catharines (municipal and partner-operated). The Club will:

- Prioritize field assignments with **accessible parking and pathways**
 - Work with municipal partners to ensure **wheelchair-accessible entry points**
 - Provide **clear signage and safe viewing areas** for spectators with mobility needs
 - Offer alternative arrangements where field conditions limit accessibility
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4.2 Clubhouse & Indoor Spaces

At Club-operated or affiliated indoor spaces (e.g., clubhouse, meeting rooms), the Club will:

- Ensure **barrier-free entry points** where feasible
 - Provide access to **accessible washrooms** when available
 - Maintain **clear pathways and seating areas** for individuals with mobility aids
 - Allow **service animals and support persons** at all times
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4.3 Parking & Spectator Areas

- Designated accessible parking will be used where available at fields and facilities

- Spectator areas will be arranged to allow **easy access and visibility** for individuals with disabilities
 - Volunteers may assist individuals requiring help navigating facilities
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5. Programming & Participation

5.1 Inclusive Programming

The Club is committed to inclusive soccer programming by:

- Adapting drills, training, and gameplay where reasonable
 - Encouraging participation regardless of ability level
 - Supporting players with physical, developmental, or cognitive disabilities
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5.2 Individual Accommodations

The Club will:

- Work with players and families to understand specific accessibility needs
 - Provide **reasonable accommodations**, such as:
 - Modified training formats
 - Flexible participation expectations
 - Additional support personnel (where appropriate)
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5.3 Registration & Communication

- Registration materials will be made available in accessible formats upon request
- The Club will provide clear communication regarding accessibility supports

- Families will have the opportunity to identify accessibility needs during registration
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6. Customer Service Standards

6.1 Assistive Devices

Participants may use personal assistive devices at all Club activities.

6.2 Support Persons

Support persons are welcome at all programs, games, and events.

6.3 Service Animals

Service animals are permitted at all Club facilities and fields.

6.4 Communication

The Club will communicate in accessible formats upon request.

7. Information and Communications

The Club will:

- Provide accessible formats (e.g., email, large print) when requested
 - Maintain an accessible website and digital presence where feasible
 - Ensure key documents (policies, schedules) are easy to access
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8. Training

All staff, coaches, and volunteers will receive training on:

- AODA requirements
 - Accessibility best practices in sport
 - Inclusive coaching and communication techniques
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9. Employment & Volunteer Accessibility

The Club will:

- Accommodate employees and volunteers with disabilities
 - Provide role-specific accommodations where needed
 - Ensure fair and accessible recruitment processes
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10. Feedback Process

Feedback on accessibility can be provided:

- In person at Club facilities
- By email or phone

The Club will respond in accessible formats and use feedback to improve accessibility practices.

11. Temporary Disruptions

The Club will notify members of any disruptions affecting accessibility (e.g., field closures, facility issues), including:

- Reason for disruption
 - Expected duration
 - Alternative arrangements
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12. Multi-Year Accessibility Plan

The Club will:

- Maintain and update a Multi-Year Accessibility Plan
 - Review accessibility goals regularly
 - Align planning with municipal and **Ontario Soccer initiatives
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13. Compliance and Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and updated as required to ensure compliance with the AODA.

14. Contact Information

St. Catharines Club Roma Soccer

Email: info@romasoccer.com

Phone: 365-524-7662 (ROMA)

Accessibility Officer: Carolyn Nowe

Complaints or Incidents can be reported in person, by email or by phone.

