



## MEDICAL POLICY

Altona City Soccer Club has a duty of care to provide a safe environment for everyone involved in our activities. The club acknowledges that volunteers play a significant role on the running of the club at all levels. At all times the safety of the players and coaches is paramount.

This policy applies to all participants, officials, members and or spectators at any time whilst on our grounds, visiting other grounds, or when representing the club or in club colours.

We believe that football (soccer) should be safe, enjoyable, and inclusive and maximise individual participation. Football however is a contact sport and the club acknowledges public space and club premises and all football activities must be subject polices and processes that risk, safety and medical consideration of members and the public to ensure the club can act, support and guide our staff and protect our members in the case of medical situations

Coaches, team managers and other Club members of their respective teams are obligated to render medical assistance for minor injuries to the best of their abilities and seek further assistance as required. In the case of serious injury or a medical emergency the Victorian Ambulance Service is to be contacted for assistance.

The responsibility for all minors (including as spectators) remains with their parent/guardian. All players under 18 must have up to date emergency contact information available to their coaching team. It is the responsibility of the parent to supply this. Any player without these details will NOT be allowed to represent the club until this is activated. Altona City Soccer Club has chosen to utilise CareMonkey for the collection and storage of this. Information supplied by parents to the club will be confidentially maintained at all times and accessible only to the player's coaching team and the club welfare committee members. Any data collected by the club in relation to individual player is for information only and will only be disclosed in an emergency situation. It is acknowledged that some players have ongoing medical conditions which their coaches should also be aware of in order to be considerate of any prevention and/or treatment when participating in club events. It remains the responsibility of the participant/parent to supply any necessary equipment for treatment (such as an epipen/inhaler). The supplying of information should act as an additional layer to the parent responsibility and does not in any way absolve or supersede this responsibility.

In the case of serious injury or a medical emergency where either a parent or guardian is not present, the member grants permission to the coach, team manager or other member of the Club to seek and obtain medical treatment or hospitalisation.

Members agree to meet all medical expenses for urgent medical attention which is required and is not covered by the insurance policy held by the Club.

Members acknowledge that football is a contact sport and accordingly shall make no claim against the Club nor seek reimbursement by the Club for any medical or like expenses incurred as a result of any injury suffered in the course of training and/or competition save for any damages incurred which may be recovered against the Club as a result of a negligent act or omission by the Club or by its duly appointed agents.

In line with FIFA and FA rules, only club officials are allowed on the ground to be first responders to any on field incident when invited by the match day official. When the player is off the pitch, parents are responsible for seeking medical guidance and any specialised treatment/intervention.

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In accordance with FV rules, any player who suffers an injury or wound which results in the loss of blood must leave the pitch immediately to obtain treatment. A player may not return to the field of play until the injury or wound has been safely covered and contained. A player may be required to change their uniform before returning to the field of play if it has blood on it.

All serious injuries or medical emergencies must be reported and documented with the Club.