



Metro Omaha Wolves Soccer Club

Parents' Overview

www.MetroWolvesSoccer.com

Club Structure and Identity

Metro Omaha Wolves Soccer Club is a registered trade name of Phoenix Futbol Club, inc. Legally we are the same entity, Phoenix Futbol Club doing business as Metro Omaha Wolves Soccer Club. Checks may be written to either Phoenix or Metro Wolves. The mailing address is the same for both. [PO Box 460886, Papillion, NE 68046]. We encourage all members to use the Wolves name and website and follow us on social media to stay current with all Club news and announcements.

Wolves Camp

As part of our affiliation with Wolverhampton Wanderers, we will host an annual camp staffed by Wolverhampton trainers and coaches. We anticipate this being held in conjunction with our Spring Cup tournament in June though arrangements have not been finalized at press time. This is free for all registered Wolves players. Others may attend by signing up directly for the camp (more information will be posted on that as it becomes available.) There is a fee (not controlled by the club) for non-members to attend.

Uniforms

Wolves has a contract with Puma as our uniform supplier. The standard Club uniform kit is two jerseys, one pair of shorts, two pairs of socks, and two practice t-shirts. The cost of the whole uniform kit is \$96, and is not included in any registration prices. The current uniform style is expected to be in stock through the Fall of 2021. Other items may be purchased from time to time from Puma (back packs, warm-ups, etc.), either on a team by team or individual basis.

Payment Information and Options

Metro Wolves expects timely payments from all members. When you register there will be options for full payment online, a payment plan online (fees may apply), or a "pay later / pay by check" option. We are happy to work with you to set up a payment plan if the default options don't suit your situation.

Information and Privacy

Since Wolves teams participate in age-based leagues and tournaments, we and Nebraska State Soccer require a birth certificate or other government document as proof of age of every participant. Once you have supplied this (through Wolves or through a previous club's registration if we are able to transfer that over), you do not need to do this with any future re-registrations. All birth certificates or other documents are used only for age verification by the state registrar, and will then be deleted or returned to you depending on whether you supply the information electronically or by paper copy. Any current government issued document with the players' full name, gender, and birth date on it are valid for verification. Hospital or church issued documents are not sufficient.

Citizenship

Wolves collects information on what country each player was born in and is a current citizen in. This is a requirement for all players via FIFA and US Soccer, due to our affiliation with Wolverhampton. There are no wrong answers but they are required answers.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Board and Coaching Directors are always looking for more help – please contact one of us if you are interested in helping. Small stipends and/or expense reimbursement is possible, depending on each circumstance. Opportunities to help include, but are not limited to:

- **Uniform Coordinator** – be the middleman tracking orders from teams to Soccer Internationale and deliveries in the other direction.
- **Facilities Manager** – track rental time and field use for practices at La Vista, the UNO Dome, etc. Basically keep track of what teams are where, and which sessions are rained out, what fields and times might be available if someone needs to reschedule, etc.
- **Board member at large** – an appointed position that can help the Board with most any issues that come up – a good way for parents new to the Club to see if you want to join the Board in a more formalized manner as your child moves through the system.
- **League Representative(s)** – attend various league meetings, often with the Club administrator or other board officer to represent the club, file paperwork, and report back to the board. Can be one person for all leagues, or one per league, etc. We would like more than one person involved in this to help us cover times when conflicts arise.
- **Anything else you think you can help with**, please contact us, we're glad to listen to other ideas.

Paid Worker Opportunities

Rather than arm-twist the same people over and over again, when we need significant help with events Wolves Soccer pays those who help. If you have a balance due in your club account your payment will be credited there first, if your account is current then you will be paid by check. Most jobs are limited to adults or older players. Any family member or friend may work if you want multiple chances to pay off an account. Most jobs are in the \$10-15/hr range. Jobs include:

- **Tournament Check In Staff** – Assist teams and coaches when they first check in for a tournament, gathering paperwork, verifying rosters and player passes, handing out tournament goodies and information.
- **Tournament Field Marshals** – Hopefully a boring job, but we like to have “official” representatives roving the fields to answer questions, gather game cards and scores, and assist coaches or referees as needed. Rather than have a coach or referee have to run back to the admin or first aid tent for assistance, our field marshals do the running or call in help via walkie-talkie.
- **Tournament General Staff** – Help main the main admin tent, answer questions, complaints, etc. Update scores and standings. Guard the cash box if we're selling items at the admin tent. Make a run to the supermarket or other store for emergency supplies, staff and referee food and drinks, ice for the first aid tent, etc. General staff and/or field marshals are also the set up and clean up crew, as needed.
- **Tryout or Camp Staff** – Help set up and run any other Wolves events.
- **Other / TBD**, if anything else comes up, keep track of job postings online or on social media.

Abuse Prevention.

On February 14th, 2018, the President signed the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act which is aimed at protecting amateur athletes** from physical or sexual abuse.

The Law has a three-pronged approach:

- Any adult interacting with amateur athletes in the program has a duty to report abuse and or suspected abuse within a 24 hour period. EVERY adult is a mandatory reporter.
- The statute of limitations is extended for up to 10 years after a victim realizes he or she was abused.
- Limits an athlete under the age of 18 from being alone with an adult who is not their parent.

** *What is an amateur athlete under the law? Any Child or minor under the age of 19 in Nebraska.*

Legislation is available for download by going to this link: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/534>

What else is important to know about this Law?

There are additional and more specific requirements for several categories of youth sports providers listed as 'Applicable Entity' within the Bill. Those listed under this category include:

- National Governing Body (NGB) – Such as the United States Soccer Federation
- Amateur Sports Organization (sanctioned by NGB) – Such as Nebraska State Soccer and Member Affiliates (Clubs and Leagues)
- Amateur Sports Organizations (NOT sanctioned by NGB) – Such as YMCA, Church Leagues, Municipal Leagues, Independent Recreation Leagues, Camps, all others

See the U.S. Center for SafeSport fact sheet: <https://www.safesport.org/files/details/78>

Wolves follow Nebraska State Soccer's Mechanism for Reporting

(Everyone listed below MUST be contacted when physical or sexual abuse is suspected)

1. Local Law Enforcement – Call the local police either where you live or where you suspect the abuse took place.
2. Sarpy County Division of Children and Family Services: (402) 595-1258
Note: Wolves Soccer Club is based in La Vista, Sarpy County, Nebraska. If you wish to report something to another county please find the appropriate contact information or have Sarpy County DCFS refer you accordingly.
3. State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. 800-652-1999.
4. Wolves Club Risk Manager Contact Information: Call 402-708-8442 or email SafeSport@MetroWolvesSoccer.com.
5. Nebraska State Soccer Risk Manager – (402) 596-1616
6. National Governing Body (NGB) US Soccer Integrity Hotline Number – (312) 528- 7004
US Soccer – <https://www.ussoccer.com/integrity-hotline>
US Center for SafeSport – <https://www.safesport.org/report-a-concern>

For other forms of misconduct such as emotional abuse, bullying, hazing, or harassment please contact the club per below.

- Wolves Club Risk Manager Contact Information Call 402-708-8442 or email SafeSport@MetroWolvesSoccer.com.

Request a Review/Hearing with the Board of Directors – Wolves' policy is to document and address any misconduct within the club. The decision of the Board of Directors will be sent to the State Risk Manager for further action if appropriate for Wolves staff, or if non-Wolves staff is involved.

Wolves Policies and Procedures – Wolves policies and procedures aimed at PREVENTING one-on-one interactions between a minor athlete and an adult.

One-On-One Interactions

This applies to:

1. Adults at any facility under the jurisdiction of Wolves Soccer Club, such as indoor or outdoor practice or game facilities
2. Adult members of the club who have regular contact with players who are minors (including, but not limited to, coaches, assistant coaches, and other trainers)
3. Adults authorized by the Club to have regular contact or authority over players who are minors (including, but not limited to, team managers, tournament, camp, or event workers)
4. Wolves Board Members and Other Staff (paid or volunteer)
5. All categories above shall be collectively referred to as Participating Adults

OBSERVABLE AND INTERRUPTIBLE

1. One-on-One interactions between minors and a Participating Adult (who is not the minor's parent or legal guardian) at any Wolves facilities are permitted, if they occur at an observable and interruptible distance by another adult. Generally, this means another adult can see and hear what is going on.
2. Isolated, one-on-one interactions between minors and a Participating Adult (who is not the minor's parent or legal guardian) are prohibited, except under emergency circumstances.
3. This applies to practices, training sessions, and any meetings. If a one-on-one meeting takes place (such as a performance review), it must adhere to the observable and interruptible criteria. If such a meeting takes place in an office or other indoor venue, the door to the office must remain unlocked and open. If there is a choice of meeting rooms, the meeting must occur in an office with windows, if available, with windows, blinds, and/or curtains remaining open during the meeting.
4. If such a meeting with a minor player involves a mental health care professional, a closed door meeting may be permitted to protect patient privacy. Written consent from the parent or legal guardian must be obtained by the mental health care professional and provided to the Club in advance. In such a case the door(s) may be closed but must remain unlocked, and another adult must be informed that the closed-door meeting is occurring and must remain nearby for the duration of the meeting.

Social Media and Electronic Communications Policies:

1. All electronic communications originating from participating adults to minor athletes must be professional in nature.
2. If a participating adult needs to communicate directly with a minor athlete via electronic communications, another participating adult or the minor's parent or legal guardian must be copied on all communications.
3. If a minor athlete communicated to the participating adult privately first, the participating adult should respond to the minor athlete with a copy to another participating adult or the minor's parent or legal guardian.
4. A participating adult communicating electronically to multiple minor players or the entire team will copy another participating adult.
5. Minor athletes may "like", "friend", "follow" or otherwise interact with the organization's official social media sites. Wolves will monitor our social media sites and remove any inappropriate postings. Parents or legal guardians of minors who make inappropriate posts will be notified.

Social Media and Electronic Communications Prohibitions:

1. Participating Adults are not permitted to communicate privately via electronic communications with minor athletes, except under emergency circumstances.
2. Participating Adults are not permitted to "private message", "instant message", "direct message", or send photos via Snapchat, Instagram, or other online platforms to minor athletes privately.
3. Participating Adults are NOT permitted to maintain social media connections with minors (unless they are the minor's parent or legal guardian). Such adults are not permitted to accept new personal page requests on social media platforms from minor athletes and if there are any existing connections with minor athletes when the Participating Adult joins the Club, they shall be discontinued.

Request to Discontinue:

Parents or Legal Guardians may request in writing that their child not be contacted through any form of electronic communication by the Club or any of the Club's participating adults. Wolves will abide by such requests unless there is an emergency.

Local Travel:

1. Wolves Soccer Club does not arrange for local travel for any player, parent or guardian.
2. Participating Adults who are not also acting as a legal guardian, shall not ride alone in a vehicle with an unrelated minor athlete, absent emergency circumstances, and may only drive with at least two other minor athletes or another adult at all times, unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the minor athlete's parent or legal guardian in advance of each instance of local travel.
3. Wolves Soccer Club strongly encourages parents / legal guardians to pick up their minor athlete first and drop off their minor athlete last in any shared travel or carpool arrangements.

Team Travel:

1. Wolves Soccer Club generally does not arrange for team travel to out of town events. In the event that a team wishes to use Wolves' non-profit status to secure a favorable financial deal for such travel, the Club will provide the appropriate information, but each team will remain responsible for arranging and paying for all team travel.

2. When only one Participating Adult and one minor athlete travel to a competition, the minor athlete must have their parent's or legal guardian's written permission in advance for each competition to travel alone with the Participating Adult.
3. By registering a minor athlete with Wolves Soccer Club, a parent or legal guardian agrees to all team travel policies.
4. Participating Adults who travel with Wolves Soccer teams will be registered in the state soccer system and will have passed all background and screening requirements of Nebraska State Soccer and Wolves Soccer Club.
5. Parents and Legal Guardians should review the parent information on child abuse prevention before providing consent for their minor athlete to travel alone with a Participating Adult. Contact the Club if you need help finding this information.
6. Participating Adults shall NOT share a hotel room or other sleeping arrangements with a minor athlete (unless the adult is a parent, legal guardian, sibling, or otherwise related to the minor athlete).
7. During team travel, when doing room checks, attending team meetings, and/or any other activities, two-deep leadership and Observable and Interruptible environments should be maintained.
8. Team meetings shall not be conducted in a hotel room.

See also the Nebraska State Soccer Associations' Athlete and Player Participation Safe Guidelines on the state soccer website.

An individual who is required, but fails, to report suspected child sexual abuse is subject to criminal penalties including fines and up to one (1) year in jail.

Prevention Training – Under US Soccer's SafeSoccer Framework, Wolves Soccer Club and Nebraska State Soccer provide consistent training to adult members who are in contact with amateur athletes who are minors. Commencing with 2019, and mandatory per U.S. Soccer by September 1, 2019, all adults involved with Wolves Soccer (coaches, trainers, team managers, and club staff) must take an initial Abuse Prevention Training course when first joining, and then an annual refresher each year they continue participation. The course is offered online at no cost to coaches or the Club, through the U.S. Center for SafeSport.

Prohibition of Retaliation – It is the policy of Wolves Soccer that no individual, or their family members, shall be retaliated against in any way for reporting suspected abuse.