



Club Handbook

Storm Soccer Club

Colorado

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Overview

Club Objective

To formulate a professionally run organization which has the development of the players, the good of the game, and the highest possible standards as the basis for achieving its goals and objectives.

Mission

To be the best Developmental Club in the country for all levels of membership.

Goals

1. To develop an environment where players may improve skills in order to compete at their highest level possible.
2. To help develop a love and respect for the game and its participants.
3. To provide an environment where players are constantly challenged to perform to their fullest potential in training sessions and matches.
4. To create loyalty to the game and the organization, and to help players reach their maximum potential.
5. To create a vehicle where the players can participate in the club activities as long as they desire.

Club Philosophy

The Club's philosophy is to promote an environment that will expose children and adults to the professional club atmosphere and the great game of soccer. This is done by creating an experience both on and off the playing field that will help people develop relationships as well as a love for the game of soccer. Commitment to excellence at all levels of participation is our goal. We promote good sportsmanship, a positive attitude and demand it of our players, parents, coaches, members and fans. On the playing field our goal is to provide a competitive experience, which allows our players to develop to the level of play they desire.

What We Look For in a Player

1. Players who live and practice with respect for the sport they have chosen.
2. Sound tactical knowledge is only the beginning. It is not the solution to all problems. Player's skills or techniques provide order and support for their development. With tactics and technique we can establish a style that will be fun to play, fun to watch and easily identifiable.
3. Technique must be improved constantly to improve team play. If we manage to unify technique with intelligent play we can accomplish the most difficult tasks the game has to offer.
4. Preparing yourself physically is part of the challenges of the game. We want players who try to reach their physical limitations. It must be done in a controlled, practical, sensible way. A player's

determination must rival his or her passion for the game. We expect honesty and loyalty in the fight for a role on the team.

5. Players with the right mentality to compete, cooperate with their coach & teammates, and deal with the psychological obstacles that the game presents.
6. Play soccer that is pleasing to the fans. Imaginative, creative, emotional, passionate, and intelligent soccer. An attacking and winning style of soccer is pleasing to everyone.

The Commitment

There are different levels of club membership but in all our commitment to the club is what makes our club special. For the members it is about being part of an organization, which promotes values, which the membership believes, are critical to society. For the players it is about commitment to a club and team which provides their fellow members with an opportunity to train daily in an organization that is set up to allow them to reach maximum potential.

Team Training: Regularly scheduled training sessions occur throughout the indoor and outdoor seasons. The number of times teams train per week varies .

Additional Training Sessions: The club provides additional training sessions for the benefit of the players to offer something no other club provides in the United States. Most sessions are not mandatory and are at no additional cost to our members although from time to time specialty clinics will be provided at a cost to participants.

Individual Training

Competitive players have the opportunity to train in a small group setting with the DOC or individual coaches. Arrangements can be made with the club or specific coaches on a pay per session. Coaches are not allowed to charge players from their own teams. Training groups must consist of a minimum of 3 players and may not take place at Storm facilities without written consent from the club.

Homework

In order to achieve the highest levels of competition, players must spend time on their own working on specific techniques and individual fitness.

About the Club

The Storm Soccer Club strives to:

Offer committed players the opportunity to develop their skills both technically and tactically, and to compete at the highest level of play. The Club will travel, when necessary, to seek this premium level of play because of its educational value and belief that soccer improvement is born of superior competition.

Promote the development of academic standards and social skills (communication, discipline, good sportsmanship, and teamwork) necessary for academic achievement and good citizenship.

Provide continuing educational opportunities for the Storm coaching staff.

Establish programs for both players and parents that are designed specifically to enhance the knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of soccer.

Prepare players for competition at the collegiate level, thereby maximizing exposure to college recruiting.

Elevate the profile and image of the Storm Soccer Club and Colorado soccer on the local, regional, national, and international levels.

Focus on the development of physical, mental, as well as emotional fitness of its team members. The Club takes a “no tolerance” approach, requiring players to abstain from all drugs and alcohol. The use of profanity will also not be tolerated.

The Storm Soccer Club is unique in that it is not just a loose collection of individual teams, but a true Soccer Club in which teams get to know each other and support each other, both on and off the field. Coaching education is of great importance to the Club and DOC, and coaches are supported financially when furthering their education. As a result, by early 2015, we fully expect to have staff members obtain a USSF “A” license. Additionally, we have a goalkeeper coach which offers personal instruction in training all keepers within the club as well as specialty skills, positional development and specialty training clinics weekly.

The Storm Soccer Club is one of the few clubs which offer not only the experience of playing at the club but offer a full membership which allows people to experience the social benefits of belonging to a club designed to improve the quality of life. The long-range plans include: superior education of our staff members, improved communication to our members, offer the utmost quality in player development through proper training, education, a strong community service program and a strength and conditioning program open to all members. This will allow Storm and its members to better serve all players and people in the community and prepare for continued growth in the future.

Advisory Board

An Advisory Board will be established for the purpose of supporting the club by offering ideas and resources that promote the growth and development of Storm Soccer. The Advisory Board is comprised of individuals with extensive soccer and business experience.

Disciplinary Board

A Disciplinary Board will be established for the purpose of deciding extreme disciplinary issues that have escalated through the proper grievance policy and process. This board will be comprised of 3 qualified individuals who will make final recommendations to the club on disciplinary matters.

Policies and Procedures

Player Responsibilities

General

1. Attend all training sessions, matches, tournaments, and meetings unless previously excused by the coach. When conflicts arise, notify your coach as soon as possible ahead of time. You have a responsibility to the club and your teammates to be made sure they get the most of their time spent at club events. If you don't show you are hurting your teammates chance to be successful and showing a lack of respect for the time your teammates are spending to improve.
2. Be on time. Players should arrive 15 minutes prior to scheduled practice time and 45 minutes prior to games to properly prepare. Once again, show respect for your teammates and coaching staff whose time is just as valuable and don't let your tardiness hurt the hard work they put in.
3. You represent the Storm Soccer club at all times. We respect the game, our opponents, and all individuals in life. You have an obligation when you agree to be a member of this club to be respectful of others and to make your behavior an example for all members. You are expected to exemplify leadership and respect toward referees, fans, and opposing teams.

Proper equipment is part of preparation to reach your highest level possible. All players are expected to have all equipment with them at all times.

Proper equipment shall include but not be limited too

- a) Filled water bottle
- b) Shin Guards
- c) All proper practice or match gear
- d) Appropriate footgear
- e) PROPERLY INFLATED soccer ball (If required to bring a ball to practice)

General Player Guidelines

Dress Code

- a) Have jerseys and or t-shirts tucked into shorts and socks pulled over shin guards at all times for practices and games
- b) Bring Alternate jersey or T-shirt to all games and or practices
- c) Colorado weather can affect preparation for games and practices, be prepared by bringing soccer ball adequately pumped and filled water bottle.
- d) Bring and wear warm-ups in cold weather
- e) Bring appropriate foot gear for conditions (studs and cleats)

- f) Goalkeepers to bring 2 jerseys which allow the possibility of being distinguishable from team colors

Plans for Bad Weather

- a) The players or parents should never assume that a game or training session will be cancelled
- b) The coach or referee will always make the final decision
- c) Training sessions can be moved indoor so bring appropriate foot gear
- d) Contact administrator or coach personally to find out if a game is cancelled, don't rely on word of mouth
- e) In the event of bad weather, Storm will announce field closures by 3pm on practice days and 7:30am on game days. After that time, all decisions to close the fields will be made by the team coach and/or game day staff
- f) In the case of lightning, games and practices will be suspended when lightning comes within 10 miles

Safety and Medical Issues

- a) Always wear shin guards
- b) Have appropriate foot wear for surface
- c) Inform coach immediately of any medical concern
- d) Seek immediate medical advice or treatment from a professional
- e) All players must conform to current concussion protocol as determined by the Center for Disease Control and prevention

Policies for Training with Outside Clubs

Colorado Storm has created a policy regarding player placement for its players in an effort to build an open and consistent process between players and coaches.

- If a player attends a practice at another club without informing their coach, they can expect to be removed from their Storm team.
- If a player (parent) requests permission to practice with another club, they will be permitted to do so but their roster spot on a Storm team will no longer be guaranteed. This player may be offered a spot on a Storm team based on the coach's discretion.
- If a player is ready/suitable for a DA/ECNL program, Storm coaches will gladly discuss this with them and recommend them accordingly.

Anti-Bullying Policy

The Colorado Storm as an active participant in the Colorado Soccer Association (CSA) has adopted its own anti-bullying policy. We consider bullying to be behavior ranging from verbal teasing to physical aggression. It is our position that no amount of bullying is acceptable. Not all joking or horseplay is bullying, but when the intent or effect is to cause distress, repetition of such behavior is bullying and will not be tolerated.

Physical bullying can include pushing, hitting, or kicking a person or interfering with their property. Verbal bullying is the use of words or gestures to hurt or humiliate another person, including name-calling, racial or derogatory insults and teasing. It is the responsibility of everyone to stop bullying. If you are being bullied, or know of someone being bullied, you must tell parents, coaches, or your Storm representative (preferably via e-mail) as soon as possible.

If a person involved in the Colorado Storm (including players, coaches, administrators, parents and volunteers) has taken part in bullying behavior, a warning will be given. If the behavior continues, that person may be subjected to sanctions such as suspension from Colorado Storm. All incidents of bullying will be dealt in accordance to the Colorado Storm's Grievance Policy (step one; team coach, step two; age group director or regional administrator, step three; director or coaching or general administrator, step four; board of directors) for further action, which can include further warnings, discussions with parents, further suspensions or exclusions, ineligibility for tournaments and playoffs, up to removal from the team.

Statement of Intent

We (Colorado Storm) are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all soccer participants so they can learn the game of soccer and the skills necessary to participate in the game in a fun, positive and secure atmosphere. Bullying of any kind is unacceptable and will not be tolerated at any practice, game or other Storm sanctioned event associated with our soccer program. If bullying is reported to any parent or player, they should immediately report the incident to their respective coach or age group coordinator who will ensure the complaint is investigated and dealt with promptly and effectively. We will promote a *TELLING atmosphere*. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is taking place is expected to report the incident, as indicated previously.

Definition of Bullying

Bullying is defined as conduct, gestures or comments which are insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, malicious, degrading or otherwise offensive to a player, group of players and/or teammates, and which create a hostile or intimidating environment, or which negatively affects a player or player's performance. Bullying is harassment, intimidation by means of any gesture, any written, verbal or physical act, or any electronic communication, whether it be a single incident or a series of incidents that results in pain and distress to the victim. Bullying can be:

- Emotional- being unfriendly, excluding or intentionally ignoring someone
- Physical pushing, kicking, hitting, punching or any use of violence
- Racist racial taunts, graffiti, gestures or other slurs
- Sexual unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments
- Homophobic remarks or focusing on the issue of sexuality
- Verbal name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, teasing, taunting or tormenting
- Any communication via internet, including but not limited to, use of social networking sites to send email, text messaging, internet chat room dialogue, video and any other communication by use of computer or cell phone

Why is it Important to Respond to Bullying?

Bullying hurts. No one deserves to be a victim of bullying. Everybody has the right to be treated with respect. Players must be discouraged from bullying and Colorado Storm has the responsibility to respond promptly and effectively to issues of bullying.

Objectives of this Policy

All players, parents, coaches and Board members should have a clear understanding of what bullying is. Coaches and Administrators shall ensure that all players and parents are provided a copy of the Storm Anti-Bullying Policy and discuss the important points of the policy each year during the respective Parent/Coach Meeting. All players and parents should understand what they should do to report incidents involving bullying.

All coaches and members should be familiarized with the Storm Anti-Bullying Policy each year and be made aware of the procedures to follow when bullying is reported.

As a club, we take bullying seriously. Players and parents should be assured that they will be supported when bullying is reported.

Bullying will not be tolerated at any practices, games or other Storm sanctioned events.

Signs and Symptoms

A child may indicate he or she is being bullied through various signs and symptoms. While some children are prone to report bullying to their parents, coaches or adults, others will not, due to fear, intimidation or other factors. Coaches and parents should be aware of the following possible signs indicating that bullying may be taking place prompting them to investigate further and/or share their concerns with coaches or team representatives:

If a child:

- is frightened or unwilling to attend practice
- doesn't care to associate with team members
- asks to be picked up promptly from practice
- changes their usual routine
- feigns illness prior to practice or game time
- becomes withdrawn, anxious, or lacking in confidence
- starts stammering
- attempts or threatens suicide or runs away
- cries themselves to sleep at night or has nightmares
- begins to do poorly in school work
- comes home with missing or damage equipment or clothing
- asks for money or starts stealing money (to pay bully)
- has unexplained cuts or bruises
- becomes aggressive, disruptive or unreasonable
- is bullying other children or siblings
- stops eating
- is frightened to say what's wrong
- gives improbable excuses for any of the above

These signs and behaviors could indicate other problems, but bullying should be considered a possibility and should be investigated.

Player Education

Coaches are encouraged to discuss the problems of bullying openly with their players in order to promote a "Telling Atmosphere". Players should be encouraged to do the following to stop and discourage bullying tactics:

1. Players should tell their parents.
2. If a player is bullied at soccer practice/games, they should be encouraged to immediately tell their team coach. Telling is not tattling and the player should be reassured that no consequences will result to them for coming forward. If necessary, players should write down what happened, when it happened, and identify who bullied them.
3. If players are concerned or nervous about coming forward, they should be encouraged to talk with a friend or teammate. Team captains and assistant captains should be encouraged to intervene in any bullying situation.
4. Players should be encouraged to not fight back when confronted by a bully. They should calmly tell the player to stop, or say nothing and walk away. Again, they should report the incident to their team coach.

Procedures for Parents, Coaches and Board Members

1. Parents should report bullying incidents to the team coach or team representative. In cases of bullying, the coach or team representative who was contacted shall submit a written report outlining the reported bullying behavior to the Colorado Storm. If necessary and appropriate, police may be consulted.
2. In all cases of reported bullying, parents of the player who was bullied shall be informed immediately and may be asked to meet with the respective team coach and/or team representative to discuss the incident. In all cases, strict confidentiality shall be maintained.
3. The bullying behavior or threats of bullying must be investigated and the bullying stopped immediately. The parents of any player who is reported to be bullying will be contacted immediately by the respective team coach, team representative, or coaching director and asked to meet to discuss the incident. Depending on the severity of the situation, the parents may be asked to meet with representatives of the Colorado Storm Board.

Consequences of Bullying

1. In a first offense situation involving bullying, an attempt will be made to encourage the bully (bullies) to modify their behavior for their benefit, for the benefit of the person bullied and other team members. The bully (or bullies) will be asked to genuinely apologize to those players affected, including all team members. An attempt will be made by the coach, administrator, or parent to reconcile the situation between the players (Age and level of maturity and or severity of offense must be considered). Other consequences or disciplinary alternatives to stop the bullying may also be considered by the Colorado Storm once reported by the parent, coach or team representative.
2. If the bullying persists, disciplinary action against a player may be taken by the team coach and/or general administrator which may include, but are not limited to, immediate suspension from participation in the soccer practice or game(s) for a period of time. The Colorado Storm reserves the right to suspend or otherwise discipline any player for bullying in addition to any action taken by the coach. In severe cases, the Colorado Storm reserves the right to prohibit further participation in the soccer program by any player deemed to be involved in the bullying other players.
3. After the incident/incidents have been investigated and dealt with, the situation will continued to be monitored by the respective team coach and player parents to ensure repeated bullying does not take place.
4. Any and all incidents of bullying, whether first offense or other, deemed minor or severe, will be reported to the team coach and/or the age group director of coaching immediately and in writing within 24 hours.

Coaches

It is a club goal for players to develop professional relationships with many of our coaches. We believe that contact and information from different coaches helps our players develop different ideas, which are important to a sound understanding of the game.

Refer to Player's Expectations and Acknowledgement.

Coaches Responsibilities

At the Storm Soccer Club, players are always the number 1 priority but our goal is to make our club the top coaching credentialed club in the United States.

Coaches make up one of the most important parts of what makes our club special and unique. Credentials have as much to do with experience as licensing and we strive to have the best teachers in the game at every level. With that in mind as professionals we ask the coaches to do all the instruction for our players and the fans and members/parents to refrain from doing so. Winning and losing while important will be secondary to the club evaluation of development over time. Our coaches will be measured to some extent on how they do when it counts but we will expect our coaches to work hard to give their team a perspective over the long term

It is the coach's responsibility to decide on playing time and **NO PLAYER ON COMPETITIVE TEAMS WILL BE GUARANTEED PLAYING TIME.** Recreational players are guaranteed to play at least 50% of the games they attend

We expect our coaches to use the following criteria in determining playing time. These in no particular order and at the total discretion of the coaches:

- a) Player attendance
- b) Player performance and ability
- c) Player attitude, commitment, and coach ability
- d) Players ability to improve
- e) Pre-match tactical plan
- f) Situational occurrences in matches
- g) Players representation of club values

In return for that responsibility, we expect the coaches to:

1. Be prompt and on time to training sessions and matches.
2. Attend all matches and tournaments unless otherwise notified.
3. **The distribution of playing time is solely at the coach's discretion and to make such decisions in a fair and unbiased manner.**
4. Provide an environment where learning, teamwork, and long-term goals are paramount
5. Agree that any information pertaining to the club, its members, or operation is considered private and is not to be shared with anyone outside club membership
6. Teach the Technical, Psychological, Tactical, and Physical aspects to the game.
7. Set a high standard for discipline and sportsmanship.
8. Motivate and challenge players to consistently give their best.
9. Foster open lines of communication between the players, member/parents, the DOC, and the club.
10. Understand and agree to Coach Commitment and Code of Conduct.

The highest and most important priority of the Club is the health and safety of all members who play on our club teams. To this end, we have adopted a Code of Conduct for our coaches, which will be reviewed from time to time and supplemented and amended as the Board of Directors deems to be appropriate.

As a part of the Storm Soccer Club commitment to excellence, we require that all of our coaches make the following commitment to the Club, its players and parents:

As a Storm Accredited Coach, I recognize my responsibility to provide instruction and guidance which unifies the individual efforts of players and coaches into an extraordinary team experience. To achieve the goal of building a competitive and cohesive team, I promise the following:

- To plan and supervise practice sessions that are both instructive and age appropriate.
- To prepare for each game by creating a strategy suitable to the opponent.
- Motivate and teach with positive reinforcement.
- Treat the Club, players and parents with respect.
- Observe and apply the rules of the Storm Soccer Club and our team in an even-handed manner.
- Balance the desire to win with the goal of insuring that all players have the opportunity to improve to their maximum potential, contribute to the team and develop as people.

At this time, the Code of Conduct requires the following:

11. Coaches may not use illegal drugs at any time. The coach is expected to remain alert and available to assist players in the Club.
12. No training or games shall take place when lightning is in the immediate area. At the first sighting or lightning in the immediate area, the players and coaches are to leave the fields and seek safe shelter. The game or practice may not resume until twenty minutes after the last sighting of lightning in the area.
13. When traveling to out-of-town tournaments may travel with their spouses provided that the spouse's attendance does not detract in any way from their responsibilities during the tournament.
14. The sexual harassment of players, coaches or others associated with the Club is strictly prohibited. Coaches may not date any member of a U19 or younger team or any player who has not yet graduated from high school.
15. The use of profanity **should** be avoided at all times when involved in any Club activity.
16. The use of tobacco products during training sessions and games is prohibited.
17. Agree to portray the club in a positive light at all times realizing that I am a representative of an organization which works for the benefit of the whole sum of it's parts.
18. Agree that what is talked about with the members of the club is private information and is to be kept solely within the club membership. Member/Parent Responsibilities
19. Agree and consent to a criminal background check.

Parents Responsibilities

All parents and players assume the responsibilities of being a member of the Storm Soccer Club. When you agree to allow you son or daughter to become a part of the club you are agreeing to join our family as a full-fledged member with all the responsibilities that come with an organization that believes in respect for others. You have joined a group, which sees a bigger picture and wants to promote a positive example not only for your children and the game of soccer but the world around us. You will be expected to:

- a) Be a role model for all the kids and adults in the organization
- b) Make only positive verbal comments
- c) Attempt to learn the game and gain knowledge which can be used to promote the sport of soccer
- d) Keep clear lines of communication with the coaching staff, the board of directors and the players
- e) Inform club of child's relevant medical conditions
- f) Pay fees promptly
- g) Show respect for referees, staff, players both our Storm players and opponents

- h) Be responsible for your children being on time, properly equipped and showing respectful behavior no matter what the circumstances or provocation
- i) **Report any and all issues to the coach, not the team administrator.**
- j) **Failure to abide by the Club's Code of Conduct will result in a hearing to determine if action should be taken and that decision is the sole discretion of the Storm Disciplinary Committee.**

Remember, as a group we are trying to build an organization, which we will want to be part of for a long time to come; an organization we are proud of that simply treats people how they want to be treated. Help us promote this great game and its attributes. Be an important part of a Soccer Club like no other in the United States and one day we will all be talking about what a great group of people we are lucky enough to be associated with.

Refer to Coach Acknowledgement

Parent's Code

- Children have more need of example than criticism.
- Make soccer participation for your child and others a positive experience.
- Attempt to relieve the pressure of competition, not to increase it. A child is easily affected by outside influences.
- Be kind to your child's coach and to the officials.
- To abide by the 24 hour rule which discourages a parent from contacting a coach within 24 hours of the completion of a game or incident for discussion.
- The opponents are a necessary friend. Without them, your child could not participate.
- Applaud good plays by your team and by members of the opposing team.
- Parents should be cheerleaders.
- Between the exuberance of the winner and the disappointment of the loser, we find a person called the referee. All of them follow the same creed to watch every move of every player and to call the game to the best of their ability. Do not openly question their judgment and never their honesty. They are a symbol of fair play, integrity, and sportsmanship.
- Accept the results of each game. Encourage the child to be graceful in victory and to turn defeat to a victory by working towards improvement. **Just like in real life, children will sometimes deal with adversity.**
- **Accept the decisions of the club as being in the best interest of the entire club.**

Refer to Parent's Acknowledgement.

Grievance Policy and Procedures

At Colorado Storm, our first priority is our members and the Club wants to ensure any grievance, disagreement or unsatisfactory interaction is resolved in the most equitable and fair way to all parties involved. To that end, the Club's formal procedures for any grievance are set forth below. It is our sincere hope that most issues will be resolved between players, parents and coaches without further involvement from the Club. Our coaches are here for the members and will make every effort to ensure they are available and open to any discussion from a player or parent. However, if any issue cannot be resolved, the procedure set forth below should be taken to ensure situations are handled as equitably as possible. The policy is intended to comply with the general requirements for grievances, disputes and appeals of the United State Youth Soccer Organization By-laws.

The Policy is intended to cover the grievances of coaches, participants, parents, spectators, and Colorado Storm Board Members. The term "parents" below is used to represent all parties.

- Parents may not approach coaches to voice complaints or displeasure with coaching actions or decisions either during or immediately following any game or practice. A period of 24 hours should pass after the game or practice in question.
- The first step is for the parent to arrange a meeting to speak directly with the team's coach. This should be done when the coach is not coaching and when there are not other players or parents around.
- If the issue is not resolved, the parent may contact the Age Group Director of Coaching (for coaching issues) or the Regional Manager (for administrative issues). The Age Group Director or Regional Manager will address the matter within three regular business days (M-F, 9am-5pm).
- If the issue remains unresolved, the parents may contact the respective gener Director of Coaching (Director of Boys/Girls, for coaching issues) or the President (Administrative issues). The parent should document, in writing, the steps taken so far to resolve the situation. This may be done by email. The Director of Coaching or President will address the matter within three regular business days (M-F, 9am-5pm).
- If issues remain unresolved, the parent may submit a formal complaint to the Colorado Storm Board of Directors (BOD). The parent should document, in writing, the steps taken so far to resolve the situation. This may be done by email. The BOD will review the information to determine if it is appropriate to hear the complaint. If the BOD determines that the matter warrants review, necessary steps will be taken to resolve the situation. The BOD will review the complaint at the next BOD meeting.

Team Administrator Responsibilities

Team administrators are an integral part of the way the club operates as well as the way it is perceived. Quite often, they are the most consistent voice to the players and parents/members. For that very reason, it is important that they portray the Club, its Board of Directors, the DOC and the coaching staff in a positive manner. Remember you are part of the inner family circle of information and quite often you are privy to a view of things, which can be misperceived by others. It is therefore important that you represent only facts, and not opinions, in a positive attempt to make sure lines of communication with parent/members and players are kept open on all matters.

To achieve that goal, we ask that you accept responsibility to do the following:

1. Establish a clear system of communicating with players and their parents on all matter. **Unless otherwise delegated it is the administrator's responsibility to keep the team's communication system updated on a daily basis.**
2. Work with the team and the club to ensure that the team stays in compliance with league, state, and tournament regulations.
3. Ensure that all information and materials from the club are **distributed** in a timely manner.
4. Remember, the team administrator's main job is one of facilitator. The administrator is not a coach, general administrator, or team owner. Direct all parent and player concerns that are individual in nature to your respective coach. Discussion of issues such as playing time, coach's decisions or club direction or policies should be avoided and referred directly to the coach.
5. **While administrators are not employees of the club, they are to be supportive of the coach and club at all times. The administrator is not allowed to hold private meetings for the team without the coach's participation or approval. If this occurs, the administrator will be relieved of his/her duties.**
6. Sell people on the direction of the club; do not give your opinion on whether you think it is the correct direction. Remember you are the most visible voice for the membership so support the decisions of the group. If you have an opinion on the way things can be done better refer them to the Technical Director, age group director, President or the Board for discussion.
7. Refer any issues regarding fees to the club accountant.

8. During games and practices try to confine yourself to the sideline with other parents/members.
9. Duties such as travel/ lodging, tournament search, and registration are important. Learn to delegate some of these responsibilities so that you are not overwhelmed.
10. **The administrator is responsible for attending administrator meetings. Missing up to two meetings will result in the administrator being relieved of their duties.**

Treasurer Policies, Procedures and Responsibilities

Colorado Storm is the dba for the competitive arm of Cherry Creek Soccer Association, which is recognized as a 501(c)(3) organization by the Internal Revenue Service. This means that the organization is a not-for-profit organization, and is generally not subject to the payment of income taxes.

Since the teams are part of Cherry Creek Soccer Association and are using the tax ID number, the cash receipts and disbursements of the teams becomes an integral part of filings with the Internal Revenue Service.

Fiduciary Obligation:

- Treasurers assume a fiduciary obligation regarding the handling of money for the team and individual player accounts. This means that the treasurer is only authorized to use team funds for team expenses and an individual player's funds for that specific player's expenses. The treasurer is NOT AUTHORIZED to use funds in one player's account to pay for another player's expenses if the latter's player account does not have sufficient funds to cover the expenses. This would be a VIOLATION of the treasurer's fiduciary obligation.

Player Accounts:

- If a player's account is delinquent, the treasurer must notify the player's parents that an appropriate deposit be made immediately or the player may have to be suspended from the team.
- If a player leaves the team, then the balance in the departing player's account reverts to the team account if the balance is derived from fundraising. If the balance represents parent funds, the money may be refunded. If the player transfers to another Storm team, funds can be transferred to the new team.

Checking Accounts:

- Use the federal tax ID number for Cherry Creek Soccer Association, which may be obtained from the Club's Director of Finance.
- All transactions should flow through this account.

Typical cash receipt transactions are as follows:

- Parents' payments for travel fees, coaching expenses and other team expenses.
- Receipts from the grocery rebate program (e.g., King Soopers) or Bingo program, deposited for the benefit of an individual player.
- Fundraising receipts and donations from businesses and other sponsors of your team.

The following is a summary of the typical disbursements from the team's checking account:

- Registration fees to Colorado Storm.
- Coaching expenses.
- Team travel expenses.
- Tournament fees.

Record Keeping:

- Maintain a file of original receipts to support all expenses for payment of team equipment, uniforms, and travel.
- In the event a parent is reimbursed for expenses incurred, the receipts should be submitted prior to making such payment. For the organization to properly deduct the disbursement made, the expense must relate directly to Storm soccer activities.

- At the end of each month, reconcile your bank statement to the checkbook and report player balances to each family.

Reporting to Club:

- Monthly reports of receipts, expenses and bank reconciliations should be sent to the Storm Director of Finance

Reporting to Parents:

- Set budget for the season
- Reports of parent's deposits, receipts allocated to parents and expenses allocated to parents should be made on a monthly basis-monthly during periods of activity.
- Regular reports will help collect funds for team expenses and will serve as a communication tool.
- Run projected financial needs monthly or more often if the team travels frequently.

Recording Keeping and Reporting Aids:

- Computer software such as a simple spreadsheet program (Excel). We do offer a sample template on our website.

Fundraising Activities:

- Teams are allowed and encouraged to raise funds on their own. Any team fundraisers must be offered to every player on the team and all related financial transactions should flow through the team bank account.
- When the Storm tax ID number is used, you must contact your regional manager to get approved for any activities.
- **Use of the Storm logo is only allowed with prior approval by the Club.**

Policy Regarding Fundraising (e.g., Bingo) Disbursements and Responsibilities of Team Treasurers:

Funds raised through club fundraising programs are credited at the team level on tax free basis. This includes fundraising related to Bingo, King Soopers/Grocery Rebates, Scrips and team fundraisers. Therefore, money cannot be paid directly to families. All money must run through the team bank accounts.

Money earned from club fundraising can be used for the following items:

- Storm Registration Fees
- Storm Camp Fees
- Sanctioned Tournament Fees
- Chaperone Travel expense
- Parent travel is only reimbursable if the parent is serving as the team Chaperone.
- Storm Coach Travel Expenses
- Storm Uniforms
- Storm Team Fees - e.g., indoor space, referees, etc.

When possible, the team treasurer should allocate money directly from a player account to cover allowable expenses. However, families are allowed to provide original receipts to treasurers and ask for reimbursement of Storm related soccer expenses listed above. Treasurers should keep these receipts as part of the team files. Storm reserves the right to audit these receipts upon request.

It is also important to note that if a player leaves the club for any reason, money raised through team fundraising that remains in the player's account, and is not reimbursed based on the criteria above, will stay with the club.

Registration Payments

Due to the change in the way the league format is setup we have had to change the way we collect payments for the season. You will notice that we are now collecting fees for the full year instead of by season. The registration fee covers the player's registration with CSA, registration with Colorado Storm, field usage, field maintenance, administrative fee, secondary insurance with CSA, referee fee. Coaching fee, and staff training fee. The registration fee does not include the uniform expenses or team expenses such as tournaments or indoor.

You may make a payment by either going to the Colorado Storm website and login into your family account and pay by credit card or you may mail in a check to the Colorado Storm Soccer Office 7002 South Revere Parkway Suite 60 Centennial CO 80112. Please make any check out to "Colorado Storm".

Setting Up or Transferring the Team Account

When you are first setting up the account for the team you will be given a letter from Colorado Storm that will allow you to open the account. We require that you use Storm's preferred banking partner. Use your home address as the address for where the statements should be mailed every month from the bank.

If you are transferring the team account to a new treasurer please make sure that you change the authorized signee for the team. This may require a letter from Colorado Storm which can be requested from the Director of Finance.

Financial Aid

Colorado Storm has a scholarship program to help players in financial need. If a family on the team is interested in financial aid, direct them to submit the online application found on the Club website. The application must be accompanied by a copy of the previous year's tax return and will be reviewed by the Regional Manager. Financial aid will only cover a maximum of 50% of the registration fee.

Any player that is given financial aid and then requests to be released will be required to pay the club the financial aid back.

Colorado Storm Refund Policy

Refunds for Competitive or Thunder Select (year-long) Programs

After accepting a spot on a roster, refunds will be subject to the following:

Refunds are subject to the discretion of the Storm Regional Manager (NOT Coaches) and will ONLY be considered for the following reasons:

- Season ending Injury - Must have a doctor's note and Player will no longer be practicing with the team or maintaining a spot on the team
- Relocation 50 miles beyond Storm regions

Conflicts with practice schedules or deciding not to play are not grounds for refunds.

All refunds will be subject to an administrative fee of 20% of the annual registration fee.

Players will need to contact the Regional Manager for a refund form.

Refunds for Recreational (Seasonal) Programs

After August 1st for the fall season and after March 1st for the spring season, refunds will be subject to the following:

Refunds are subject to the discretion of the Storm Regional Manager (NOT Coaches) and will ONLY be considered for the following reasons:

- Season ending Injury - Must have a doctor's note and Player will no longer be practicing with the team or maintaining a spot on the team
- Relocation 50 miles beyond Storm regions

Conflicts with practice schedules or deciding not play are not grounds for refunds

All refunds will be subject to an administrative fee of 20% of the registration fee.

Refunds for Camps/Clinics

Refunds will NOT be given for camps within three weeks of the camp start date. Camp fees are not pro-rated. Camp credits may only be applied to future camps in the same season.

Refund requests due to injury or illness must be made must be accompanied by a doctor's note.

All refunds will be subject to a 20% administrative fee.

Paying for a Tournament

The treasurer is responsible for pay for, or reconcile payment related to, any tournament. The administrator should inform treasurers when payments are needed.

Guidelines for what is owed for a tournament:

Assistant Coaches:

A team is not responsible to pay for assistant coach's expenses. If the team would like to pay for it, they may but are not required to. The head coach may not insist that the assistant coach have their travel paid for. This is the decision of the team.

Guest Players:

All players on the original team roster are responsible for paying tournament fees. Expenses related to travel should be paid by traveling players.

Any player who commits to a tournament, and for whom an airline ticket, or other non-refundable fees are paid (including coach's travel fees), is responsible to pay for those expenses, even if the player does not attend (unless the coach can find a guest player).

When a guest player is utilized, guest players are responsible for fees associated with a tournament that they attend which includes but is not limited to the air fare (if applicable), hotel (if applicable), coach's tournament expenses, team meals and team transportation if team vehicles are rented.

Injured Players:

If a player sustains a season ending injury, is provided a refund from Storm and no longer on the roster, then the player is not responsible to pay for tournament expenses.

If a player is injured, but remains on the roster, the player is responsible for a portion of the tournament registration fee. An injured player who remains on the roster and travels to a tournament pays for applicable travel expenses.

Players Falling Behind in Payments

Colorado Storm has the ability to take several steps to get players caught up. We can evaluate their financial status to see if they need to receive scholarship. We can take the player's pass and not allow the player to play until they pay. These are just a few steps we can take to get the money paid.

The most important part is that you give Colorado Storm Soccer Office as much heads up that a problem is developing so we can act early upon the information and get the money owed to the team.

When do I get Storm Administration Involved?

- When a player is delinquent in payments
- When a player is refusing to pay money owed to the team
- When a player is transferring teams and owes the current team money
- When a player owes the team money in any amount and delinquent in paying that amount

Travel Policies and Procedures

The club is a traveling club making at least one out of town trip each year. Club teams who travel during the year must follow the policies and procedures stated herein.

The policies are as follows:

Itinerary

- a. It is the responsibility of the coach and administrator of each team to provide in writing a detailed itinerary of travel plans and tournament schedules to the Club office and the appropriate Director of Coaching at least one week prior to travel.
- b. At travel itinerary shall include but not be limited to the following: game schedule, team meal schedule, team activities, team meetings, team curfew, transportation to and from the games, team meals and activities.
- c. A detailed itinerary will be provided to parents and players by the coach and administrator.
- d. The Coach is responsible for approving the itinerary prior to departing on a trip.

Hotel Accommodations

- a. All team members, coaching staff and chaperones (parents) stay at the same location during the tournament.
- b. All teams will have the option to select and utilize either of the following hotel accommodation arrangements:
 - 1) All team members stay in team rooms that shall be supervised by the coach and parent chaperones, or
 - 2) All u13 and under team members stay in team rooms with a chaperone in each team room ("room chaperone"). Each team is responsible for designating room chaperones at least two weeks in advance of a trip. Each room chaperone shall complete a background check and agree to abide by the Club's room chaperone rules and procedures prior to being approved by the Coach as a chaperone.
- c. A team may petition the Technical Director and the President to consider a different hotel accommodation arrangement in the event there are unique circumstances.

Coaches

- a. It is the responsibility of the Coach to supervise the entire trip.
- b. The Coach is expected to delegate authority but shall not be relieved of any responsibility. The coach is to assign a parent or chaperone to be responsible for the children's behavior at all times.
- c. Coaches should address the following issues:
 - Pre-game practice schedule times
 - Meeting times and places
 - Room assignments
 - Curfews/penalties for not meeting same
 - Conduct periodic room checks
 - Check rooms upon arrival and departure from the accommodations
 - Plan all activities and free times
 - Assign players to vehicles to travel to and from games, restaurants, etc.
 - Dress code
 - All team members and parents should be informed of the stated policies and procedures prior to each trip.

Miscellaneous

- a. Coaches and chaperones are responsible for the behavior of the team at all tournaments
- b. Although administrators, players, parents and chaperones are not employees of Storm they are representing Colorado Storm at ALL TIMES, and therefore appropriate behavior is expected at all times during the trip. Any violation of Club Policies and Procedures will be dealt with appropriately.
- c. The administrator is to assign (1) travel coordinator (2) drivers (3) laundry volunteers (4) meal coordinator on all out of town trips. DELEGATE TO THE PARENTS
- d. The coaching expenses are to be evenly divided amongst the traveling members of the team. The parents are responsible for the coach's transportation (airfare or auto), lodging, food per diem. You commit to play in tournaments when you join the team. If a rostered player can not play they are still responsible for the tournament fee. Only traveling members (guest players included) will share in the coach's traveling expenses.
- e. In the event a coach cannot coach a game or attend a tournament due to a conflict, the DOC will assign a coach to take their place and the traveling members will share in the replacements coach's expenses.

Social Media Policy

Colorado Storm's Social Policy is a collection of guidelines set forth to create healthy player-coach relationships. The nature of this policy is to encourage coaches to separate their personal life and professional coaching life when using social media as well as to discourage the one-on-one social media interactions between players and coaches.

- If a coach decides to interact/connect with a player via social media, coaches should do so through a distinct coach account, not their personal account.
- Coaches should not interact with players on social media in a one-on-one setting.
- If a coach chooses to communicate with a player via text message, the coach should include a parent on all communication.

Program Outlines & Objectives

Select Team Programs

Youth Programs (ages u-10 - u-19)

The goal of our youth programs is to create the best learning environment in the United States to reach the maximum player development in our members. It is about learning an appreciation for the game, learning how to play, learning how to be a competitor, and learning how to live.

Youth Team Objectives

Commitment to select soccer is a commitment to learning and a "we" before "me" approach. The following is a brief account of activities to be carried out by the player during this process.

- a) Learning soccer in every technical aspect, individually, position ally and in groups. Coordinated movements and the development of tactics.
- b) Physical training and exercises related to the game of soccer/soccer. Progress shall be evaluated every 4 months.
- c) Learning different techniques in soccer/soccer including use of video analysis and discussion relating to future life experiences of the players.
- d) Having medical check-ups to ensure the mental strength and physical well-being of your body so it may operate at its maximum efficiency.
- e) Coordination of a proper nutrition plan so your body will create maximum fuel efficiency.

Senior Teams

Goals

In both the men's and women's divisions, the club over the long term wants to formulate an u-23, a PDL/W-League, a senior team, a parent team and an over- 40 team to assist in our goal of creating a Professional style club system which allows all our members to experience the joy of playing the beautiful game if they so desire.

Objectives

The objectives are the continuation of our youth select objectives plus:

1. To provide an opportunity for our members to continue involvement in the game.
2. To provide our youth select players a goal to strive for and positive role models to emulate.
3. To provide our Parent/members a better understanding of what it means to be a player and what the tactics of the game entail.

Team Mission

It is our belief that the team concept must take place over all individual priorities. Most clubs have people and players who want to win but are not willing to sacrifice personally for the good of the group. What it takes is to give yourself over to the team for the good of the whole and play your part. It may not always make you happy but when you do you will make the commitment to win. Individual accomplishment is great, but here we believe it is how much you help your teammates improve that counts.

With that in mind the club believes there is a way to play the game which best portrays its beauty. It is the code by which we want all our teams to live by and set an example for those who follow or view us.

The Code

1. A commitment to penetrate, go forward, attack.
2. A commitment to go both ways, to cover for your teammate.
3. Constant player and ball movement.
4. Proper Balance.
5. Proper Spacing.
6. Everyone must be an offensive threat, no matter what your strengths are.
7. Make the most of your abilities by playing within yourself.
8. Believe in and support your teammates no matter how bad or good you believe their abilities to be. Your ability to find their strengths and accent them will help the club reach their vision.

Keys to Success

1. Strong work ethic.
2. Clear understanding of the obstacles we must overcome.
3. Developing players from our youngest age groups on up through skill and understanding of the game.
4. Realizing that the correct direction might not win in the short term but will always win out over the long term benefit of the club and its players.
5. Proper Emphasis on winning tournaments and championships.
6. We must be more than a winning club. We must offer an exciting event where soccer is played well.
7. Winning is important in this endeavor. Winning brings forth simplicity. With winning efforts are rewarded and problems are solved in an efficient manner. Even the problems that might seem impossible to overcome are solved. That creates the basis for our belief that we can overcome any obstacle in life or on the playing field.

Winning strengthens the attitude of the club. Our players need to be committed to the fact that the key to success is to play to the best of our ability and to always play well. Everything else follows this attitude.

Words We Live By

We will have one fundamental word to live by in our club

"Respect"

1. Respect for the ball, treat it well at all times
2. Respect for the game and the fans
3. Respect for your teammates and your team
4. Respect for the principles of the game, be loyal to them
5. Respect for the opponent
6. Respect for the moral integrity to win because we work the hardest to be the best team
7. Respect for the Team Shirt, The club and its history. Pride

"The Ten Commandments of STORM SOCCER"

1. RESPECT. Understand that we are always in the view of the public. Inappropriate actions and behavior have repercussions.
2. SPIRIT. Technique can only be perfected through sacrifice. All of the players at Storm Soccer Clubs can play soccer but they must also have the enthusiasm to aggressively defend and recover the ball. Only with the ball can we play the attacking soccer we enjoy.
3. BALANCE. Understand that the team works as a whole unit. For Example: Fullbacks cannot attack when someone is in their attacking position. We must attack with deception but be aware of our teammates to avoid unnecessary risk
4. FREEDOM. Although we will always maintain freedom positionally, we will accept our responsibilities for the specifics of our position.
5. ZONES. Defending in zones will be learned, practiced and played. It is necessary to the development of best possible players.
6. TEMPO. Storm players will learn what it means to control the tempo of the game. The game is meant to be played at changing speeds and deception which requires the ability to maintain possession and control of the ball
7. MENTALITY. We cannot and should not dwell on the past championships. We are changing the perception of our club by moving forward to attempt to achieve even loftier goals such as national championships.
8. MOBILITY. Our players must remain mobile at all times. Interchange of position and constant movement are required to play Storm Soccer. Our movement will disrupt and complicate things for our opponents and allow us to enjoy the freedom we want in attack.
9. INTELLIGENCE. In soccer, brute force or pure speed will never supersede the importance of understanding. Players who listen to instruction and think the game will raise their game to a higher level.
10. WORK ETHIC. In Soccer, the best club does not always win and the lesser club does not always lose. To win consistently, the club has to play well. To play well, the club must work hard and prepare properly during the week. Preparation alone will not guarantee victory. However, we will feel a sense of satisfaction knowing we did everything possible to accomplish our goal. A player's attitude must adhere to a strong work ethic in soccer as in life.

Future Programs

Specialty Finishing

One of our goals is to get our players to play attacking soccer and you wouldn't be able to do that without creating chances and scoring goals. Storm's goal is to bring in top teachers with European and South American professional experience to share the nuances of what made them successful. We will offer this program **periodically**.

Specialty Goalkeeping

Storm, with its national and international contacts, will use goalkeeping instructors that have worked with top professionals and are quality teachers at the youth level. This extra goalkeeping instruction will incorporate refinement of techniques as well as tactical instruction.

Continued Skills Instruction

A quality skill base is the foundation for all of our players' improvement. This is not something that stops at Storm once you join the club.

A National Organization

Storm is in the process of becoming a national organization and already has a foothold in Colorado. The advantage to these affiliations and partnerships is cooperative ventures in tournaments, instruction, seminars, collegiate showcases, contacts, and sponsors is endless.

Extra Sessions

Storm offers multiple extra sessions during the year with professional quality instruction that is separate from your team's respective coach. The numbers of sessions per month are determined by the team schedule, number of teams, coach's availability and individual team preparation. There is no guarantee for a specific number of sessions, but the sessions are available to the club members and should be perceived as extra benefits to being a Storm member.

A Message from the President

Dear Coaches, Parents, and Members,

What a difference a year makes. We set out to develop this as one of the premier clubs in the United States and have added four extremely talented coaches. These include an A-Licensed Boys Director, a Sparks Director in Castle Rock, a former Women's National Team player, a Girls Director with International coaching and playing experience, and a long-term professional as our Goalkeeper coach to our already top-quality staff. We saw the large majority of our teams improved both technically and tactically and the development of our players was fun to watch. We set out at doing something on a national scale and we just now have started to get relationships in place with a number of affiliates looking to spring up in the near future. As a professional coach for over 20 years, this is already one of the most exciting undertakings I have ever been involved in. Our vision was that we make this a Club which emulates many of the Professional style clubs in organization, respect, loyalty, and professional behavior as well as promoting a family atmosphere. We are well on our way. Who would have thought that we would already have a camp program where we were turning away participants, we would be talking about mentors and coaches who have played and coached at the highest level, and looking at a tremendous growth in membership in all our regions.

For existing members, some of the things were foreign to you and took some adjustment but we took the philosophy of working together for the good of the whole Club and exceeded every one of our prescribed goals. We go into the next year with our long-term goals set on facilities and promoting the game of soccer to the community at a level never before achieved. We are creating the existence of an Advisory Board, which will help facilitate support of the community. We have sent our staff to a coaching retreat featuring nationally recognized experts to benefit the growth of our coaches and are now adding staff and guest coaches who have the international coaching experience to share with our coaches and members. We realize there is tremendous competition in our area for players and it is our feeling that by providing the best coaching and developmental environment, we have the best chance of creating loyalty to a quality run organization. As we have already seen, programs developed by our staff have been imitated by other clubs in the region, but we promise that Storm will again work hard to be the innovator in finding new ways to create extra programs and benefits for our players. We want to continue to provide a unique experience so we can reach our ultimate long-term goal. That goal is not only to be the best developmental club in Colorado, but to be the best developmental club nationally. In pursuit of that goal:

- We will be striving to offer the most opportunities for our players to develop.
- We will be striving to offer the best coaching credentialed club in the country.
- We will be a club that promotes quality human beings as well as soccer players.
- We will be a family working for a common goal, the betterment of our members. We will Not be a group of individual teams or players.
- We will be a club where everyone promotes a similar style of attacking soccer.

Via e-mail you will receive a club handbook outlining many of the policies and procedures, which will fully explain the philosophy and the direction of our club. In the next couple of months, we will get many opportunities to discuss tactics and the specific evolution/direction of our club. I am interested in your honest opinions and I would like you to take a few minutes to jot down any issues you feel might be helpful as we continue to improve. My door will always be open and welcome to these discussions. For my part, I am here to provide a common direction for the good of the whole club. In that effort, it is my desire to provide you the experience of benefiting from as much information as humanly possible in order to improve our abilities and the quality of soccer we play.

Sincerely,

David K. Dir, President

Colorado Storm Soccer

Player Expectations

“Champions don’t just train, they invest in their development.”

TRAINING MENTALITY / PRACTICE ATTITUDE

The way you train during practice is the way you will play in the game. Developing a training mentality begins with YOU. As you improve so does your team. You must be willing to push yourself and your teammates to the edge.

DEVELOPING A PRACTICE ATTITUDE

- Come to practice early and work on one aspect of your game.
- Come to practice properly dressed. Wearing shin guards, shirt tucked in, soccer shorts, no watches or jewelry, ball inflated.
- Eliminate distractions. Focus on what you need to accomplish during practice.

TRAINING ON YOUR EDGE

- Train past what is comfortable for you.
- DON'T just go through the motions.
- INTENSITY, INTENSITY, INTENSITY.
- Raise the bar and set the standard.

SETTING GOALS – DREAM BIG

- Be specific, challenging, and realistic.
- Avoid unrealistic goals.
- Outcome goals – based on scoreboard or external measures. You only have partial or no control over these goals.
- Performance goals – based on long-range process. You have virtually total control over outcome.
- Set two performance goals for each outcome goal.

SET TWO OUTCOME GOALS

SET FOUR PERFORMANCE GOALS

Player Acknowledgment

This Handbook describes important information about CO Storm. I have entered into my relationship with CO Storm voluntarily.

I acknowledge that the contents of this Handbook are subject to change. I understand that I will receive notification of all such changes through official notices, and that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained.

Player's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form to the Team Coach.

Coach Acknowledgment

This Handbook describes important information about CO Storm. I have entered into my employment relationship with CO Storm voluntarily and acknowledge that there is no specified length of employment. Accordingly, either CO Storm or I can terminate the relationship at will, with or without cause, at any time, so long as there is no violation of applicable federal or state law.

I acknowledge that the contents of this Handbook are subject to change, except for CO Storm's policy of employment-at-will. I understand that I will receive notification of all such changes through official notices, and that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies. Furthermore, I acknowledge that this handbook is neither a contract of employment.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained.

Coach's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form to the Club Administrator.

Parent Acknowledgment

This Handbook describes important information about CO Storm. My child has entered into this relationship with CO Storm voluntarily.

I acknowledge that the contents of this Handbook are subject to change. I understand that I will receive notification of all such changes through official notices, and that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained.

Parent's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form to the Team Coach.

Team Administrator Acknowledgment

This Handbook describes important information about my volunteer position as a Team Administrator. I have entered into this relationship with CO Storm voluntarily.

I acknowledge that the contents of this Handbook are subject to change. I understand that I will receive notification of all such changes through official notices, and that revised information may supersede, modify, or eliminate existing policies.

I have received the handbook, and I understand that it is my responsibility to read and comply with the policies contained.

Administrator's Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form to the Team Coach.

Chaperone Acknowledgement

1. A chaperone is an adult (21 years of age or older) who is willing to monitor and care for the general welfare of the athletes for overnight travel games and events. A person may not serve as a chaperone without first having completed a background check and approval of the club.
2. Chaperones are on duty at all times during an overnight activity unless otherwise excused by the coach or staff involved.
3. Chaperones will have supervisory duty for no more than nine (9) athletes.
4. The coach will assume head chaperone duties.
5. A chaperone acts as liaisons between athletes, coaches, and staff.
6. It is each chaperones responsibility to report any misconduct or unnecessary behavior to the coach directly.
7. The possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, and firearms are prohibited when performing chaperone duties.
8. Chaperones are to sit/stand with spectators during the event.
9. In the event that a team uses rental cars, chaperones will be required to drive. Players are only permitted to ride in a chaperone's car unless otherwise permitted by the coach.
10. Chaperones should not retire until all athletes are checked in for the night, all visiting between rooms has stopped, and the chaperones are reasonably sure that the groups are quiet and in their appropriate rooms.
11. Chaperones should be sure to check all rooms before leaving hotels and motels so that damages, if any, can be determined immediately, and to make sure nothing gets left behind inadvertently.
12. Chaperones should familiarize themselves with all travel itineraries and schedules before team travel.
13. Chaperones should monitor for adherences to club policies during team travel.
14. Chaperones should encourage minor athletes to participate in regular, at least daily, scheduled communications with their parents/guardians.
15. Chaperones should help athletes be on time for all team commitments (as possible).
16. Chaperones can assist coaches, staff and other volunteers with team travel logistical needs (as possible).
17. Chaperones should monitor athletes for adherence to curfew restrictions set based on age and competition schedule as listed in travel itinerary.
18. Chaperones need to ensure athletes comply with hotel room restrictions based on gender or age bracket requirements.
19. Chaperones may not make promises to players regarding playing time or any other coaching matters.
20. A chaperone must make certain that athletes are not alone in a hotel room with any adult apart from a family member; this includes coaches, staff and chaperones.
21. A chaperone must immediately report any concerns about sexual and physical abuse, misconduct or policy violations to the team coach.
22. The team coach will make all decisions regarding when players may or may not have access to their cell phones.

Chaperones Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Return this form to the Club Administrator.



COLORADO STORM PLAYER PATHWAY

Colorado Storm offers many different paths that a player can take through our developmental system. It is our goal to help players along these pathways and aid them in reaching their full potential.



*Girls Only Program for ages U14-U18 - Teams Selected at Tryouts

SPARKS

*Intro to soccer
Learn, play, and have fun*

COMPETITIVE

*Skill based placement
Focus: technique and development
Moderate financial commitment
Statewide travel*

CAP

(College Advisory Program)
An in-house service provided by Storm staff that aims to aid high school athletes through the college recruitment process.

RECREATION

*Neighborhood soccer
Introduction to technique
Skill Development
Learn, play, have fun*

NATIONAL LEAGUE

*Top teams from each age division.
Significant amount of travel, time,
and financial commitment.*

W-LEAGUE

*Storm's Women's Semi-Pro franchise.
Top level National Competition for
College and Post-Grad players.*

THUNDER

*Focus: technique and development
Designed to prepare those with
intentions of going competitive.*



<https://www.coloradostorm.com/pathways>



Credits

Colorado extend a special than you to the following professionals and organizations for contributing their time experience to this Handbook.

- Dave Dir
 - Andrew Warner
 - Carlos "Cacho" Cordoba
 - Scott Engroff
 - Gordon Miller
 - Virginia Rush
 - Ohio Premier Club