



# STELLA ROSSA FOOTBALL CLUB

## Reducing Barriers to Participation

Stella Rossa Football Club (SRFC) is committed to reducing financial, social, and structural barriers to participation in soccer and ensuring that all children have the opportunity to participate in a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment. The Club recognizes that barriers may disproportionately affect underrepresented groups and strives to address these barriers through inclusive practices, financial assistance, and referrals to appropriate community programs where necessary.

### SRFC Internal Subsidy Program

SRFC offers an internal subsidy program to help alleviate the financial burden for players from low-income households.

- Subsidies are available to eligible full-time players registered with SRFC for the current season.
- Financial assistance may cover a portion or, in some cases, the full seasonal registration fee, subject to availability and approval.
- The subsidy program is intended to be confidential, respectful, and non-stigmatizing.

### Accessing the Subsidy Program:

- Information about the availability of financial assistance is communicated to families through club registration materials, email communications, and/or direct inquiry.
- Parents/guardians may request subsidy support by contacting the Club directly (e.g., Technical Director, Registrar, or designated Club official).
- Requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and supporting information may be requested to determine eligibility.
- All subsidy requests are handled confidentially.

### Community Partnerships and Referrals

SRFC supports access to soccer for underrepresented groups by assisting families in identifying appropriate participation opportunities when specialized programming or additional supports are beyond the Club's current capacity.

- When requests cannot be accommodated internally, SRFC will provide guidance and referrals to appropriate external programs in the community.
- The Club regularly evaluates available programs in the region to ensure families are directed to reputable and appropriate soccer opportunities.

### Players with Disabilities or Additional Needs

SRFC does not currently operate a dedicated special needs program. However, the Club is committed to supporting inclusion wherever possible.

- When approached with requests related to disabilities or additional support needs, SRFC engages in individual discussions with families to explore reasonable accommodations.



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- Where appropriate, SRFC provides information on external programs designed to support players with additional needs, such as the Panther Stars program at North Mississauga Soccer Club.

## Girls' Soccer Opportunities

Stella Rossa Football Club is committed to providing equitable access to soccer for all genders and recognizes the importance of creating dedicated opportunities for girls in sport.

- The Club is actively planning the development of a girls' program, with the goal of expanding inclusive participation opportunities within SRFC.
- Program planning considers player interest, age groups, coaching resources, and alignment with Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer development frameworks.
- Until a girls' program is formally launched, SRFC will continue to:
  - Engage with families to assess interest and demand
  - Provide guidance and referrals to established girls' programs at nearby clubs, such as North Mississauga Soccer Club, where appropriate
  - Support players and families in identifying pathways that best meet their developmental and participation needs

SRFC is committed to ongoing evaluation and growth to ensure that girls have meaningful, accessible, and supported opportunities to participate in soccer.

## Ongoing Commitment

SRFC continually reviews its programs, resources, and community needs with the goal of expanding access, reducing barriers, and improving inclusivity across all levels of participation.