

The Siege Supporters' Group

Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct ("Code") applies to all eligible members of The Siege Supporters' Group ("Siege"), a supporters' group for Inter Miami CF ("IMCF"). By participating in Siege activities, members agree to comply with the standards outlined herein. Failure to adhere to this Code may result in disciplinary action, up to and including permanent expulsion from Siege, and/or greater action from IMCF.

i. General Conduct

a. **Membership Obligations:**

- i. By signing up as a member of Siege, whether paid or otherwise, individuals agree to abide by this Code of Conduct. Members are also responsible for ensuring that any guests they bring to Siege-affiliated events adhere to the same standards. Violations by guests may result in consequences for the member who invited them.

b. **Positive Representation:**

- i. Siege represents a diverse community of IMCF supporters. All members shall conduct themselves in a manner that reflects positively on Siege, IMCF, and the cities of Miami, FL, and Fort Lauderdale, FL, at Chase Stadium ("CS"), during away games, and any events or venues affiliated with Siege and IMCF.

c. **Prohibited Conduct:**

- i. Members are strictly prohibited from engaging in the following behaviors:
 1. a) Criminal or deliberately delinquent activity.
 2. b) Discriminatory behavior, including but not limited to discrimination based on race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.
 3. c) Use of violent, abusive, sexist, racist, or homophobic language.
 4. d) Physical violence or altercations.
 5. e) Any other behavior deemed detrimental to Siege or IMCF's positive environment.

d. **Adherence to MLS Guidelines:**

- i. All members are required to follow Major League Soccer (MLS) guidelines, bylaws, and the MLS Code of Conduct during all Siege activities and IMCF events. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action by both Siege and MLS or IMCF.

e. **Independent Supporters Council (ISC) Compliance:**

- i. The Siege Supporters' Group is an official member of the Independent Supporters Council (ISC). All members are required to adhere to the ISC's Code of Conduct in addition to this Code and MLS guidelines. The ISC's Code of Conduct is provided to all members, and compliance is mandatory for participation in Siege activities.

ii. Anti-Discrimination Policy

a. **Zero Tolerance for Discrimination:**

- i. Siege does not condone discrimination in any form. This includes but is not limited to discrimination based on race, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, nationality, or any other protected class.

- b. Language Prohibition:**
 - i. The use of offensive, violent, sexist, racist, or homophobic language is strictly prohibited. Any member found to be in violation of this provision may face immediate disciplinary action, including a permanent ban from Siege.
- iii. **Anti-Violence Policy**
 - a. Prohibition of Violence:**
 - i. Physical violence, threats of violence, or any physical altercations are not tolerated. Such conduct may lead to stadium bans, season ticket revocation, or arrest by Chase Stadium security or Inter Miami CF authorities. Siege will impose further disciplinary action, including a permanent ban from the group towards any member found engaging in violent behavior, as well as disciplinary action requested from Inter Miami CF.
- iv. **Sexual Harassment Policy**
 - a. Zero Tolerance Policy:**
 - i. The Siege maintains a strict zero-tolerance policy for sexual harassment in any form. This includes but is not limited to unwelcome advances, inappropriate comments, or any behavior that makes members or others feel uncomfortable or unsafe, whether in person or online.
 - b. Reporting and Action:**
 - i. Any member experiencing or witnessing harassment should report it to Siege leadership immediately. Reports will be handled confidentially, and appropriate action will be taken, which may include disciplinary action or permanent expulsion from the group.
 - c. Online Harassment:**
 - i. Harassment is not limited to in-person interactions and extends to online communications, including social media platforms, group chats, or other digital channels associated with Siege. Any member found to be consistently bothering, harassing, or targeting another member in a way that violates this policy may face disciplinary action, up to and including permanent expulsion from Siege.
- v. **LGBTQ+ Inclusivity**
 - a. Commitment to Equality:**
 - i. The Siege is a safe space for LGBTQ+ members and allies. Discrimination or derogatory remarks based on sexual orientation or gender identity are strictly prohibited.
 - b. Advocacy:**
 - i. The Siege actively supports LGBTQ+ rights and will continue to participate in initiatives and events that celebrate diversity and equality.
 - c. Affirmation of Identity:**
 - i. Members are encouraged to respect and affirm the chosen names, pronouns, and identities of others. Any member found intentionally disregarding or disrespecting another's identity will be subject to disciplinary action.
- vi. **Conflict Prevention Between Fanbases**
 - a. Prohibition of Rival Fanbase Conflicts:**
 - i. Siege strongly encourages peaceful interactions with rival fanbases. Any member found instigating or participating in altercations with rival supporters' groups, either verbal or physical, will face disciplinary action up to and including a permanent ban from Siege.

b. Avoidance of Internal Conflict:

- i. Siege promotes unity within the larger Inter Miami CF fan communities. Members are expected to avoid internal disputes or conflicts with other Inter Miami CF fan groups or members. Efforts should be made to resolve disagreements in a constructive and respectful manner.

c. Conflict Reporting:

- i. Members are encouraged to report any incidents of intergroup or intragroup conflict to Siege leadership. Leadership will address these matters promptly and seek resolution through mediation or other appropriate means.

vii. Language and Communication

a. Multilingual Support:

- i. Siege acknowledges the diverse linguistic backgrounds of its members, reflecting the unique cultural makeup of South Florida, where both English and Spanish are widely spoken. While English is the primary language of communication, efforts will be made to include Spanish translations when possible to ensure inclusivity and effective communication across the group.

b. Respectful Communication:

- i. Members are encouraged to communicate respectfully, keeping in mind the varying levels of proficiency in either language.
- ii. Language should foster unity and inclusivity, avoiding terminology or tone that may alienate or offend others.

c. Official Group Communications:

- i. Official Siege communications will prioritize clarity and accessibility, ensuring all members have access to important updates and announcements in a language they understand.

viii. Media Engagement

a. Representation of Siege:

- i. When interacting with media outlets, whether large or small, members shall always keep in mind that they represent the entire Siege community. Members must ensure that their comments or actions do not reflect poorly on Siege or undermine its reputation.

b. Authorized Media Interactions:

- i. Larger media interactions on behalf of Siege must be managed with the assistance of Siege Leaders or authorized representatives. Unauthorized statements, especially those that misrepresent Siege's stance or leadership decisions, may result in disciplinary action from both Siege and Inter Miami CF.

c. Social Media Conduct:

- i. Members should be mindful of how their social media posts reflect on Siege. This includes avoiding any harassment, inappropriate comments, or sharing of opinions that could damage Siege's reputation. Violations may lead to disciplinary action.

d. Media Inquiries:

- i. Media inquiries or requests for official statements must be directed to Siege leadership. Members are not authorized to speak on behalf of Siege without prior approval.

e. Confidentiality:

- i. Members are strictly prohibited from leaking confidential information, such as internal discussions, event planning, pricing details, or group politics, to media outlets or external parties. Breaches of confidentiality will be treated as a serious violation of this Code of Conduct.

- f. Neutrality in IMCF Media Engagement:**
 - i. The Siege does not have an official affiliation with any Inter Miami CF-based media organization. Members are encouraged to interact freely with all media outlets, fostering positive and respectful relationships across the community, provided such interactions do not conflict with the above guidelines.
- ix. Sponsorships and Promotions**
 - a. Sponsorships:**
 - i. Siege welcomes sponsorships from organizations that align with our mission and values. Any sponsorship must provide tangible benefits to Siege, such as financial support, event contributions, or resources that directly enhance group activities or operations. All sponsorships will be reviewed and approved by Siege leadership to ensure they meet these criteria.
 - b. No Free Promotions:**
 - i. The Siege does not engage in free promotions or endorsements. For example, this includes no free Instagram promotions, no free advertising on Siege platforms, or unsolicited distribution of promotional materials at Siege events.
 - ii. All promotional activities must be approved by Siege leadership.
 - c. Prohibited Sponsorships:**
 - i. Siege will not accept sponsorships from organizations that conflict with its mission, values, or inclusivity policies. This includes but is not limited to hateful political organizations, groups that promote discrimination, or entities whose practices harm the community Siege represents.
- x. Ticketing Policy**
 - a. Prohibition of Scalping:**
 - i. Ticket scalping is strictly prohibited. Siege and Inter Miami CF maintain a trust-based relationship, and members are not to re-sell tickets obtained through Siege. In the event resale is necessary, members must sell tickets at face value or for a reasonable cost. Violation of this policy may result in a permanent ban from Siege and further disciplinary action from Inter Miami CF.
 - b. Ticket Distribution and Usage:**
 - i. Tickets obtained through Siege must be used responsibly and in line with Siege values. Sharing tickets with non-members is allowed only if the non-member agrees to adhere to this Code of Conduct while attending Siege-affiliated events.
 - c. Reporting Violations:**
 - i. Members are encouraged to report any violations of this policy to Siege leadership. All reports will be reviewed confidentially, and appropriate action will be taken.
- xi. Financial Contributions**
 - a. Membership Fees and Donations:**
 - i. Members are encouraged to contribute financially through membership fees, donations, or other means to support Siege operations and events. Contributions directly sustain group activities, merchandise production, travel accommodations, and community initiatives.
 - b. Transparency:**
 - i. Siege leadership commits to transparency in the allocation of funds, ensuring all expenditures benefit the group as a whole. Members may request financial summaries or updates for clarity on how contributions are utilized.

c. Fair Participation:

- i. All financial contributions are voluntary unless explicitly stated for specific membership tiers or events. Members unable to contribute financially are encouraged to participate in other supportive ways, such as volunteering or assisting with events.

d. Neutrality of Contributions:

- i. Donations or financial contributions of any capacity are not intended to sway opinions, influence decisions, or gain favor within Siege leadership or among members. Contributions are appreciated solely as a means to support the collective mission and activities of the group.

xii. Disciplinary Actions

a. Range of Actions:

- i. Violation of any provision of this Code may result in the following disciplinary actions, depending on the severity of the violation(s):
- ii. Verbal or written warning.
- iii. Suspension from Siege activities.
- iv. Permanent ban from Siege membership.
- v. Reporting of incidents to Chase Stadium security, Inter Miami CF, or local law enforcement as appropriate.

b. Fair Process:

- i. Members subject to potential disciplinary actions will be informed of the allegations and given the opportunity to explain their actions or provide relevant context to Siege leadership.

c. Non-Retaliation Policy:

- i. Members who report violations of the Code of Conduct or participate in investigations are protected from retaliation. Any retaliatory actions will be considered a violation of this Code and result in disciplinary action.

xiii. Communication with Leadership

a. Open Communication Policy:

- i. Siege encourages open communication between members and the Siege Leadership Team. Members may contact known members or other Leadership Team representatives with any questions, concerns, or comments, whether positive or negative.

b. Reporting Issues:

- i. Members are encouraged to report any violations of the Code of Conduct, conflicts, or concerns directly to Siege leadership. Reports can be made anonymously if preferred, and all concerns will be addressed promptly and confidentially.

c. Feedback and Suggestions:

- i. Members are welcome to provide constructive feedback or suggestions for improvement. Leadership will review all input and consider it for future initiatives or policy updates.

xiv. Amendments

a. Revisions to the Code:

- i. This Code of Conduct may be amended or updated at any time by the higher leadership of Siege. Any proposed changes will be reviewed collectively by this leadership group to ensure they align with the group's mission and values.

b. Member Notification:

- i. Updates to the Code of Conduct will be shared via official Siege communication channels, such as email, social media, or group meetings. Members are expected to review and adhere to the updated Code.

c. Acceptance of Changes:

- i. Continued participation in Siege activities constitutes acceptance of any revisions or updates to the Code of Conduct.

xv. Membership in Multiple Supporter Groups

a. Official Stance on Dual Membership:

- i. The Siege has no issue with members also being part of other supporter groups. While dual membership is not encouraged, it is recognized as a personal choice and will not result in immediate action upon discovery.

b. Confidentiality Obligations:

- i. Members must respect the confidentiality of Siege's internal operations. This includes but is not limited to:
 - 1. Event planning details.
 - 2. Pricing information for tickets, merchandise, or other Siege-related items.
 - 3. Internal discussions regarding group politics or decision-making processes.

c. Breach of Confidentiality:

- i. Sharing confidential information with other groups or external parties will be considered a serious violation of this Code of Conduct. Such actions may result in disciplinary measures, including suspension or permanent removal from Siege membership.

d. Reporting Concerns:

- i. Members who suspect a breach of confidentiality should report their concerns to Siege leadership. All reports will be handled confidentially and investigated thoroughly.