South Sisters



"Unity is about women and men coming together to help create opportunities for women. It's a story about gender balance that focuses on the feeling we get when we proudly stand next to each other and make each other stronger."

In the fall of 2018, after consultation with its members and other female supporters, the Board of Directors of the Vancouver Southsiders recognized that there were serious safety and security issues impacting female supporters, including incidents of verbal, physical and sexual assault at BC Place. It is imperative to note that not all of these incidents were instigated by members of the Vancouver Southsiders and that, when possible, these incidents were reported to the appropriate authorities. However, it was clear that given the commitment of the Vancouver Southsiders Board of Directors to protecting all of its members and creating an inclusive environment in which all people could come together to support the Vancouver Whitecaps, it was of utmost importance that the group explore ways in which they could better support its female members.

To address this, a former board member proposed a solution to the Board of Directors: establishing a committee, the South Sisters, headed by female members, that is dedicated to addressing their specific needs and concerns. Beyond needing to find a way to combat the aforementioned incidents of assault experienced by female supporters, the committee would also focus on establishing and strengthening relationships with other female supporters in an effort to support the players in a uniquely female way. It would provide female supporters with a more supportive environment to volunteer and participate in all aspects of supporter culture, such as tifo, stadium set-up, and security meetings, thus giving them a fresh and greater voice, and a place within the Southside that would ultimately strengthen Vancouver's supporter culture.

South Sister's FAQ



Who are the South Sisters? Is it only for women?

We are Whitecaps supporters.

We welcome all females, people who identify as female, and allies to our group. All members who have an interest in being a part of the South Sisters must respect the rules laid out in the group in regards to communication, confidentiality, trust and respect.

What is the relationship between the Southsiders and South Sisters?

The South Sisters are a formal committee of the Vancouver Southsiders. The group communicates and collaborates with the Southsiders Board of Directors on a variety of issues and projects.

The South Sisters group is comprised of current Southsiders, former members, and Whitecaps fans who are curious about supporter culture and want to become more involved. The South Sisters encourage its participants to be members in good standings with the Vancouver Southsiders, and hopes that as a result of our efforts, we are able to help attract new members and that former members will renew their memberships once again.

Why do we need a female committee/group like this?

No matter how well-intentioned a group is with respect to supporting all of its members equally, women are the best at speaking to women's issues, at supporting other females, and liaising and guiding other women into the wonderful world of soccer support.