

1st August 2020

Safety Policy for Spectators and McDiarmid Park

The Directors of St Johnstone Football Club and the ground management thereof ('the Club') has a clear duty to ensure the safety and welfare of spectators who are attending games at McDiarmid Park.

The Club has a responsibility to ensure the safety, control and monitoring of the crowd entering, leaving and within the stadium. Such responsibility lies ultimately with the Chairman and Directors of the Club but has been delegated to the Head of Football Operations and Club Safety Officer on a match day.

St Johnstone FC

The Football Administrator's responsibility will be to ensure that the ground management's safety policy is implemented and, to this end, a Safety Officer and his / her Deputy will be appointed who will work closely with the Head of Football Operations and – where appropriate – the Police Match Commander. In addition, the Head of Facilities will be available to assist with technical problems which may arise on event days.

From the Police Control Room situated within the West (Main) Stand, the Safety Officer will supervise and monitor each area within the stadium to avoid overcrowding and implement any measures or safeguards which are necessary in order to ensure crowd safety. The Deputy Safety Officer will be placed at the Tunnel entrance.

Stewarding

The Club or their designated representatives will also enforce ground regulations with an adequate number of suitably trained and equipped staff who are aware of their roles and responsibilities in the event of a Police-free match or in the event of the Police Match Commander assuming control of public safety.

Policing

In addition to suitably trained and equipped staff, the Club shall liaise with Police Scotland before each home first team match with regards to the provision of police services at that fixture. Taking into account the necessary risk assessments, it may be that certain fixtures are deemed to be 'Police Free' or (also called 'Club Security') matches and the stewarding plan shall reflect the absence of Police at these games.

The Club shall consult with Police Scotland prior to every specified event and confirm arrangements in connection with:

- a. The extent and attendance of Police officers at the specified activity
- b. The admission of spectators to the specified activity and in particular whether admission is likely to be by ticket only
- c. The segregation of home and visiting supporters at the specified activity
- d. The Club shall nominate a responsible person to take charge of the ground on the Club's behalf
- e. The precise number and location of the turnstiles to be in use for the admission of spectators to the specified activity and the allocation of turnstiles to senior citizens, juveniles etc

Pre-Event Inspection certificate

The Club shall, prior to the admission of spectators to a specified activity, undertake an inspection of the sports ground at 48 hours and again at 24 hours prior to the match, and complete a Pre-Event Inspection Certificate, a copy of which will be passed to the Police Match Commander (if applicable). If there is no Match Commander then the certificate shall be forwarded to the appropriate administrative contact at Police Scotland.

First Aid and Medical Provision

The Club shall ensure that there are sufficient and suitably trained first aiders at every specified activity. The Club shall provide and maintain within the Sports Ground a suitably designed and equipped first aid room for spectators, additional to the club's own medical room. The first aid room will be properly equipped. The Club shall ensure that a crowd Doctor, trained and experienced in 'immediate care', and whose first duty is the crowd, shall be in attendance at all specified activities with an expected crowd of over 2,000. Where the expected crowd is below 2,000 the Club shall make arrangements to summon immediately a Crowd Doctor to deal with medical emergencies. The whereabouts of the Crowd Doctor shall be known to those in the Control Room, all first aiders and – when present - ambulance staff. The Crowd Doctor shall be present at the ground prior to spectators being admitted and remain in position until all spectators have left the ground. The Crowd Doctor should be aware of first aid and ambulance provision in addition to the local emergency plan for dealing with major incidents and how these relate to contingency plans for the ground.

Ambulance Provision

One fully equipped and double crewed (one of which should be a paramedic) ambulance provided by an ambulance service approved by the council shall be in attendance at all specified activities with an expected crowd of over 5,000. An additional ambulance shall be provided at any specified activity when the council deems it necessary. A suitable designated location shall be provided at the sports ground to accommodate ambulance vehicles and staff. The Club shall provide the supervising ambulance officer with a location near to the Police control point to facilitate effective communication between emergency services. The attendance of first aid, medical and ambulance personnel shall not be necessary when the public is admitted to the Sports Ground for the sale of tickets only.

INSPECTIONS

Detailed Annual Inspection

At least once every year, the Club shall arrange for a detailed inspection to be made of the whole Sports Ground, including structural items in every part of the Sports Ground and the fabric thereof, all fixtures and fittings, installations, facilities and equipment so as to ensure that any defect, missing items or inadequacy is forthwith repaired or replaced; that any other damage is made good and that the Club is complying with the whole terms and conditions of the Safety Certificate and the recommendations contained in the Green Guide.

Inspections by Tayside Sports Ground Safety Team Representatives

On a regular basis, representatives from Tayside Sports Safety Team will be arrangement with the Club, carry out detailed or general inspections of the Sports Ground and thereon to the Council to ensure that the Club is complying with the whole terms of the Safety Certificate and the recommendations contained in the Green Guide. A copy of such report will be sent to the Club.

Records of Defects and Repairs

The Club shall keep written records of the date when any defect, missing item or inadequacy is discovered during any detailed or general inspection of the Sports Ground and the date and nature of the remedial action subsequently taken or work carried out. These records will be kept in a form prescribed the council and be available for inspection as required.

In addition to the above, the Club will comply at all times with the terms and conditions contained within the Safety Certificate issues by Perth & Kinross Council, such certificate to be renewed on an annual basis.



Kirsten Robertson
Head of Football Operations
1st August 2020