



CHICHESTER RANGERS FC

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

We recognise that providing and engaging in sporting activities means that accidents and injuries are likely to happen. We aim to protect the health and safety of our members as far as is reasonable, to exercise our legal duty of care, and to operate within appropriate policies and legislation.

In order to achieve these aims, we will:

- Maintain adequate insurance policies to protect all our members and to minimise any personal liabilities of adult helpers.
- Ensure that policies and the members of the club recognise that the health and safety of young players is of utmost importance.
- Ensure that all equipment used in activities is inspected and checked before use.
- Ensure that a risk assessment is carried out for any premises/ground used by the club.
- Appoint a Club Welfare Officer to be responsible for enforcing our Child Protection Policy.
- Acknowledge the requirements of appropriate bodies in respect of health and safety, including those from The FA, Sussex County FA, local authorities and legislation.
- Appoint on the basis of suitability, persons who wish to take up positions within the club where they will come into contact with young players on a regular basis.
- Encourage and assist helpers with appropriate training as far as is required, reasonable and affordable.
- Set out key health and safety requirements in writing and make members aware of those requirements.
- Take remedial action where these requirements are not met.
- Update and improve these requirements and practices where appropriate.
- Acquire and use equipment and venues that are appropriate in health and safety terms.
- Make first aid equipment and training available to helpers of each team.
- Make parents and young players aware of their responsibilities in respect of the health and safety of themselves and other club members.
- Not do anything which will place young players or officers/helpers in a position where their health and safety is unreasonably compromised.

In the event that anyone suspects any incident, abuse or unreasonable behaviour towards a member, a club official must be informed as soon as possible. Where this involves a young person, the Club Welfare Officer must also be informed.

Our key health and safety requirements are:

- All adult helpers are required to treat the health and wellbeing of the players as paramount importance.
- Adult helpers who come into contact with players will be encouraged and assisted to undertake first aid training and other relevant training where possible.
- All adult helpers are required to organise football activities for the players so as to minimise the risks of stress, distress, over-use injuries and accident injuries.
- The club will make a first-aid kit available to each team manager and ensure that an adult helper with a first aid kit is in attendance at every activity.
- Team managers will either provide or remind young players to bring drinks to all activities.
- Team managers are required to have at hand the name, address and a contact telephone number of every player registered to their team.
- All adult helpers are required to comply with all club policies at all times.
- Adult helpers should ensure that the playing surface and conditions are safe for the activities planned, and that there are no holes or obstructions that may be unsafe.
- Whilst parents/guardians are required to accept responsibility for collecting their child from training/matches at the correct time, adult helpers are encouraged not to leave until all young members have been collected.
- Team managers are required to have effective emergency telephone arrangements which take into account the availability of mobile phones and neighbouring homes/businesses.
- Where adult helpers transport young players to or from activities, this is done so at their own responsibility, and they are required to do so in a roadworthy vehicle and to drive in a careful and lawful manner.
- Adult helpers should avoid being alone with young players and each team manager is strongly encouraged to have at least one additional adult helper at all times.
- Adult helpers should never undertake things of a personal nature for young players which the players can do for themselves.
- All adult helpers must comply with all current legislation (whether mentioned here or not) that affects the health and safety of young people.

In addition to these requirements, team managers must also ensure that:

- All players wear shin pads and any other equipment per the Laws of the Game.
- All players wear clothing appropriate to the weather conditions.
- That any balls and training equipment are safe and suitable.
- All equipment is used according to manufacturer instructions.
- Players do not wear jewellery during any activity.
- All goal posts/nets are secure and safe per manufacturer instructions.
- All changing/toilet facilities (where available) are suitable for use.

Children remain the responsibility of their parent/carer at all times when participating in training, matches and any other club/team activities. This also applies when arriving, departing and travelling for such activities.