



HAYDOCK JUNIORS AFC

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Incorporating

CHILD PROTECTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

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Section 1: The Policy Statement

Haydock Juniors AFC will provide and maintain a safe and healthy football activity environment for all its players and managers.

The allocation of duties for health and safety matters and the arrangements are set out in the later sections of this document.

This policy will be reviewed from time to time or when required by the club Health and Safety representative incorporating the club Management Committee.

All club members, players and managers will receive a copy of the club policy statement which shall also be available on the club website (www.haydockjfc.co.uk).

It is the club intention that the highest health and safety practices and procedures are adopted and active within all footballing activity (defined as football matches and training activity). Where practicably possible, this should also extend to non-football activity led by the club in which members participate. The club committee will monitor this.

The club does not accept responsibility, nor liability, in case of accident due to the volunteer nature of its organisation

Section 2: The Organisation for Health and Safety

1. Managers Responsibility

- 1.1. All Managers are aware of their duty to ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare at the playing field of all their players
- 1.2. As far as reasonably practicable, all managers are to maintain the club health and safety arrangements to ensure a safe and without risk playing environment during footballing activity

2. Health and Safety Officer

- 2.1. Will ensure that the club health and safety policy will be implemented and effective for all footballing activity
- 2.2. Shall receive reports on health and safety from the club managers and authorise corrective action where necessary, in consultation with the club management committee

3. Parents Responsibilities

- 3.1. It is every parents' duty to be aware of, and accept, their individual responsibility for the care of their children's health and safety and that of any others who may be affected by their children's acts.
- 3.2. All parents should make themselves familiar and conform with the club health and safety policy
- 3.3. All parents and their children should follow safety instruction given by their team manager and report all hazards they observe during footballing activity



Section 3: Arrangement of Health and Safety

1. Medical Facilities

- 1.1. The club will ensure that first aid treatment is available, without delay and always during footballing activity
- 1.2. A trained First Aider will always be available and will have access to the first aid equipment for each team
- 1.3. All Managers will make sure that first aid kits are fully equipped and available during footballing activity

2. Safety Inspections

- 2.1. The club will always ensure that the playing environment is as safe as reasonably practicable
- 2.2. It is a club policy that a Safety Inspection will be conducted before any footballing activity by the appropriate team manager
- 2.3. The manager will have to complete an Inspection Form (Appendix A) to ensure that the playing area is safe and risk free
- 2.4. A report of each inspection will be given to the club Welfare Officer.

3. Protective Equipment

- 3.1. It is a club policy that all the players must wear the appropriate equipment to participate in football activity, especially shin guards, always

4. Health Check

- 4.1. During player registration the manager must collect all information regarding all medical conditions the player has that can affect the player at any time during footballing activity
- 4.2. All players must declare any medical condition which can affect their health during footballing activity when joining the club or as soon as practicably possible should a condition arise at any time after joining the club.
- 4.3. The club policy is clear to ensure that the parent of any player is aware of, and accept, their responsibility for allowing their children to participate in footballing activity if they are suffering from any condition

5. Emergency Plan

- 5.1. A major incident can occur at any time and may vary considerably in nature. In the event of a major incident occurring during footballing activity, the manager:
 - 5.1.1. Will ring emergency numbers
 - 5.1.2. Should be familiar with evacuation procedures
 - 5.1.3. Will check that emergency vehicles can access facilities before the start of any footballing activity

6. The Referee

- 6.1. As far as reasonably practicable, and in compliance with the rules of the governing football league administration in which any team is participating, the club will only appoint a qualified referee to conduct club matches



Section 4: Child Protection Policy and Procedures

1. Statement of Intent

Child protection is the responsibility of every member of the Club.

Protecting children from abuse and promoting their welfare is in societies best interest. Haydock Juniors AFC will ensure that they fulfil their responsibilities to children and young people. The Club will fulfil its requirements to effectively follow St. Helens Child Protection Policy ([Safeguarding Children - St Helens Council](#)).

Managers, coaches and volunteers may become involved in the child protection process when a club member shares information with them of a child protection nature, e.g., allegations of a historical or recent nature against parents, siblings, other club members or Management Committee member.

Whoever the child discloses episodes or incidents of abuse must listen to and reassure the child. They must be clear with the child that your confidence cannot be maintained. Where possible, the person should be available to provide continued support to the child during the investigation.

The member of the Management Committee who the child has disclosed the abuse to may later be required to attend a strategy meeting, child protection conference or court to give evidence if necessary.

2. Club Responsibilities

- 2.1. All Committee Members, team managers and team coaches acknowledge their significant role in promoting the safety and welfare of their members and other children.
- 2.2. The club will adopt the established procedure for the management of child protection concerns as set out within.
 - 2.2.1. The Football Associations Footballs' Safeguarding Framework, details of which can be found under Section 1 of the FA Safeguarding Website [Safeguarding - Rules & Regulations | The Football Association \(thefa.com\)](#) and more specifically;
 - 2.2.2. Within the document "Grassroots Football: Safeguarding Children Policy and Procedures", <https://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/rules-and-regulations/safeguarding/section-1/1-2-grassroots-football-safeguarding-children-policy-procedures-colour-version.ashx>
- 2.3. If it is thought that the member is at immediate risk, it is vital to ensure that the child is safe, and that an appropriate adult remains with the child.
- 2.4. Any concerns should be reported immediately to the Club Welfare Officer, who will take advice, if necessary, from the local education authority officer for Child Protection and/or make a referral to the Social Services Customer Services Officers. Social Services Customer Services Officers are available by phoning the Local Authority Main Switchboard (See Section 5, point 1.2 for contact details). In the likelihood of the abuse being disclosed out of working hours the Social Services Emergency Duty Team shall be contacted.
- 2.5. When making a referral. The referrer should discuss with Social Services whether it is appropriate for the Club to inform the parents of the action taken and the reasons for it.
- 2.6. When an allegation of sexual or physical abuse is made by the member against a member of the family, the member must not be sent home unless agreed by Social Services Department. An identified Club member should remain with the child until a social worker arrives.



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- 2.7. Should an allegation concern a member of the Committee, or a volunteer advice should immediately be sought via the Local Authority Education Child Protection Co-Ordinator.
- 2.8. Every concern should be recorded regardless of the action take. **The Club Child Protection Recording Forms** should be available to all Managers, coaches and volunteers. All Managers should be familiar with the forms and complete them as comprehensively as possible. The accuracy of information relating to child protection is crucial when an investigation takes place.
- 2.9. All Managers, coaches and volunteers shall undergo screening to determine their suitability to have direct contact with children. Checks shall be conducted using Criminal Records Bureau every two (2) years. At any time, should a person **not hold** the appropriate clearance, they **shall not have any unsupervised contact** with any member of the club.
- 2.10. All managers, coaches and volunteers shall read and actively be aware of the Club's Child Protection Procedure.
- 2.11. All managers, coaches and volunteers shall be expected to partake in Child Protection Training via the Football Association "Safeguarding Children" On-line learning activity or as determined by the Club Committee.

Section 5: What can I Do? Useful Contacts and Advice

1. If you believe that a child or young person is at immediate risk
 - 1.1. Report this without delay to the police service on 999.
 - 1.2. If a child is not in immediate danger, you can do one of the following:
 - 1.2.1. Call St. Helens Contact Centre on (01744) 676767 or (01744) 676600 and tell them that you have a concern about a child.
 - 1.2.2. Outside of office hours call the Emergency Duty Team on 0345 050 0148.
 - 1.2.3. Call Merseyside Police on 0151 709 6010 (24-hour line).
 - 1.2.4. Discuss your concerns with a professional you can trust such as a health visitor, teacher or GP; or
 - 1.2.5. Contact the NSPCC Helpline on 0808 800 5000.
2. Safeguarding: Useful Links and Documents
 - 2.1. St. Helens Council: Concerned About a Child's Welfare or Safety, use the following link for advice [Concerned about a child's safety or welfare? - St Helens Council](#)
 - 2.2. The Football Association website section for Safeguarding [Safeguarding - Rules & Regulations | The Football Association \(thefa.com\)](#)



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AFETY INSPECTION FORM

Venue:		Date:	
Conducted By:		Signed:	

CRITERIA	YES	NO	COMMENT
Is the field of play safe and free from any objects which are likely to cause injury?			
Are all the players wearing the right equipment?			
Is the first aider available with access to an equipped first aid box?			
Is a working telephone available? Mobile phones are acceptable if appropriately charged?			
Can emergency vehicles access the venue and playing surface?			
Are the emergency procedures accessible and the manager familiar with them?			
Is the referee qualified?			

ALL NEGATIVE POINTS **MUST BE RECTIFIED IMMEDIATELY** PRIOR TO FOOTBALLING ACTIVITY COMMENCING