

# SAUCHIE JUNIORS FOOTBALL CLUB



## Medical Risk Assessment and Medical Plan

**September 2024**

# INTRODUCTION

This document combines the Medical Risk Assessment and Medical Plan. It addresses:

- Organisation and infrastructure relating to medical matters;
- Identifiable medical risks and how these are controlled;
- General provisions for medical care.

## INFRASTRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

Access for Emergency Vehicles into Sauchie Juniors stadium at Beechwood Park is accessible by public road at Main Street at the North end of the ground. Directions to the ground are well sign posted from the Main Street. The entrance would permit direct access for emergency vehicles to the pitch and covered enclosures. Emergency vehicles attending at the North entrance would be approximately 25 metres from the pavilion and Social Club/lounge.

### First Aid Facilities

The principal first aid room is within the corridor of the away changing team and is directly accessible from the corridor and does not require access through either dressing room or any other room. It contains a defibrillator, basic first aid equipment, one treatment table and hot and cold running water supplies. There are toilets both within the dressing room and corridor. Our office which is situated in the social club/lounge area can also be used for first aid or doping control.

### Organisation and Personnel

Sauchie Juniors ("the Club") has an association with a Doctor for advice and guidance on all medical matters. The Doctor is in attendance for major matches (where attendance of greater than 1000 is anticipated). The Club also ensures that there is at least one qualified Sports First Aid staff member present at all matches. There is a Ground Co-ordinator present at every home match. This person will be located at the entrance to the dressing rooms and is the focal point for co-ordination of messages during the match. He will make any safety announcements and will have immediate access to a telephone two way radio to communicate with others including the emergency services to ensure expedited management of any health and safety issues.

## IDENTIFIABLE MEDICAL RISKS

### 1. INJURY TO PLAYERS

#### 1.1. Description

The most likely source of a medical issue is the injury to players during the normal course of the match. This can cover the spectrum of minor injury which is treated pitchside before the player returns to the game to serious injury requiring immediate intervention and hospitalisation

#### 1.2. Current Arrangements

The club will ensure that there is a qualified sports first-aider present at all matches. A stretcher is available in the dressing rooms which will enable removal of players from the pitch to the first aid

room in the dressing rooms if the player requires assistance to leave the pitch. The nearest accident and emergency department is at the Larbert Hospital, which is 25 minutes from the ground under normal traffic conditions. The first aider looking after an injured player will make arrangements through the Ground Co-ordinator either to arrange transport for a player to the hospital for further assessment or to call the emergency services if immediate medical care is required. The club also has a defibrillator installed in the First Aid Room and qualified personnel to operate are in attendance. The risk of injury to players does not vary significantly between normal and major matches therefore this assessment applies to all matches.

### **1.3. Assessment**

The current arrangements are satisfactory but it is recommended that the procedures for removal of the player from the pitch and making arrangements for onward transport are rehearsed at least annually.

### **1.4. Actions Required**

Annual rehearsal of arrangements as above

## **2. INJURY TO SPECTATORS**

### **2.1. Description**

The following risk factors can be considered collectively for assessment purposes:

2.1.1. FIRE – there is identifiable risk in the dressing rooms, Lounge and Social Club. These are inspected by the local fire authorities and have local fire detection and alarm systems. The risk is assessed as moderate for these areas are well manned on match days.

2.1.2. STRUCTURAL FAILURE – the identifiable sources of risk are the two enclosure structures and floodlight poles. These are of modern construction and are regularly inspected. The risk is considered negligible under normal circumstances to slight in high winds.

2.1.3. EVACUATION – there is negligible risk under normal operating conditions rising to moderate in a “panic” situation in a match at a maximal capacity. This risk is mitigated because (a) unplanned evacuation is extremely unlikely (b) planned, orderly evacuation reduces the risk.

2.1.4. GENERAL – There is a general risk to spectators from slips, falls or other accidents. This is controlled by the maintenance of the ground in good condition. This risk is proportional to the number of spectators. During winter months slippery surfaces will have salt/ grit applied as a matter of course

### **2.2. Current Arrangements**

Direct injury from fire and structural failure has been reduced to acceptable levels by the inspection and maintenance required by the local authorities. In the event that there was a risk of structural failure this would be controlled by closing off the affected area of the ground or cancellation of the match. Other risks are proportional to the attendance. The club will ensure that there are additional first aid staff present for matches where more than 500 spectators are expected. The precise arrangements will be agreed in discussions with the police, NHS and first aid suppliers

### **2.3. Assessment**

Arrangements are considered adequate for all foreseeable risks.

## **2.4. Actions Required**

None.

## **3. ILLNESS**

### **3.1. Description**

There is a general risk of illness whenever there are gatherings of people. There are no identifiable risk factors which suggest that players and spectators at a match are at greater risk of illness except the established risks that can be associated with any situation in which there is potential stress (e.g., heart attacks in those with pre-existing risk factors).

### **3.2. Current Arrangements**

Immediate care is the same as for physical injury. Anyone becoming ill will be made comfortable and the condition assessed by a first aider or doctor. In an emergency an ambulance will be called – DIAL 999 – otherwise advice can be obtained from **NHS Larbert Dial 01324 566000** or **NHS 24 Helpline 111**.

### **3.3. Assessment**

Current arrangements are satisfactory

### **3.4. Actions Required**

None

## **GENERAL MEDICAL PROVISIONS**

The following personnel must be present at each home match:

- At least one qualified sports first aider;
- A ground co-ordinator to act as the single point of communication

Where there is an anticipated attendance of greater than 1000, in addition to the above:

- Attendance by a club doctor is advised;
- Additional first aid personnel should be provided by request from the first aid service providers.

The club Doctor is responsible for advising on equipment to be present in the first aid room and in the medical bags available to sports first aiders and the sports first aiders are responsible for checking that the equipment is present and in good order. The team must be accompanied by a sports first aider at all matches, including away matches.

# **DOCUMENT CONTROL**

**Authorised for issue:-**

**Approval and issue is controlled in the document management system**

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**Mandatory Review Date (To be reviewed and published every 1 year).**

**Review Date: September 2024**

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