



Stockport Vikings Junior Football Club

2011-2012 Health and Safety

All clubs have a duty to ensure that there is a safe environment for the players to train and play.

Outdoors

Before training the coach should just walk over the area where the players will be training to check for broken glass, dogs' dirt, pot holes, hollows, etc. By walking the area he can quickly assess if it is safe for players to train.

He will identify areas where players should not go.

If training or playing near water then an adult should be sent at all times to retrieve the ball from the water. Where the ball is inaccessible then leave it. Whilst the price of a ball may be expensive it certainly isn't worth risking a life. You have no way of knowing the depth or how strong the currents may be.

Indoors

Again the coach should make himself familiar with the surroundings.

He should identify where players should not stand or sit e.g. behind doors or on window ledges. Players should not sit on top of the wall bars when games are going on below. Should the ball hit them they could lose balance and fall.

Remember in the eyes of the law the coach is responsible for the safety of the players. It is advisable for the coach to jot down the hazards he has identified and the measures he has taken to reduce the risk. Any identified hazards must be reported to the owner of the facility.

As an example

Players climbing on wallbars.	Tell players they must not climb
Players standing behind doors	Keep area behind door clear
Players getting hit by ball	No players to sit behind goals when game is on or shots being taken
Players getting ankle knocks	Insist on shin guards being worn at training

This is not a comprehensive list but gives an idea of what to look for.

This in effect is a Risk Assessment and as such can be dated and signed by the coach. This will be very useful should an accident occur. Whilst you will be covered by Liability Insurance you must demonstrate that every precaution was taken to prevent an accident from happening.

AT ALL CLUB ACTIVITIES THERE MUST BE TWO ADULTS PRESENT AT ALL TIMES.

ONE OF THESE ADULTS MUST BE A QUALIFIED FIRST AIDER AND THERE MUST BE A FIRST AID KIT AVAILABLE

A MOBILE PHONE IS ALSO VERY USEFUL IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY



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Accident Reporting

As soon as possible after the incident and after the injured person has been attended to an Accident/Incident Report should be completed. This may have to be carried out by a committee member who was not present if the Coach or Official in attendance at the time is too distressed. It is however best if completed by the club official present at the time of the incident.

The most important reason for making such a report is that it helps the subsequent investigation and can also help prevent a similar occurrence from happening.

Copies of the accident report should be sent to the [Club's Secretary and Secretary of Manchester County FA](#) so that they can collate all accidents and if necessary circulate warnings to clubs.

Mobile Goal Posts

All clubs should make the people responsible for erecting mobile goals familiar with the Mobile Goal Post Safety Code. Goal posts should be checked on a regular basis and a record kept of the check and it's results.

GOALPOSTS SHOULD ONLY BE ERECTED BY RESPONSIBLE ADULTS

Goalnets

Goalnets must be of the recommended gauge and mesh size. Thin filament netting can cause serious cuts and wide mesh can lead to tripping and young children can get their heads through with consequent dangers.

Adults should put goal nets in place. Use steps to hook on to cross bar. Velcro strips are ideal for securing them to the posts and bars. The use of sticky tape should be avoided as it can remove the paint from the goalpost.