

SALTFORD FOOTBALL CLUB POLICIES.

Safety.

- The Club do not guarantee to have a certified first-aider at training.
- In the event of injury or illness at junior matches or training parents/guardians will be contacted by telephone, or if the injury or illness appears serious Club officials will contact an ambulance or seek immediate medical assistance.
- Shin pads must be worn at all times. All metal studs may not be worn.
- Parents/guardians of junior players are responsible for ensuring the safe delivery and collection of players from all Club activities.
- Junior players remain the responsibility of their parents / guardian at all training / matches.
- Junior players must remain at all times within designated areas for playing etc. and must not cross the boundary when on Saltford Playing Fields.

Code of Conduct

- All players and parents / guardians of junior players will promote sportsmanship and fair play and must abide by the Rules of Conduct issued by the FA and the various Leagues.
- The Club will not tolerate public criticism of players, coaches, managers or club officials.
- Players at all ages will be expected to behave with respect to coaches, club officials, visiting teams and their supporters, spectators and other players at all times.
- Players must comply with instructions given by the team managers and behave sensibly at all times.
 - Senior players breaching this rule could be subject to expulsion from the club.
 - Junior players breaching this rule will require a parent or guardian to be present during training and matches. Further breaches of this rule could lead to expulsion from the club.
- In recognition that the Club exists on the goodwill of the local community, players who indulge in anti-social behaviour on or off the pitch and during or outside Club activities will be liable to expulsion.
- Bad language from players or spectators will not be tolerated.

General

- Junior players must be registered in the appropriate age group as determined by their age at 1st September.
- The selection of players for teams and arrangement of coaching and training (and cancellation of such arrangements where necessary) is at the absolute discretion of the team managers. Team selection will be based on ability and attitude. The team managers will notify dates, times and venues for matches and training.
- All teams will play the number of players and size of pitches as defined by the relevant leagues.
- Players, and parents / guardians of junior players, will ensure that all match, training or other fees are paid when due.
- In the event of players fines as a result of a yellow or red card during a match adult players and parents / guardians of junior players will be asked to reimburse the club the amount of the any fine.
- In the event that any player or junior players parent / guardian has any cause for complaint or wishes to raise a matter of dissatisfaction regarding club or team administration, team manager's decisions etc., the issue should be raised directly with the Officers of the Club.

ALWAYS REMEMBER

- Junior players are not playing to satisfy your ambitions.
- Junior players are involved for their enjoyment not yours.
- Never ridicule or shout at a junior player for making a mistake or losing. Praise them or keep quiet.

- Never publicly question a referee's decision. Never doubt his or her honesty – remember without them there is no game.
- Please help to remove all verbal and physical abuse in soccer.

Team Coaches Code.

- Adhere to and enforce the Club Safety Policies, Rules and Codes of Conduct.
- To keep a record of, note and act on, any players' health problems notified on registration-
- Adhere to the Football Association and appropriate League Rules.
- Select only players registered with the Club for League and Cup competition matches of any kind.
- Select no over-age players.
- Arrange regular training and / or coaching sessions and make them available to all registered players (occasional additional sessions restricted to team players may be held) and ensure that players attending training sessions on more than one occasion are registered with the Club.
- Refer immediately to the Club Officers any issues of protest, complaint or dispute with other teams or Clubs, match or league officials (other than those of a trivial nature which have been easily resolved). Conduct all correspondence on such matters through the Club Secretary or Chairman.
- Report to the Club Secretary any serious breach of the Club policy by any player or junior players parent / guardian.
- Ensure that anyone to whom you delegate responsibility for a Club activity and / or care of any players in your absence is familiar with and agrees to adhere to the Club's Policies and Codes.

Junior Section Child Welfare Policy.

Saltford Stars Junior Football Club is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for children and young people to practice Football

We do this by:-

- Safety Policies, Rules and Codes of Conduct.
- Ensuring that any adult conducting or being involved in Club / Team activities is a parent/guardian of a Junior Member registered with the Club / Team and resident in the locality. The only exception to this is when the Club employs a recognised FA Coach approved by the Management Committee.
- Ensuring that all our volunteers are carefully selected and accept responsibility for the safety and protection of children in their care.
- Continually monitoring the effectiveness of our Child Protection Policy and activities.

Child Protection Policy For Volunteers.

- Treat all young people with respect and take notice of their reactions to your tone of voice and manner.
- Do provide an example you wish others to follow.
- Do remember that someone else might misinterpret your actions, no matter how well intentioned.
- Do not have any inappropriate physical or verbal contact-
- Do not show favouritism to any individual.
- Try to avoid being alone with another person's child, for example, in the dressing room or when giving a lift in your car. If this situation is unavoidable, try to get parental permission first. If this isn't possible, make sure you let parents / guardians know what has happened as soon as you can.
- **Bullying.** Bullying is not always easy to define but be aware that it includes deliberate hostility and aggression towards a victim; name calling; sarcasm; spreading rumours; persistent teasing; excluding (continually ignoring individuals) and ridicule. Emotional and verbal bullying is more common in football than physical violence; it can also be difficult to cope with or prove. It can be deeply upsetting to a child and can easily get out of hand without an adult knowing.

If you become aware of any allegation, incident or circumstance relating to child welfare or safety, this should be reported immediately to the Child Welfare Officer or an official of the Club.

Severe Weather Policy

SALTFORD FOOTBALL TEAMS MUST NOT TRAIN OR PLAY MATCHES IN THE FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES.

- UNFIT PITCH WHICH MAY LEAD TO INJURY OR MISHAP e.g. FROZEN PITCH, EXCESS SURFACE WATER.
- IN SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS e.g. BLIZZARDS, THUNDERSTORMS, FREEZING TEMPERATURES, TORRENTIAL RAINSTORMS.
- WHERE IT IS POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS TO TRAVEL TO THE VENUE OR MATCH e.g. WIDESPREAD ICE OR SNOW.

Overall the referee has the responsibility to judge if a match is playable. However Saltford Football Club Junior team managers have an overriding duty of care in law. Moreover, failing to act reasonably on behalf of the junior players could invalidate any protection our insurance offers. Managers and Club committee members could be liable.

Should the implementation of the policy result in forfeit of points or other penalty, the Manager will receive the full support of the Club - the safety and well-being of the players are paramount.

GENERAL ADVICE TO MANAGERS:

- **IN THE EVENT OF SEVERE WEATHER PREDICTED DAYS IN ADVANCE OF A MATCH, CONTACT THE OTHER TEAM MANAGER / REFEREE AND DISCUSS EARLY POSTPONEMENT.**
- **IF A MATCH IS AWAY AND THE HOME MANAGER IS DETERMINED TO PLAY REGARDLESS - CONSULT OUR PLAYERS (OR PARENTS / GUARDIANS OF JUNIOR PLAYERS) AND ASK THEM THEIR OPINION ON WHETHER THEY CONSIDER IT SAFE TO TRAVEL AND PLAY TAKING ADVICE FROM THE AA / RAC / POLICE. HAVE THE CALL LOGGED. DISCUSS THE ISSUE WITH OFFICIALS OF THE LEAGUE.**
- **REMEMBER, THE PRESSURE TO PLAY ONCE EVERYONE HAS TRAVELLED TO A GAME IS ALMOST IRRESISTIBLE!**