NEWCASTLE WEST END FOOTBALL CLUB
HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Facilities, Grounds & Club Activities

1. Statement of Intent

Newcastle West End Football Club is committed to providing a safe, healthy and enjoyable environment for all players, coaches, volunteers, spectators, officials and visitors involved in club activities.

The club recognises its responsibilities under current health and safety legislation and will take all reasonably practicable steps to:

- Prevent accidents and injuries
- Provide safe facilities and playing environments
- Ensure safe use of equipment and club grounds
- Promote welfare and safeguarding standards
- Reduce risks associated with football activities
- Maintain effective emergency procedures

This policy applies to all club activities including training sessions, matchdays, tournaments, events, use of any facilities or grounds associated with Newcastle West End Football Club.

2. Responsibilities

Club Committee

- Ensure this policy is reviewed annually
- Monitor health and safety arrangements
- Ensure suitable insurance cover is maintained
- Ensure risk assessments are completed where required

Coaches & Team Managers

- Conduct visual inspections of pitches and facilities before use
- Ensure equipment is safe and suitable
- Supervise players appropriately
- Ensure first aid provision is available
- Report hazards and incidents promptly

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Players
• Wear suitable footwear and shin pads
• Follow instructions from coaches and officials
• Respect club facilities and equipment
• Report unsafe conditions

Parents / Spectators
• Respect club rules and safeguarding procedures
• Remain in designated spectator areas
• Follow instructions during emergencies

3. Facilities & Grounds

Primary Facilities & Grounds
McKendrick Villas Playing Fields
Cowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3AB

Winter & Off-Site Training Facilities
Excelsior Academy
Scotwood Road, Newcastle upon Tyne

Prior to all sessions and fixtures, coaches and officials will:
• Conduct visual safety inspections
• Check for hazards, debris, waterlogging or ice
• Ensure goals are secure and safe to use
• Confirm safe access and exit routes
• Assess lighting and weather conditions

If any facility or playing surface is considered unsafe, activities will be postponed, relocated or cancelled.

4. Shared Site Usage – McKendrick Villas

Newcastle West End Football Club acknowledges that McKendrick Villas Playing Fields are also used by:
• Cowgate Cricket Club
• Newcastle West End Community Sport Association

These organisations operate independently and maintain their own separate:
• Health & Safety Policies
• Risk Assessments
• Insurance Arrangements
• Operational Procedures

Newcastle West End Football Club's Health & Safety Policy applies specifically to football-related activities organised directly by the football club.

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Where facilities are shared, the club will work cooperatively with partner organisations to:
• Promote safe use of shared grounds and facilities
• Maintain safe access and egress routes
• Reduce risks to all users and visitors
• Report hazards appropriately
• Respect site-specific operational arrangements

5. Goalpost & Equipment Safety

All portable goalposts must:
• Be correctly assembled and secured
• Meet current FA safety standards
• Be checked prior to every session
• Never be climbed on

All football and training equipment must be:
• Appropriate for the age group and activity
• Regularly checked for damage
• Stored safely when not in use
• Removed from use if unsafe

6. First Aid & Medical Arrangements

The club will:
• Maintain accessible first aid kits
• Encourage qualified first aid provision
• Keep emergency contact information available
• Record accidents and injuries appropriately
• Follow current concussion guidance

In the event of serious injury:
1. Stop play immediately
2. Contact emergency services if required
3. Keep access routes clear
4. Inform parents/guardians where applicable
5. Complete accident reporting procedures

Emergency Services: 999

7. Emergency Procedures

Fire
• Evacuate the area calmly
• Proceed to the designated assembly point

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• Do not re-enter buildings until authorised

Severe Weather
Activities may be postponed or cancelled in cases of:
• Lightning
• High winds
• Snow or ice
• Flooding
• Extreme heat
The safety of participants will always take priority.

8. Welfare & Safeguarding

Newcastle West End Football Club is committed to safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

The club will:
• Appoint a Club Welfare Officer
• Follow FA safeguarding procedures
• Ensure appropriate DBS checks are completed where required
• Promote equality, respect and inclusion
• Respond appropriately to safeguarding concerns

9. Insurance

The club will maintain suitable insurance cover including:
• Public Liability Insurance
• Employer's Liability Insurance (where applicable)
• Personal Accident cover where arranged

10. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by Newcastle West End Football Club Committee or sooner if required following:
• Changes in legislation
• Significant incidents
• Changes to facilities or operations

This Policy was revised and adopted by the committee at a policy clinic meeting on Sunday 30th August 2026.

Name: Ryan Abraham Signed: R. Abraham

Position: Club Secretary / General Manager Date: 30/08/2026

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Name: Sean Morrissey Signed: S Morrissey

Position: Club Treasurer Date: 30/08/2026

Name: Alana Ruddick Signed: A Ruddick

Position: Club Chairperson Date: 30/08/2026

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