



**Penicuik Athletic Football Club
Penicuik Park
Carlops Road
Penicuik**

Medical Risk Assessment and Medical Plan

INTRODUCTION

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

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

INFRASTRUCTURE AND ORGANISATION

Access for Emergency Vehicles

Penicuik Athletic's ground at Penicuik Park is situated within Penicuik Public Park. Access is through a controlled entrance opposite 'Penicuik Centre' on Carlops Road. The access is controlled by three 'drop down' bollards of which PAFC holds the key for one of the three. By dropping one bollard access is directly available by emergency vehicles to all areas of the park. Access to the pitch and spectator areas is by the large gate at the John Street side of the park. PAFC have plans in place as part of their Safety Plan to facilitate this access.

First Aid Facilities

The principal first aid room is situated within the main changing room area of the 'Pavillion' complex but is immediately accessible from the entrance corridor and does not require access through either dressing room or any part of the building.

It contains basic first aid equipment, a couch and water supplies. There are toilets (including an accessible toilet) within the 'Pavillion' complex.

Organisation and Personnel

Penicuik Athletic ("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 First Aid staff member present at all matches.

There is an announcer present at every home match. This person will be located at the main entrance to the ground and is the focal point for co-ordination of messages during the match. He/she will make any safety announcements and will have immediate access to a telephone to communicate with others including the emergency services to ensure expedited management of any health and safety issues in conjunction and on the advice of the Club Safety Officer.

IDENTIFIABLE MEDICAL RISKS

Injury to Players

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 pitch side before the player returns to the game to serious injury requiring immediate intervention and hospitalisation.

Current arrangements

The club will ensure that there is a qualified sports first-aider present at all matches. A stretcher is available adjacent to the pitch at the main entrance which will allow removal of players from the pitch to the first aid room in the 'Pavillion' complex if the player requires assistance to leave the pitch.

The nearest Accident & Emergency Department is at the Royal Infirmary Edinburgh, which is 25-30 minutes from the ground under normal traffic conditions. The first-aider looking after an injured player will make arrangements through the Matchday Co-ordinator either to arrange transport for a player to the infirmary for further assessment or to call the emergency services if immediate medical care is required.

The risk of injury to players does not vary significantly between normal and major matches and this assessment applies to all matches.

Assessment

The current arrangements are satisfactory and have been tested but it is recommended that the procedure for removal of the player from the pitch and making arrangements for onward transport are tested annually, and on the change to any personnel involved in the procedure.

Actions required

Annual test of arrangements as above

Injury to Spectators

Description

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

Fire

There is identifiable risk in the 'Pavillion' Complex buildings and a detection system is in place. The club has a designated Fire Officer who is responsible for carrying out Risk Assessments and compliance with the landlord's requirements. The risk as assessed is small for these areas and negligible for open areas of the ground.

Structural Failure

The identifiable source of risk is Trees that surround the 'Pavillion' Complex and the Covered Terracing side of the pitch. The risk is considered negligible under normal circumstances to moderate in extreme high winds. In addition, six in number floodlight poles. These are of modern construction and are regularly inspected. The risk is considered negligible under normal circumstances to slight in high winds.

Evacuation

There is negligible risk under normal operating conditions rising to moderate in a "panic" situation in a match with a maximal capacity. This risk is mitigated because (a) unplanned evacuation is extremely unlikely (b) planned, orderly evacuation reduces the risk.

General

There is a general risk to spectators from slips, or other accidents. This is controlled by the maintenance of the ground in good condition. The risk is proportional to the number of spectators.

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.

Assessment

Arrangements are considered adequate for all foreseeable risks.

Actions Required

None

Illness

Description

There is 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, Low Blood Sugar, specifically in those with pre-existing risk factors).

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 24 – **DIAL 111**.

The club owns a Defibrillator which is located pitchside at all home and away matches.

Assessment

Current arrangements are satisfactory.

Actions Required

None

GENERAL MEDICAL PROVISIONS

The following personnel must be present at each home match;

- At least one qualified Sports first aider;
- A Match Day co-ordinator to act as the single point of communication

Where there is an anticipated attendance of greater than 500, in addition to the above;

- Attendance by a club doctor is advised;
- Additional first aid provision 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

Mandatory Review Date (to be reviewed and published annually)

Review Date – 1st December 2019

This document has been reviewed annually and the lats review took place on 28 February 2024.

The next review date will be February 2025.