

Largs Thistle Football Club
Barrfields Park, 69-70 Brisbane Road, Largs
KA30 8NP



SAFETY POLICY AND CONTINGENCY PLAN

1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Barrfields Park is a safe environment for children, young people, players, coaches, volunteers, match officials, and spectators. This policy follows:

- [Scottish FA \(SFA\) Wellbeing and Protection policy, procedures and guidance](#)
- SFA Matchday Safety and Facility Standards
- [Health and Safety at Work Act \(1974\)](#)
- [The Health and Safety \(First-Aid\) Regulations 1981](#)

2. Responsibilities

2.1 Club Committee

- oversees the implementation of this policy
- ensures annual review of risk assessments and procedures

2.2 Manager and team Coaches

- responsible for safe delivery of training and match activities
- ensures equipment is safe and appropriate

2.3 Child Wellbeing and Protection Officer (CWPO)

- ensures wellbeing concerns are responded to and reported appropriately

Largs Thistle Football Club
largsthistlefc1889@gmail.com

2.4 Safety Officer

- ensures matchday safety checks are completed and recorded

3. Venue overview of Barrfields Park

Feature	Notes
Playing surface	Artificial 3G pitch ("Astro pitch")
Changing facilities	Available within Barrfields pavilion and external modular changing rooms
Toilets	Located in modular toilet block, home team changing room and away changing room
Emergency access route	Via main entrance adjacent to Brisbane Road
Spectator areas	Designated standing/walking perimeter (seats in place)
Vehicle access	Roadside parking

4. Pre-session and pre-match safety checks

Coaches will complete safety checks before every session:

- Inspect pitch for debris, standing water or unsafe surface
- Ensure goalposts are secure and anchored (no climbing permitted)
- Confirm first aid kit is present and fully stocked
- Confirm at least one coach present is First Aid trained
- Ensure all participants have appropriate clothing/footwear for conditions
- Check weather safety conditions (heat, cold, lightning, extreme wind)

If the pitch or environment is deemed unsafe, training/matches must not proceed.

5. First aid and medical response

- Each team must have a Club first aid kit on site
- Coaches must know location of Automated External Defibrillator (AED). This is at the main entrance and, for travel, one for the home dugout and away games
- Emergency contact details for every player are kept securely by coaching staff
- All injuries requiring medical attention must be recorded in the Club Incident Report Form and reported to Committee and CWPO

6. Communication and contact procedures

Emergency	Contact
Police, fire and ambulance	999
NHS (non-emergency advice)	111
Club CWPO	Tiffany Irvin 07973 199648 tiffanyirvin@me.com

Coaches must always have a charged mobile phone in their possession.

7. Contingency plans

7.1 Severe weather

If thunder/lightning, freezing conditions, high winds, or extreme heat occur:

- Stop play immediately and move to sheltered indoor space if available
- Parents and carers will be contacted for early collection if required
- Sessions may be cancelled at short notice for safety

7.2 Fire or evacuation

- Stop session and calmly move players to assembly point at: Barrfields Pavilion entrance on Brisbane Road
- Do not re-enter the building or facility until cleared by emergency services

7.3 Serious Injury

- Stop play immediately
- Do not move the injured player unless required for safety
- Coach with first aid training leads response
- If needed, call 999 and send an adult to meet emergency services at entrance
- Record the incident and notify the Committee and CWPO

7.4 Missing child

- Alert coaches and volunteers immediately
- Secure exits from pitch and surrounding areas
- Search safe areas calmly
- If the child is not located within five minutes, call the police on 999
- Notify the CWPO

7.5 Safeguarding Concern

Upon receiving any concern or disclosure:

- Report immediately to CWPO
- Do not promise confidentiality
- Record exact information shared

8. Spectator and parent safety expectations

- Stay within designated spectator areas
- Do not enter the playing field unless instructed
- No aggressive, threatening, or abusive behaviour will be tolerated
- Dogs must be kept on leads and away from playing areas

9. Review and continuous improvement

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner if:

- a serious incident occurs
- guidance changes
- the Club structure changes

Approval

Signed (Chairperson):



Signed (CWPO):



DOCUMENT CONTROL

To be reviewed and published annually:

Reviewed by Club on 4 December 2025

Next Review Date: no later than 4 December 2026