



WALSALL FC COMMUNITY PROGRAMME

OUTDOOR MATCH PLAY POLICY

1 Match Play

Match play is permitted, with social distancing taking place before and after the game, and wherever possible during breaks in play. This includes substitutes observing a two-metre distance while out of the game and players maintaining a safe social distance at half-time.

2 Match Venues

Meeting times at venues should be shortened to 45 minutes (from 1 hour), to avoid groups and players congregating at the venue for longer than necessary. Everyone should enter and leave the venue following the traffic flow system the facility has in place, as well as abiding by all other measures implemented by the specific match day venue.

3 Equipment

All equipment should be regularly washed down with disinfectant by venue staff. Goalposts and corner flags will also be wiped down before and after matches as well as at half-time.

There should be no sharing of any kit or equipment by coaches or players, and all players are required to bring their own drinks in named containers.

4 Spectators

Spectators at matches are welcome, but should be limited to groups of up to six people from the same household. These should be spread out along the touchline to leave a safe social distance as a minimum.

Footballs (in warm-ups or during the game) should only be retrieved by players and NOT by spectators to avoid unnecessary outside contact with the game. Spectators should avoid all unnecessary contact with match balls and equipment.

5 Arrival of Participants, Drop Off Zones and One Way Systems at The Banks's Stadium

Designated drop off zones will be allocated for participants to arrive. The "Red Car Park", at The Banks's Stadium, is the only car park that participants should arrive to as the drop off zone. Cars should park one space apart, where possible, and use the full extent of the car park. Car parking bays should be used and roadways kept clear at all times.

Cars **MUST NOT** park on the road (Dale Road) leading from Bescot Crescent to the Red Car Park and Retail Park. Double yellow lines are in operation.

Participants should then make their way, safely and observing 1m distances, to the astroturf. They should walk past the Walsall FC Club Shop, beyond the Savoy Entrance and under the stand toward the AstroTurf entrance. Only participants and staff are permitted to walk the stairs up to the AstroTurf. Participants should then make their way, directly, to their designated coach and coaching area. Staff will be on hand to safely greet and organise participants.

The exit for the AstroTurf will be through the back gate, AT ALL TIMES. Coaches will escort players through this one way system to leave the pitch for breaks or the end of the sessions.



At the end of the session, coaches will escort participants to a pedestrian gate at the side of the AstroTurf nearest the Retail Park. Where necessary, parents can meet participants beyond this gate and safely in an area of Dale Road. All people should be aware of any traffic, although this is minimal traffic as Dale Road is a dead end.

Staff will then sign the participants out of the session when they are met by parents, or leaving by their own accord. Participants should then walk down the path of Dale Road to their cars. They **MUST NOT** walk towards the stadium until they are beyond the Club Shop. This will ensure safe socially distancing for any other participants that are arriving for the next session.

Please observe the government guidelines for social distancing when arriving and leaving sessions. Late Collection of participants will be handled via our Late Collection Policy however, we encourage parents (where necessary) to be prompt at the beginning and end of each day. Parents running late are asked to contact WFCP to explain their situation and players will be supervised, safely, by staff until collected.

Please refer to the arrival map in section 13 to fully understand the one way system.

6 Track and Trace

On arrival to the venue, all parents in attendance will be asked to sign in on our 'Track and Trace' sheet. The travelling team will also need to provide a sign in register of all parents and coaches in attendance.

We will require name, contact number and email address for those attending. Opposition teams will be responsible for the completion of the signing sheet and handing it in to a Walsall FC Community Trust member of staff prior to departing. In the event of a COVID-19 outbreak those potentially infected can be contacted asap.

7 Injuries

All staff dealing with injuries to a player must wear a face covering when treating them.

8 Hygiene

Good personal hygiene measures should be practiced by everyone on a match day and hand sanitiser should be used by everyone at the venue. Hands should be washed regularly for at least 20 seconds, including at the earliest opportunity after the game has finished.

9 Sanitiser Stations at The Banks's Stadium Astro Turf

Two Sanitiser Stations will be made available on the Astro Turf. These will be placed at the entrance and exit of the pitch. Coaches and participants are requested to use these stations each time they enter or exit the pitch.

Participants are required to bring their own sanitiser and name/initial their bottle.

10 Changing Facilities

Players must arrive to the match day venue in their kit and ready to play. No changing facilities will be available at venues due to social distancing restrictions.

No showers will be available at the facility and all players should shower at home.

11 Toilets

Toilets will be provided by the match day venue, and their guidance should followed by coaches, players and spectators.

12 Hospitality

There will be no post-match hospitality available, in line with FA and league guidelines.

13 Players or Coaches showing symptoms of Covid-19

All coaches, players and spectators should self-assess prior to matches. If you are symptomatic, or living in a household with possible or actual Covid-19 infection you must not participate or attend. You should stay home and follow the latest Government guidance. Anyone who becomes infected must comply with the Government 'Track and Trace' system as required.

14 Site Map

