

# Matchday, health & safety

---

How we keep sessions and fixtures safe at Bradley Football Development Centre and Barretts Recreation Ground.

## Health & safety and risk assessment

Every session starts with a check of the pitch, goals and surroundings.

- Goalposts are checked for stability and anchored before every session — no exceptions.
- Pitch walk for glass, dog fouling, holes and standing water before players arrive.
- Shin pads are compulsory. No shin pads, no play.
- Jewellery, including earrings and smart watches, must be removed before playing.
- Sessions are cancelled in unsafe weather (frozen or waterlogged pitches, thunder and lightning, extreme heat).

## First aid & concussion

We follow The FA's 'If in doubt, sit them out' guidance.

- Every team has a stocked first aid kit and at least one first-aid-trained adult at fixtures and training.
- Any suspected concussion means immediate and permanent removal from that session or match.
- A player with suspected concussion must not return for a minimum of 21 days and only with medical clearance and a graduated return.
- Injuries and near misses are recorded on an accident form and reviewed by the committee.

## Emergency action plan

Everyone should know what happens if the worst happens.

- Call 999 and give the ground name, postcode and nearest access gate.
- Send someone to the entrance to meet the ambulance.
- Contact the player's parent or emergency contact immediately from the registration record.
- Report serious incidents to the Club Secretary within 24 hours and to the league and County FA as required.

## Adverse weather & cancellations

Decisions are made as early as possible and communicated the same way every time.

- Cancellations are announced by the team manager on the official team group and the club's social channels.
  - Never assume a fixture is off — wait for confirmation from your manager.
  - Referee and ground authority decisions on pitch playability are final.
-

Safeguarding contact: Club Welfare Officer — grimsbyunitedfootballclub@gmail.com · 07783565426. Immediate risk to a child: call 999. NSPCC Helpline: 0808 800 5000. Where a club policy is less strict than an FA, league or legal requirement, the FA, league or legal requirement always applies.