



POLICY FOR CHILDREN/YOUNG PEOPLE ATTENDING MATCHES

Statement:

Hull City Tigers believe that football should be fun, healthy and life enhancing and that all those who participate in the Club's activities should have an enjoyable and safe experience.

Hull City Tigers acknowledges its duty of care to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and is committed to ensuring that safeguarding practice reflects statutory responsibilities, government guidance and Premier League requirements.

In accordance with this statement and in order to ensure that the welfare and safety of our children and young people is paramount; we have a policy that restricts the age at which unaccompanied children/young people can attend football matches

Home Matches

- **Babies/toddlers under the age of 2 years old will not be admitted to the stadium** as they are not deemed able to occupy a seat which compromises the stadium's safety certificate.
- Unaccompanied children/young People under the age of **14 years** will not be admitted into the KC Stadium
- Children/Young People under the age of **14 years** **must** be accompanied by a **responsible adult who is 18 years old or over.**
- Children/Young People under the age of **14 years** remain the responsibility of **their parent/carer/responsible adult** at all times whilst at the Stadium.

Responsibilities of Adults accompanying children under 14 years old

The Stadium, on match days, can be very busy and therefore it is important that children/young people are kept safe in order that they can derive the best possible enjoyment from their experience. It is therefore very important that the adult responsible for them;

- Knows where the child is at all times and has sight of them
- Has agreed meeting points with the child, both inside and outside of the stadium, should they become separated from the adult
- Has explained to the child who to contact if they are unable to find the adult i.e. a steward
- Has explained to the child the importance of not going off with anyone who is not a steward.

Away Matches

Football clubs may differ in the age restrictions, for attending matches, which they implement for travelling fans and it is important that parent/carers ascertain what those age restrictions are. Hull City Tigers do however advise that **children under 16 years** should not be travelling unaccompanied by a responsible adult (**over 18 years old**) to away matches. **Unaccompanied young people under 16** years of age **will not be allowed to travel on Tigers Travel**. In addition to this we would advise that **young people under 18 years old** travel on alcohol free transport.

Responsibilities of KC Stadium Staff

The Safeguarding Manager and Safety Officer are in attendance at all matches and will liaise together regarding any issues that arise in respect of children or vulnerable adults. Any issue that arises in respect of this policy must be notified to the **Safety Officer**.

Procedure

Under 14 year olds arriving at the Stadium unaccompanied

- Where stewards identify that a child under 14 has arrived at the stadium unaccompanied; the steward must contact their supervisor who will notify the **Safety Officer**.
- **The Safety Officer** will liaise with the **Safeguarding Manager** who will assess the situation and decide in liaison with the **Safety Officer** on a course of action.
- **No child will be removed** from the stadium without consideration being given to their welfare and contact made with a parent/carer.

Missing Children

- Where a child under 14 has been reported, by their parent/carer/responsible adult, to a member of staff as **missing**; they will be considered **vulnerable** and therefore a priority.
- Stewards should check that any agreed meeting point has already been checked and then report the details to the **Safety Officer in the control room** who will liaise with the **Safeguarding Manager** and relevant staff.
- **Supervisors** will be informed and given a description of the child in order to assist.
- The **Safety Officer** will determine at what point the **Police** need to be informed.
- Once **found** and providing identity is checked; the child can be returned to their parent/carer/responsible adult.

Found Children

- Where a child under 14 has been **found** by a member of staff; they will be considered as **safe**.
- Stewards will inform their **Supervisor** who will report the details to the **Safety Officer in the control room** and who in turn will liaise with the **Safeguarding Manager**.
- Details of the circumstances in which the child became separated, seating area, any agreed meeting point and any telephone numbers should be checked.
- All relevant **Supervisors** will be alerted to assist in the identification of the missing adult.
- Once located and identity checked, the child can be re-united with the adult.

This Policy has been agreed and approved by the Hull City Tigers Board and will be reviewed annually.

Reviewed in August 2017 – next review is August 2018