

FPCA Football Club – Alcohol & Matchday Environment Policy

1. Purpose

FPCA FC is committed to providing a safe, positive, and family-friendly environment for all children and young people involved in grassroots football. This policy sets out the club's stance on alcohol in and around training and matchday areas.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- All FPCA FC training sessions and matches held at Haxey Playing Fields or any other venue used by the club.
- All players, coaches, volunteers, parents, carers, and spectators attending FPCA FC activities.

3. Alcohol at Children's Football

- No alcohol should be brought onto, displayed, or consumed within the immediate training or matchday area when children's football activities are taking place.
- This includes the pitch, technical areas, sidelines, and surrounding spectator zones.
- The presence of alcohol around children's sport sends the wrong message and is not in line with FA safeguarding guidance.
- Parents, carers, and visitors are expected to set a positive example by respecting this rule at all times.

4. Adult Football Matches

- Where FPCA FC facilities are used for adult football (e.g., senior fixtures), alcohol consumption is only permitted if:
 - The venue has an authorised bar in operation, and
 - Drinks are consumed in line with the venue's own policies and licensing rules.
- Outside of these circumstances, alcohol should not be consumed at grassroots football matches.

5. Enforcement & Expectations

- Coaches, managers, and club officials may remind parents/carers and spectators of this policy if necessary.
- Repeated or deliberate breaches of this policy may be escalated to the Club Welfare Officer and committee.
- FPCA FC expects all members of its community to support the club in maintaining a safe and respectful environment for players.

6. Safeguarding Link

This policy is part of FPCA FC's wider safeguarding framework. By removing alcohol from children's football environments, the club promotes:

- Positive role modelling for players
- A safer environment for learning and enjoyment
- Respect for FA safeguarding standards