



**Wick Academy Football Club
Harmsworth Park Wick
Stewarding Plan
WAFC-D-006**



Version 7.7 – 4th July 2023

Introduction

Wick Academy Football Club is a member of the Scottish Highland Football League and is recognised as being Britain's most northerly senior football club. The Club Stadium is The Harmsworth Park, South Road, Wick, KW1 5NH.

Wick Academy Football Club will provide an appropriate number of Stewards for each home game. This document details Wick Academy's Stewarding plan.

Provision of Stewards

Stewarding for all home games is normally carried out by Wick Academy Football Club committee members and additional volunteers. In some circumstances additional Stewards may also be hired by the Club for specific games. Wick Academy have published a separate Stewards Code of Practice, document ref WAFC-D004, which contains details of the duties of all Stewards and the way in which they are expected to behave.

Steward Supervision

The supervision of the Stewards at each home game will be delegated to a senior Steward appointed by the Club Safety Officer for each home game.

Steward Numbers

Steward numbers will vary for each game played according to the expected crowd number. Wick Academy anticipate an average crowd capacity at each home game of between 250 and 550. For crowds of this size the minimum number of Stewards that will be present will be as follows:

Static Posts:

West Gate & car-park leading onto South Road - 2 Stewards present up until half-time.

East Gate & car-park leading onto Harrow Hill - 2 Stewards present up until half-time.

Mobile posts:

South Stand - 1 Stewards patrolling this area.

North Stand - 1 Steward patrolling this area.

Park perimeter - 2 Stewards patrolling this area.

Run-out to park from change rooms - 1 Steward patrolling this area, increasing to 4 Stewards at the end of each game.

A minimum number of 9 Stewards will be present and allocated stewarding positions for each home game.

For expected crowds greater than average stewarding numbers will be increased by the following numbers:

Crowds up to 1,000 - additional 2 Stewards over normal level.

Crowds up to 2,000 - additional 4 Stewards over normal level. Police will be informed of games where this number is expected and Wick Academy will request\pay for a Police presence if the Police recommend it.

Crowds up to 2,414 (maximum capacity) - additional 6 Stewards over normal level. Mobile communication devices in the form of walky-talkies will only be deployed to Stewards for each game. For crowds in excess of 1,000 all Stewards will get a brief before the start of the game. Police will be informed of games where this number is expected and Wick Academy will request\pay for a Police presence if the Police recommend it.

Steward Training

All Stewards who assist on a regular basis will be given copies of the Club's contingency plans, Steward code of practice, and spectator safety policy.

Stewards who assist on an infrequent basis will be "teamed" with an experienced Steward, and these Stewards will be briefed by the experienced Steward on the duties expected of them.

In instances where Stewards are hired by the Club for specific games the Club will conduct a Steward briefing before the match in question where all Stewards will be briefed on the content of the Steward code of practice policy, and any specific potential issues pertaining to the match in question. Such a briefing will also take place prior for any match where a larger than average crowd is expected, or there is an increased risk of unactable crowd behaviour taking place.

Wick Academy do not deploy any specialist Stewards for disabled spectators or children, but are made aware to assist any disabled spectators if necessary to the best of their ability.

Document Control

Mandatory Review Date (To be reviewed and published annually).

Review Date: __4th July 2024__
