



**Wick Academy Football Club
Harmsworth Park Wick
Community Activities Policy
WAFC-P-010**



Version 6.7 – 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. We travel in excess of 3,000 miles per annum to fulfil our Highland League fixture commitments and have a fully integrated youth programme to develop our local talent. We pride ourselves in community integration at all levels.

This policy defines the Clubs Community Activities Policy.

Community Activities Policy

Wick Academy Football Club ("The Club") is committed to taking an active involvement in our local community. We pride ourselves in the way in which we engage with our local community, on as many levels or areas where we are able to participate.

Wick Academy seek to increase engagement, training provision and support amongst its community residents by working across 4 key themes; Health, Education, Participation and Social Inclusion. The following list is not exhaustive, but highlights some of the areas where the Club plays an active part in the local community.

- Wick Academy supports activity in both the local community and the wider football community.
- The Club seeks to promote close links between the Club and its community and to introduce young people, male and female, to football as players and spectators.
- Representatives of the Club, players, coaches or committee members, are willing to attend any event which promotes or encourages any level of football participation within the County. These may include; award evenings for local boys clubs, ad hoc coaching sessions for junior or senior football teams etc.
- The Club will support and are willing to work with outside agencies, especially disadvantaged groups (disabled, ethnic minorities and the unemployed.)
- As a fundamental principle the Disability Discrimination Act states that disabled people should not be treated 'less favourably, without justification'; and 'reasonable adjustments' should be made to make goods, facilities and services accessible. Wick Academy aims to fully comply with both the provisions and spirit of the Act.
- Wick Academy actively supports any local charities which raise funds for football or any other sporting activity within the community.
- The Club supports local community and schools events that promote youth football and grass roots football.
- To encourage more people (especially children) to play football. Wick Academy runs two youth football teams, u16's and u18's. This engages young footballers to play their football with Wick Academy, as we recognise the requirement for a pyramid progression system for local talent which will hopefully lead to players participating in the senior team.

- At every available opportunity to teach the necessary skills and qualities needed for future generations.
- To promote learner confidence.
- To highlight the benefits of an active lifestyle.
- To encourage participation in sporting activity regardless of gender, ethnicity or disability.
- To encourage more people (especially children) to watch football, offering free admission to all home games to children under the age of 12.
- To encourage more people to become interested in and support Wick Academy FC. Offering concessions for admission for people over 60 and juniors. “Early Bird” discounts on season tickets are also offered at the beginning of each season.
- To strive to be role models throughout our involvement in schools and the community.
- Wick Academy aims whenever possible to offer a comprehensive and inclusive programme to young people in the local community who have traditionally been excluded from mainstream sport and education provision.
- To maximise the facilities available at Harmsworth Park Wick and their community use.
- To utilise the game of football, and facilities at Harmsworth Park Wick, as a vehicle for improvements in education, health, social inclusion and participation whenever possible.
- Regarding anti-racism initiatives, the Club supports the aims of leading initiatives such as "Show Racism The Red Card" to tackle problems of racism in the game, working closely with The Racial Equality Council.

Document Control

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

Review Date: _4th July 2024_
