

CHAPTER 15

GROUND REGULATIONS

Ground Regulations

Notice: Entry to the Ground is expressly subject to acceptance by the visitor of these Ground Regulations and (for football matches) the rules and regulations of FIFA, UEFA, The Irish Football Association and The Northern Ireland Football League in respect of the relevant match and (for other Events) the rules and regulations of the relevant governing body or Event organiser. Entry to the Ground shall constitute acceptance of the Ground Regulations.

"Ground" means The National Football Stadium at Windsor Park and all locations owned, occupied or utilised by The IFA and the IFA SDC.

"Event" means any event taking place at the Ground.

"IFA" means Irish Football Association Limited.

"IFA SDC" means the Irish Football Association Stadium development Company Limited.

1. Permission to enter or to remain within the Ground (notwithstanding possession of any ticket) is at the absolute discretion of the IFA and IFA SDC, any police officer or authorised steward. On no account will admission to any Event be granted to any person not in possession of a valid ticket. On no account will admission to a football match be granted to a person who is the subject of a current Banning Order.
2. IFA and IFA SDC excludes to the maximum extent permitted by law any liability for loss, injury or damage to persons/property in or around the Ground.
3. No guarantees can be given by IFA and IFA SDC that an Event will take place at a particular time or on a particular date and IFA and IFA SDC reserves the right to reschedule the Event without notice and without any liability whatsoever.
4. In the event of the postponement or abandonment of the Event, refunds (if any) should be claimed in accordance with the relevant Event organiser's ticket terms and. IFA and IFA SDC will have no other liability whatsoever, including (but not limited to) any indirect or consequential loss or damage, such as (but not limited to) loss of enjoyment or travel costs.
5. All persons seeking entrance to the Ground acknowledge IFA and IFA SDC 's authorised stewards the right to search any person and their belongings whether outside or inside the Ground and to refuse entry to or eject from the Ground any person refusing to submit to such a search.
6. To view a full list of articles which must not be brought into the Ground see below. Prohibited items include knives, fireworks, explosives, smoke canisters, aerosols, air-horns, noisemakers, flares, weapons, dangerous or hazardous items, illegal substances, laser devices, bottles, glass vessels, cans, poles, or any article that may be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety or which may pose a hazard or nuisance to any other person, or any article to be used for a commercial or a charitable purpose. Any person in possession of such items will be refused entry to or ejected from the Ground.

7. Threatening, abusive or violent behaviour, and foul or abusive language is strictly forbidden and will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground. IFA and IFA SDC may impose a ban from the Ground as a result.

8. Causing damage to, or interfering or tampering with any equipment, furniture, fitting or fixture within the Ground will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground.

9. Racial, sectarian, homophobic or discriminatory abuse, chanting or harassment is strictly forbidden and will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground. IFA and IFA SDC may impose a ban from the Ground as a result.

10. The following acts are offences under Section 36-39 of the Justice Act (NI) 2011 and conviction may result in a Banning Order being made:

10.1 The throwing of any object capable of causing injury within the Ground without lawful authority or excuse;

10.2 The chanting of anything of an indecent, sectarian or racist nature;

10.3 The entry onto the playing area or any adjacent area to which spectators are not generally admitted without lawful authority or excuse;

10.4 It is also unacceptable for any person to enter or attempt to enter the Stadium

(a) Whilst in possession of a prohibited container which is capable of containing liquid and which if thrown would be capable of causing injury to another person.

(b) Whilst in possession of alcohol

(c) Whilst drunk or under the influence of drugs

(d) Whilst in possession of any article which is a firework

(e) Whilst in possession of any article, which could or might be used as a weapon or to cause offence or which was regarded by the event organiser or the Police as dangerous or unsafe.

Such acts will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground whether at a football match or otherwise.

11. All persons entering the Ground may only occupy the seat allocated to them by their ticket and must not move from any one part of the Ground to another without the express permission or instruction of any steward, officer of IFA and IFA SDC and/or any police officer.

12. Nobody may stand in any seating area whilst play is in progress. Persistent standing in seated areas during an Event is strictly forbidden and may result in ejection from the Ground.

13. The obstruction of gangways, access ways, exits and entrances, stairways and like places is strictly forbidden. Nobody entering the Ground shall be permitted to climb any structures within the Ground.

14. Smoking at the Ground is strictly forbidden and will result in ejection from the Ground. Please note that the use of electronic cigarettes is prohibited within the stadium.

15. Mobile telephones and other communications devices are permitted within the Ground provided that they are used for personal and private use only.

16. Attempting to enter the Ground or being inside the Ground whilst drunk;

16.1 Being in possession of any intoxicating liquor, or bottle, can or other portable container and which could cause damage or personal injury when entering the Ground or in a public area of the Ground from which the event can be directly viewed;

Such acts will result in arrest and/or ejection from the Ground.

17. Any individual who has entered any part of the Ground designated for the use of any group of supporters to which they do not belong may be ejected from the Ground either for the purposes of their own safety or for any other reason.

18. No person (other than a person who holds an appropriate license) may bring into the Ground or use within the Ground any equipment which is capable of recording or transmitting (by digital or other means) any audio, visual or audio-visual material or any information or data in relation to the Event or the Ground. Copyright in any unauthorised recording or transmission is assigned (by way of present assignment of future copyright pursuant to section 91 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988) to IFA and IFA SDC.

19. No goods (including literature) of any nature may be offered either free or for sale by any person within the Ground without the express written permission of IFA and IFA SDC.

20. No sponsorship, promotional or marketing materials may be brought into, used or displayed by any person within the Ground without the express written permission of the IFA.

21. Tickets are not transferable and may not be offered for sale without the prior written permission of IFA and IFA SDC. Any tickets offered for sale may be confiscated by any steward, officer of the IFA or any police officer. IFA and IFA SDC reserves the right to refuse admission to or eject from the Ground any person who has transferred their ticket in contravention of the Event ticket terms and conditions. Tickets remain the property of IFA and IFA SDC or the Event organiser at all times.

22. CCTV cameras are in use around and in the Ground and IFA and IFA SDC may itself use, or pass to the police or any Event organiser or other relevant authority, any recordings for use in any proceedings.

23. At all times whilst present in the Ground, persons must comply with any and all instructions of any steward or officer of IFA and IFA SDC and/or any police officer. Failure to comply with any instruction may lead to immediate ejection from the Ground.

24. Responsibility for minors remains at all times with a parent or guardian.

25. There is no re-admission to the Ground.

26. IFA and IFA SDC reserves absolutely the right to eject from the Ground any person failing to comply with any of the Ground Regulations or whose presence within the Ground is, or could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to any other person. This could lead to further action including, but not limited to, a ban from the Ground or proceedings being taken.

Guidance for use of flags at The National Football Stadium at Windsor Park

The national Football Stadium upholds the highest standards of Health and Safety. The following guidance is in line with the stadium's grounds regulations.

- We know that many supporters like to display flags at football matches and The National Stadium will always be as accommodating as possible.
- Flags are not generally confiscated, however the obstruction of gangways, access routes, exits and entrances, health and safety signage and stairways is strictly forbidden.
- In the event of an emergency we must have all access and exit points clear.
- The National Football Stadium reserves the right to confiscate flags if they are very large or may compromise public safety, obscure someone's view, a camera position or if a flag carries offensive, sectarian, discriminatory or inflammatory messaging.
- Flags more than 250cm in size at their widest or longest section will not be allowed and flagpoles greater than 1m in length will not be allowed.
- Any articles that could potentially be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety are strictly prohibited.
- Permission must be sought in advance from the stadium and event owner to arrange use of the very large supporter flags that are designed to be passed over people's heads. In such cases the flag must be flame retardant and the organiser bringing the flag into the stadium will need to provide the appropriate H&S certification.

Entry to the Ground shall constitute acceptance of the Ground Regulations. Published by IFA and IFA SDC.

The following articles must not be brought within the Ground: knives, fireworks, smoke canisters, air-horns, flares, weapons, dangerous or hazardous items, laser devices, bottles, glass vessels, cans, poles and any article that might be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety.

Any person in possession of such items will be refused entry to the Ground.

Any article that might be used as a weapon, be deemed to be offensive or abusive or sectarian, or compromise public safety, will be confiscated and or reported to the police.

Unlicensed musical instruments: trumpets, drums and other devices capable of causing a disturbance or nuisance.

Flag poles greater than 1m in length and flares. Bottles, glass vessels, cans, flasks. Frisbees and similar items, dangerous or hazardous items, illegal substances, explosives or ammunition; fireworks, knives, blades or other weapons, firearms, scooters, skateboards or other skates. Laser devices, smoke canisters, signs or items with corporate or inappropriate branding, unauthorised fliers, spray paint, large industrial style "permanent" marker pens, prams / push chairs, transmitting devices, professional cameras & recording devices (This applies to cameras that have interchangeable lenses), large suitcases, lap tops, illegal merchandise items, water bottles (need to have the ability to decant), illegal charity collection utensils, motor bike helmets, umbrellas, darts, hampers and cold boxes, air horns, alcohol and animals (except service dogs & guide dogs).

Read more at <http://www.IrishFA.com>

GROUND REGULATIONS

NATIONAL STADIUM

- **FIREWORKS, FLARES, SMOKE BOMBS, LASER PENS, BOTTLES, GLASS, OR CANS ARE NOT PERMITTED IN THE STADIUM**
- **ALCOHOL MUST ONLY BE CONSUMED IN AUTHORISED PLACES WHEN PERMITTED BY COMPETITION REGULATIONS**
- **ANY PERSON DAMAGING OR DEFACING PROPERTY WILL BE REMOVED FROM THE STADIUM AND PROSECUTED**
- **UNAUTHORISED ENTRY TO NON SPECTATOR AREAS OF THE STADIUM IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN**
- **NO UNAUTHORISED PERSON MAY SELL ARTICLES WITHIN THE STADIUM**
- **IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO THROW ANY OBJECT CAPABLE OF CAUSING INJURY WITHOUT LAWFUL AUTHORITY OR REASONABLE EXCUSE**
- **IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO CHANT ANYTHING OF AN INDECENT, SECTARIAN OR RACIALIST NATURE**
- **IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO ENTER THE PLAYING AREA OR ADJACENT AREA WITHOUT LAWFUL AUTHORITY OR REASONABLE EXCUSE**
- **IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY YOU MUST FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE STEWARDS OR OTHER AUTHORISED PERSONNEL**
- **ANY PERSON WHO IS GUILTY OF ANY BREACH OF THESE REGULATIONS MAY BE REMOVED FROM THE STADIUM AND BANNED FROM ATTENDING FUTURE GAMES**

A COPY OF THE FULL GROUND REGULATIONS MAY BE FOUND AT

www.irishfa.com