

**CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE USE OF
SOUTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL'S SPORTS PITCHES**

South Ayrshire Council promotes the safe enjoyment of its sports facilities for both passive and active use; the following Code of Practice provides guidelines on what is considered to be acceptable behaviour on Council sports pitches.

South Ayrshire Council reserves the right to take action against any individual, group or team who persistently breach the Code of Practice. This may include the exclusion and/or cancellation of bookings of any individual/team from South Ayrshire Council playing fields.

1. All users shall be subject to the rules and regulations as laid down.
2. Appointed Officers of South Ayrshire Council reserve the right to:
 - a) introduce, amend or delete such rules as may be required for the needs of the service, or due to changing circumstances.
 - b) levy charges or fees as may be appropriate for use of the facilities or services and to alter such charges or fees without notice.
 - c) refuse admission to any persons who in their opinion are in breach of the Code of Practice, or whose behaviour is such that it interferes with the safe, efficient operation of the facility.
3. Any damage done to South Ayrshire Council's facilities, property or equipment other than fair wear and tear must be made good by the individual, group or organisation responsible for the damage.
4. No alcohol or narcotic substances shall be consumed on South Ayrshire Council's facilities. Nor shall any person, who in the opinion of an Officer of South Ayrshire Council, is under the influence of alcohol or drugs be admitted or allowed on the premises.
5. All individuals associated with any club be it players, supporters or club officials are reminded to ensure their behaviour is beyond reproach.
7. The authority reserves the right to ban individuals, groups or teams from use of its facilities for use of foul language, racial abuse and/or unacceptable behaviour toward staff and members of the public.
8. South Ayrshire Council in line with Government Regulations operates a **no smoking** policy within our changing rooms and facilities. Any team or individual failing to comply with regulations will be refused access to the facility.
9. Gambling, betting or gaming is not permitted within facilities. Anyone found in breach of this may be liable to prosecution.
10. Training shall only take place within designated areas; these will be located away from the playing surface. Any team found training on pitches will be charged for the reinstatement of the pitch.
11. South Ayrshire Council actively promotes equal opportunities for all groups/individuals who wish use of their facilities regardless of gender, colour, disability, religion, or nationality.

12. No foodstuffs, alcohol or soft drinks are to be taken into or consumed on the premises, except in such areas as may be designated for such purposes. No glass containers will be allowed in playing areas or changing rooms.
13. All boots should be removed at the changing room/pavilion entrance and under no circumstances should boots be washed in toilet or bathing/showering areas.
14. Any person/group debarred from using a facility will automatically be debarred from all other grounds & parks facilities.
15. No unauthorised person(s) shall enter areas marked "staff only" or "authorised personnel only".
16. Appointed Officers of South Ayrshire Council's decision on admission, allocation, use or closure of facilities is final.
17. South Ayrshire Council cannot accept responsibility for any loss, damage or injury occurring within or in the vicinity of its premises, or for any injury sustained by persons participating in activities within its facilities.
18. In instances where facilities are hired for 'commercial' purposes, appointed officers of South Ayrshire Council, shall reserve the right to ensure that profiteering does not exist. A commercial rate may be levied to take into account the standard hire charge, level of use and charges made for such hires.
19. Release of Chinese lanterns and helium balloons is strictly prohibited on all playing fields.
20. Teams must take all litter, including any left by players, officials and supporters, away from the pitch to dispose of in suitable bins, in particular all used first aid bandages or equipment, at the end of their let.