



Skryne G.F.C.

Cumann Luthchleas Gael Scrín

Pitch Usage Policy

Agreed at the Executive Committee Meeting of 19/02/2024

The objective of this policy is to ensure that when Skryne teams go out to play matches on our Main Pitch, throughout the whole year, they will know that they are playing on a surface that befits great teams in a great Club. Co-operation from all will yield the successful outcome desired. Respect for all Club facilities and property is part of our Club culture - it belongs to us all.

Extract from previous Skryne GFC 5 Year Development Plan

'Continue to manage Main Pitch and use only for matches to ensure existing high standard is maintained. The Club is keen to enhance the existing policy of protecting the Main Pitch from over-use and to ensure it is kept to the highest standard possible. This will require buy-in from all members and particularly coaches and team managers.'

Background:

The amount of matches and training sessions throughout the year is a positive sign of the good health of the Club. However, due to the level of demand for pitches, it is necessary to have an agreed policy that gives fair and equitable access to all facilities listed below, for the benefit of all throughout the full season.

- Main Pitch
- Training Pitch and surrounding area
- Astro-turf
- Gym
- Walking track

With the cooperation of managers, coaches and teams, the following principles will help us achieve our objective of maintaining the facilities in the best possible condition for equitable use by all our teams.

Usage Policy:

- 1. Main Pitch to be available to each team for official fixtures** as far as possible and subject to the pitch being playable and the pitch being reserved on Booking System. Where fixture clashes occur Team Managers to consult with Paddy Battersby, events coordinator, to resolve issue. Where feasible all Teams will have use of Main Pitch for:
 - Official Fixtures
 - Friendly Matches – subject to availability where the training pitch is not available
- 2. For all groups older than under 12/13, all training** to be done across the road in Training Pitch or on the Astro-turf pitches. Strictly **NO TRAINING ON THE MAIN PITCH**. Exceptions may be sought by managers who have teams preparing for important matches with prior approval with the grounds committee.

3. **Intensive training (repeated running and drills around cones) should be done on high ground** outside marked limits of Training Pitch behind the tower lights. None of this activity should take place within the marked boundary of the Training Pitch.
4. **Tower Lights** can rotated to provide light for training on required areas (easiest to rotate when not more than ½ way up).
5. **Use all parts of the Training Pitch** for ballwork - far end goals as well as near end goals.
6. Team Managers to ensure that **no 'warm up drills' are carried out on the main pitch prior to matches** by Skryne or visiting teams. These should be done on Training Pitch or Astro-turf.
7. **Pitch Inspections:**
 - a) For official matches where decision is exclusive to the Referee, the decision on pitch playability will remain with the Referee.
 - b) For matches where the decision is open to the Skryne Club, the Main Pitch will be inspected by at least 2 people from a panel nominated by Executive Committee. Panel to consist of; Paddy Battersby, Dermot Carty, Kevin O Rourke, Nigel Fox, and Aileen O'Connor.
 - c) Decision on closure/pitch availability will be communicated by Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson to all Section Chairperson/Secretaries for transmission to Team Managers.
 - d) Where Main Pitch closure is necessary notification will be sent out as early as possible so that Team Managers can make alternative arrangements as appropriate.
8. If the use of our **Main Pitch is requested from outside the club**, a charge of €100 is required for day time use and €150 for night time use (with floodlights)
9. **Parking will not be available in Training Pitch except for match days** where an overflow carpark is required. Parking will be in Main Pitch and Team Managers should advise players of risks associated with crossing the road. Players should cross opposite Main Pitch gate and utilise the coned off path provided. Parking along road is prohibited, even for brief set-down or pick -up.
10. Team Management are asked to ensure that entire **dressing room areas**, including showers and toilets, are cleaned after use by their own teams and visiting teams where applicable.
11. Where 'small Goals/small pitches' are being used for **underage matches**, the pitch should be be off set from centre-line of Main Pitch to prevent wear and tear. This can be done by locating centre of goals 5 metres off centre and bring in flags on 'long side' by 10 metres.
12. Team Management who need **to transport training equipment to Astro-turf** may remove bollard and replace after entry. Other traffic is not allowed.
13. First entry in to Main Pitch, open and tie back both gates, last out close the gates.
14. Training Pitch - Code for Lock has been sent out to Team Mangers. Last out close both gates and lock.

Further amendments to this policy may be required throughout the year.