



Hinckley Rugby Football Club

Leicester Road
Hinckley
Leicestershire
LE10 3DR

Policy: No Dogs Allowed, Except for Guide Dogs, at Hinckley Rugby Football Club

Effective Date: 25 May 2023

1. Purpose:

This policy aims to maintain a safe and enjoyable environment for all patrons, players, and staff members at Hinckley RFC. By restricting access to dogs, except for guide dogs, we aim to minimise potential risks, allergic reactions, and disruptions to activities held within the club premises.

2. Policy Statement:

No dogs, except for guide dogs accompanying individuals with visual impairments or other disabilities, are permitted on the premises of Hinckley RFC. This policy applies to all indoor and outdoor areas, including fields, stands, clubhouses, training facilities, car parks, and any other facilities owned or operated by the Club. Owners with dogs are permitted to transit to and from the main entrance to and from Barwell Lane along the public footpath only.

3. Guide Dogs Exception:

Guide dogs that are properly trained and accredited to assist individuals with visual impairments or other disabilities are exempt from this policy. The Club acknowledges and supports the importance of guide dogs as an essential means of mobility and assistance for individuals with disabilities. However, the handler is responsible for ensuring that the guide dog remains under control and well-behaved at all times.

4. Enforcement and Compliance:

4.1. Club Personnel: All staff members, including employees, contractors, and volunteers, are responsible for enforcing this policy. They should respectfully and politely inform individuals with dogs, other than guide dogs, about the no-dog policy and request them to remove the dog from the premises.

4.2. Signage: Appropriate signs shall be displayed prominently at entry points and other relevant areas to inform patrons and visitors about the no-dog policy. The signage should be easily readable and visually conspicuous.

4.3. Communications: The rugby club shall communicate this policy through its official website, social media platforms, newsletters, and other communication channels regularly used to reach out to club members, supporters, and visitors.

4.4. Complaints or Concerns: Any complaints or concerns regarding the enforcement of this policy should be directed to the appropriate club personnel, who will address them in a timely and professional manner.

5. Exceptional Circumstances:

In exceptional circumstances where dogs may be required for club-related activities or events (e.g., dog shows, specific demonstrations), a written request must be submitted to the Hinckley RFC Committee for review and approval. These exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the nature of the activity, health and safety concerns, and potential impacts on club operations.

6. Liability and Responsibility:

The Club shall not be held liable for any injury, loss, damage, or allergic reaction caused by dogs that are brought onto the premises in violation of this policy, except for guide dogs accompanying individuals with disabilities. The owner or handler of a dog brought onto the premises, other than a guide dog, shall assume full responsibility and liability for any incidents or consequences arising from the presence or behaviour of the dog.

7. Review and Amendment:

This policy will be reviewed periodically to ensure its effectiveness and appropriateness. Amendments or updates to this policy may be made at the discretion of the Hinckley RFC committee, with due notice provided to club members, supporters, and visitors.

By adhering to this policy, we aim to create an inclusive and safe environment for all individuals involved in the activities and events of Hinckley RFC.