

Annual Post-Season Spectator Safety Report
2015



Lancashire County Cricket Club

ANNUAL POST SEASON SPECTATOR SAFETY REPORT

Season 2015

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Introduction

This Annual Post Season Spectator Safety Report relates to Section 6 of the Safety at Sports Grounds Act Policy Statement 2011

The Report identifies, where possible, in chronological sequence the issues associated with all aspects of spectator safety within and under the control of LCCC Safety Management throughout the 2015 Cricket Season.

The Safety Management Team

The Safety Management Team remained constant during the 2015 County Cricket Season.

For the major portion of the cricket season, Mr. Anthony Mundy assumed the role of Designated Premises Supervisor.

Mr Adam Pearson's role was amended and he became the Club Events and Partnerships Manager with a dual responsibility split between Safety Management and the Commercial progression.

Mrs Lucy Hayes has now successfully attained Level 4 NVQ status in Spectator Safety Management.

The Club acknowledges the contribution made by the enforcement officers of Trafford Council whose support is invaluable.

Review of the Progress of the Aims and Objectives for 2015 Season

The stated Aim and Objective for the 2015 cricket season were:

Objectives

1. The successful hosting of major concert events during the year to the expected capacity of 50,000 persons
2. The successful implementation of 'Friday Night Live' initiative to expand and compliment the hosting of the newly launched NatWest Blast t20 competition.
3. To successfully progress with a 'Police Free' International fixture



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Progress

1. The Club hosted a single outdoor concert during the 2015 summer season, Foo Fighters performing in front of a crowd of 46,898 spectators on Wednesday 27th May. This concert was heralded as a success by the promoter and the vast majority of those who attended.

The club has identified a need for the Sound Footprint of the stadium to be reviewed for future events as the development of the Hilton Garden Inn Emirates Old Trafford will potentially impact on the present situation with possible adverse effects on local residents.

The Foo Fighters event did not breach the present Premises Licence conditions and the Club undertakes to maintain this situation after the above mentioned development for future events held at the ground.

There were no incidents of disorder recorded during the event and the number of persons requiring first aid treatment was well below the anticipated figure for an event and crowd such as this at 34 persons with no serious injuries recorded although two persons were taken to hospital from the audience and later released. Of note is that one steward suffered a cardiac arrest during the event and was revived by the actions of, firstly police officers, and subsequently the duty doctor who administered a total of 6 defibrillator shocks and prescription medication prior to the patient being taken to hospital. We are pleased to confirm that the steward has made a full recovery and is now back at work.

2. The NatWest Blast series of games was supported by a Friday Night Live initiative which incorporated performances by In House bands provided from the resources of, the now defunct, Xfm who performed during the innings interval and after the final ball of each home game of the competition.

Again, this has been hailed as a success by both the Club and the sponsor of the event, Xfm.

There were no incidents of disorder or reported first aid issues during any of these mini-concert periods.

3. The Club had the intention of further extending the successful hosting of low risk international fixtures as Police Free. However, after representations by the England and Wales Cricket Board, this was deemed to be inappropriate during this season. The Club will, however, continue in its pursuit of this initiative with a goal of reducing costs and the reliance on an over-stretched Police service for future Low Risk International fixtures.

Conclusion

The Club Management are satisfied that they have suitably demonstrated to the Regulatory Authority that they have successfully attained the Aims and Objectives set.

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Pre-Season Issues

Terrorist and Security Issues

As in previous years, National Terrorist and Security issues prior to and during the 2015 season were considered as an integral part of the planning process for events at Emirates Old Trafford Cricket Ground.

The season commenced and continued throughout with the 'Threat Level' at 'Severe' and all operations were carried out commensurate with this level.

The Club continues its association with GMP Counter Terrorism Unit and Dedicated Search Unit and NaCTSO with whom several planning and information meetings took place and advice sought and acted upon in relation not only to sporting and other events at the stadium but also in relation to the on-going redevelopment of the site.

As has been the case in previous years, the Club requested the services of GMP POLSA teams to conduct searches of the Players Dressing Rooms and the voids under the temporary stands prior to the International t20 fixture and the 2 x One Day International games to ensure, as far as possible, the safety of all within the stadium.

Pre-match/event liaison with agencies

Lancashire County Cricket Club Safety Management continued close liaison with the police and other relevant agencies prior to every match and event hosted at the stadium.

Match Day Security Strategy

The Match Day Security Strategy continued to improve during the 2015 season with the continued development of the computerised Event Management System. Nominated officers of Trafford Council have full access to this system..

Liaison with the Local Authority, Emergency Services and Security Services continued and enabled the club to continue business, whatever the risks.

Stadium Capacity Issues

A temporary stand was erected to facilitate crowd attendance for both the international t20, England vs New Zealand, approximately 2,000 seats, and extended further for the 2 x One Day International games, England vs Australia. The stand had an ultimate capacity in excess of 5,500 persons but was used only for the international fixtures.

The stand was considered a successful investment by the Club and a similar construction will be considered for the test and t20 matches of 2016, England vs Pakistan.



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Annual Ground Inspection and Equipment Testing Reports.

The stadium, as required, was subject to all the required safety checks as detailed in the document Safety Procedures and Contingency Plans.

Appropriate safety checks were also carried out by the club's own maintenance department as required by the Safety Procedures Manual.

All certificates were forwarded to Trafford Borough Council prior to the issue of the General Safety Certificate for 2015 by the Authority.

The Private Security Industry Act 2001 and the Security Industry Authority (S.I.A.)

Lancashire County Cricket Club complies fully with the requirements of the PSIA 2001.

Our exclusive agreement for the provision of Security services over and above those provided 'In House', with G4S Secure Solutions (UK) Limited continued during 2015 and included a proportion of the Car Parking operations and event gate supervision and site supervision.

As indicated earlier in this report, the Club continued to employ a number of 'In House' stewards during the 2015 season. The Club, although via exemption are not required to employ SIA badged stewards in licenced areas of the ground, continued to ensure that all stewards placed in an enforcement role were so qualified and intend to retain this requirement.

The Club undertook to train all non-qualified stewards and a number of Conference and Events and Guest Services staff to NVQ Level two in both Spectator Safety and Customer Service. This training process has been successfully with all candidates attaining their awards. The following observation was made by the Assessors *"Both of us were very impressed with those we came into contact with. They were an absolute credit to the club in their attitude and professionalism. The stewarding and support team in the Pavilion are as good as any we have worked with at other high profile venues."*

Contracted Stewards

G4S continued to provide all of the clubs stewarding and security needs in support of the In House staff outlined above.

G4S is regulated by the Security Industry Authority (SIA).

The size of the company enabled it to provide its own in house training by qualified instructors, in compliance with the Private Security Industry Act 2001.



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The company delivered, as a minimum, training and qualification to Level 3 for all Supervisors and to Level 2 of the National Qualification Framework for General Stewards.

No Smoking Policy

All the stadium seated areas are designated as No Smoking. This extended policy has been successfully introduced to the stadium for all cricket events and extends and complements the requirements dictated by Regulations. The Club maintains the prohibition of E-Cigarettes in anticipation of any further legal requirements. This extended prohibition continues to be universally accepted by our customers.

Risk Assessments

Generic Match Day Risk Assessments

The Safety Management Team constantly reviews all aspects of Risk Assessment at the stadium. However particular cognisance is paid prior to the start of each Cricket season to the Generic Risk Assessments for the forthcoming year and amendments are made where particular issues are highlighted.

Specific Match/Event Risk Assessments

As in the previous season, every match and event had specific risk assessments completed. These were published via the Electronic Management System to which Trafford Borough Council's Public Protection Department Officers have immediate access

The classification used for Risk Assessment is simple and accepted by both the police and Trafford Borough Council.

Risk Classification: **CS** – Lowest. **A** - Low. **B** - Medium. **C** - High.

All the events and matches attracted one of the above specific classifications.

Using the system of risk assessment and management prior to the commencement of the season, negotiations took place with the police on which games and events would attract a police presence. These were confirmed as follows:

The NatWest t20 Match between England and New Zealand, 23rd June 2015.

The 3rd and 5th Royal London One Day International fixtures between England and Australia on 8th and 13th September 2015.

As stated earlier in this document, both the Club and the local Police agreed that there was no requirement for a police presence during the NatWest t20 fixture between England and New Zealand, however, after considerable pressure from the ECB and National Police Coordination to employ Police, this was done at the expense of the ECB.



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Stadium Usage

A full complement of fixtures took place at Emirates Old Trafford. This included 7 LV=CC Division two fixtures with one game being played at Southport. The latter fixture does not form part of this report as not being under the control of Trafford Licensing. 2 Royal London One Day Cup fixtures were played at Emirates Old Trafford, a further two being played at Blackpool and Liverpool respectively. All 7 home games in the NatWest Blast t20 competition were played at Emirates Old Trafford.

The stadium arena was in use for a total of 44 days throughout the year for cricket matches which are listed below.

Cricket Events

The calendar year saw a varied programme of cricket games at Emirates Old Trafford with the total number of days allocated being 45. One game concluded a day early reducing the days of use to 44 for cricket events

The weather was not as friendly as the previous year with only 22 full days of play being held at Emirates Old Trafford with the others either being delayed or interrupted by rain.

The continued regulation from the ECB to allow the use of floodlights during LV=CC games assisted in allowing 10 days play to progress when otherwise they may have been further curtailed by bad light.

NatWest t20, England v New Zealand

This game was played on Tuesday 23rd June 2015.

The entire stadium was made available for occupation by customers including the temporary structure nominated as D stand housing in excess of 2,000 persons.

A total of 15,672 persons attended the fixture.

A police presence was employed totalling 8 officers of various ranks and designated duties. No arrests were made.

Due to the nature of the event and the requirements of the ECB a large stewarding presence was employed for this game although spectator behaviour was excellent. Only 2 persons were ejected during the event, for breach of the Conditions of Entry, anti-social behaviour issues.

No persons were treated by the medical team during the event



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3rd and 5th Royal London One Day Internationals, England v Australia

These games were played on Tuesday 8th and Sunday 13th September 2015.

The entire stadium was again made available for spectator occupation on these days, D stand having been extended to host in excess of 5,500 spectators.

The games passed without incident. 17 persons were treated by 1st Aid personnel during the 3rd ODI and 12 during the 5th, all for minor ailments although one person was taken to hospital during the 3rd ODI for observations after a suspected TIA. He was subsequently released and allowed to go home.

The Stewarding operation responded to the requirements of the ICC and ECB and their presence prevented any breaches of the protocols required by the governing bodies. 5 persons were ejected for breaches of the Conditions of Entry during the 3rd ODI with 1 arrest for possession of a Class A drug, No persons were ejected from the ground during the 5th ODI.

A police presence was employed on both these days.

Domestic Cricket Events

Throughout the 2015 season, Lancashire County Cricket Club took part in the domestic Second Division of the League Championship (LV=CC), the Royal London One Day Cup (RLODC) and the NatWest Blast t20 competition.

On the field of play things proved to be more successful than that of the previous season with promotion to the first division of the LV=CC being confirmed with two games still to play. The Championship eluded the team however with Lancashire finishing second to Surrey in the final table.

In the RL50 one day cup the team failed to emerge from the group stages.

In the NatWest Blast t20 Competition the team qualified through to Finals day and progressed to win the competition for the first time in the Clubs history.

Members Representative Group

The Board of Directors sanctioned the establishment of a Members Representative Group during the early days of the 2015 season and this was subsequently formed with appointed members representing the views of various sections of the membership, including the Disabled and Youth.

A number of meetings have been held by this group and subsequently between the Group and members of the Board and the Chief Executive and Operations team.

The group is in its infancy, but the benefits of a direct route between the management of the club and the members is being felt even at this early stage.



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Conclusions

Once again all those involved with the Stadium Safety Management have experienced an extremely busy, varied and challenging year.

The overall spectator attendance for cricket games hosted at the stadium in 2015 was 133,907.

Excluding international cricket matches the total attendance for domestic games was 83,268 spectators.

If we break down the attendances for the 2 One Day / Limited Overs competitions, we find that a total of 45,868 persons attended the t20 games and 4,529 the RLODC competition.

Both the stewarding and event day medical operations are constantly monitored to ensure that the exacting standards previously attained are maintained and, where possible, further improved.

Liaison and co operation with the Local Authority, Police, Fire and Rescue, and Health Authorities continued and relationships are strong and areas of responsibility are clear.

The liaison with the local Police has continued to be strong and the sharing of information has proved to be advantageous to both parties. During 2015 the police, by agreement, were present the international fixtures. We continue our 'open door' policy for members of the management and Special Events Office to attend any fixture to monitor and advise as they see fit. We expect this arrangement to continue into and beyond the 2016 season.

11 persons were ejected from the ground during the season for a variety of breaches of the Conditions of Entry to the ground and Ground Regulations with one person being arrested, as outlined above, during the 3rd ODI game.

Throughout the Cricket season the medical team treated a total of 75 people during match days for injuries or illnesses. Only 3 of the total number needed to be referred to hospital for further treatment and all were subsequently released to their homes.

Responsibility for Fire Prevention and Safety Regulation on match days continues to be allocated to a dedicated team from within the 'In House' and G4S stewarding presence. This process has proved to be successful with no fire alarm activations during cricket games being recorded.

All fire fighting equipment is checked by this same team on match days supported by the security team on non-match days. This process ensures that all equipment is in place and fully serviceable. Records of these checks are made and kept. The fire alarm systems are checked weekly throughout the year to ensure their efficiency supported by unannounced drills.



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As previously mentioned training will always remain a foundation of the Lancashire County Cricket Club match day safety management policy.

Match day Incident Reports submitted by safety personnel add to the extensive match day information available to Lancashire County Cricket Club safety management ensuring effective monitoring, assessment and resolution, where necessary, of issues associated with spectator safety.

We continue with our commitment to sharing information with Trafford Borough Council and allow officers real time access to relevant sections of the Lancashire County Cricket Club Event Management Portal which allows the officials of the Council to interrogate information relating to events without the need to contact individuals at the Club. This process has focused the needs of both the Club and Trafford Borough Council to inform and direct improvements in safety and business development.

Sports Ground Safety Authority (SGSA)

The SGSA did not visit the stadium during the 2015 season having previously visited during the 2014 season and found that the facilities of the club to deal with the hoisting of major cricket matches being some of the best in the country.

Objective for 2016

The Safety Management team at Lancashire County Cricket Club has set the following objectives for 2016.

1. The successful hosting of domestic and International cricket to the expected capacity of up to 20,000 persons during the redevelopment phase of the Hilton Garden Inn, Emirates Old Trafford.
2. The successful hosting of major concert events during the year to the expected capacity of 50,000 persons during the redevelopment phase of the Hilton Garden Inn, Emirates Old Trafford.
3. Continued development of the Members Representative Group so that a firm liaison and purpose can be established to the benefit of the Club and members.

Daniel Gidney

Chief Executive Officer
Lancashire County Cricket Club Limited

