



POLICY/PROCEDURE	Academy Match Day Policy
DATE OF CREATION	August 2, 2023
VERSION	1
DATE OF ISSUE	02/08/2023
DATE OF REVIEW	31/07/2024 The Policy will also be reviewed following a major incident, organisational or key legislative change ahead of this date.

This policy has been designed on the back of safeguarding concerns around unauthorised personnel attending Doncaster Rovers U18s matches without seeking relevant permissions.

The policy has been developed in conjunction with the English Football League to ensure the Football Club is delivering the best practice when it comes to safeguarding children within its premises on a matchday.

Detailed match protocols will be sent to away teams prior to any fixtures. It is expected within the spirit of this policy that they should play their own part in the safeguarding of all children and young people present.

All permanent casual and volunteer staff will be briefed on the policy and will be expected to ensure that this is adhered to on match day and any other deemed day. All have an active part in this policy to check and challenge persons attending all match venues. Any issues should be reported to the Academy Safeguarding Officer, who will make the decision on persons remaining in the vicinity.

**Player families and friends**

Families and friends of players are permitted to attend fixtures, but must use the external toilets and not enter the main building at the Hooper Homes Elite Performance Centre due to playing staff using the changing facilities inside the building. External toilets are available at the end of the car park.

Away clubs will be sent an online document to distribute to families and friends wishing to attend from their end. This must be completed within 24 hours before the fixture. The Academy Secretary will collate this information 24 hours before the fixture.

**Intermediaries, scouts and other Professional Representatives**

Individuals wanting to attend must email the Academy Secretary before 12pm on the last working day before a fixture, as per EFL's YD Rule 234.1, to request permission to attend.

Intermediaries and scouts must be verified by the Football Association and have relevant DBS' and safeguarding checks completed with their organisation.

Doncaster Rovers Football Club reserve the right to reject any requests without reason.

Games taking place at Cantley Park with age groups under the age of 16 will not allow the formal entrance of agents, and any person found to be on site during this time will be asked to leave the vicinity of the game.



### **Accredited Media Personnel**

Accredited journalists wishing to attend the game must seek permission from the Academy Secretary and Communications team in order to attend a fixture. Further permission must be sought from the club to speak to either management, coaches or players.

Doncaster Rovers Football Club reserve the right to reject journalist's requests to attend or to interview club personnel on a youth team matchday.

### **Away games**

It is at the discretion of the away club on their spectator policies. What will we do then to make our players safe, you mentioned this previously.

All permanent casual and volunteer staff will be briefed on the policy and will be expected to ensure that this adhered to on matchday and any other deemed day. All have an active part in this policy to check and challenge persons attending all match venues. Any issues should be reported to the Academy Safeguarding Officer, who will make the decision on persons remaining in the vicinity.



## **Eco-Power Stadium**

### **Player families and friends**

Families and friendlies of players are permitted to attend fixtures, but must use the external toilets to the right of the CDA entrance and not go past the main reception in CDA. For refreshments, the club recommends attending the Foundation Fitness gym reception.

### **Intermediaries Scouts & Other Professional Representatives**

Individuals wanting to attend must email the Academy Secretary before 12pm on the last working day before a fixture, as per EFL's YD Rule 234.1, to request permission to attend.

Scouts must be verified by the Football Association and have relevant DBS' and safeguarding checks completed with their organisation.

Doncaster Rovers Football Club reserve the right to any requests without reason.

For games that are taking place below the U16 group we do not authorise the attendance of agents at the game. They will be asked to leave site.

For U18 games intermediaries are not permitted access to players or the pitch area.

### **Journalists**

Accredited journalists wishing to attend the game must seek permission from the Academy Secretary and Communications team in order to attend a fixture. Further permission must be sought from the club to speak to either management, coaches or players.

Doncaster Rovers Football Club reserve the right to reject journalist's requests to attend or to interview club personnel on a youth team matchday.