

To: GENERAL PURPOSES (LICENSING) SUB-COMMITTEE		Subject: SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS: CERTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS – EXCELSIOR STADIUM, AIRDRIE
From: DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION		
Date: 11 SEPTEMBER 2002	Ref: CA/GP/16 JM	

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Council has, at a series of earlier meetings, adopted practices in relation to its responsibilities for the certification of “Designated Grounds” in North Lanarkshire and agreed to the establishment of a Safety of Sports Grounds Officer Working Group representing a variety of disciplines which assists the process of certification.
- 1.2 The Council has also agreed that a programme of annual inspections be established and, over the past few months, Officers of the Working Group have carried out a series of inspections at Excelsior Stadium and have met with representatives from stadium management to discuss a number of issues relating to the General Safety Certificate for the Stadium.

2 Current Position

- 2.1 As a result of these inspections the undernoted matters have been identified as requiring attention, details of which have been passed to the Stadium Manager:-
 - 2.1.1 A Certificate of structural integrity in respect of the entire stadium to be submitted (including reference to blockwork at rear of Main Stand which is cracking at lines A/B, D/E and E/F);
 - 2.1.2 A Periodic Inspection Report on the electrical installations to be submitted;
 - 2.1.3 The system of emergency lighting should be tested to determine which bulbs require replacement;
 - 2.1.4 An annual Risk Assessment to be submitted
 - 2.1.5 One lock nut on base of south-west floodlight pylon has not been turned down;
 - 2.1.6 The centre saw-cut joint in the concrete ground floor slab of the South Stand has opened up due to shrinkage of the slab and may now form a trip hazard;
 - 2.1.7 In the North stand the blockwork around the low end on the main steel floor beam has cracked;
 - 2.1.8 The external tannoy on East Stand is inoperative;
 - 2.1.9 The turnstile counter is faulty and does not provide total figures for spectators in each stand;

- 2.1.10 The automatic fire shutters enclosing the catering kiosks do not fully operate upon operation of the fire warning system;
- 2.1.11 Obstruction and storage of materials to be removed from concourse of North Stand;
- 2.1.12 Combustible material within unenclosed storage area within East Stand to be removed;
- 2.1.13 The door opening leading to the Press Rest area within the East Stand to be protected by a self-closing fire door which provides a minimum standard of FD30S;
- 2.1.14 The fire warning system should be extended to provide an additional smoke detector within the Press Rest area, fully compliant with BS5839, Part 1, 1988;
- 2.1.15 Combustible storage within 3 emergency stairs of West Stand to be removed;
- 2.1.16 Self closing devices require to be adjusted at (a) Level 3 at the entrance to the accommodation stair, and (b) Level 1 within the corridor at the Physiotherapy room;
- 2.1.17 Fire resistant glazing in the fire door between the corridor and players tunnel to be repaired;
- 2.1.18 All annual test certificates to be made available for inspection;
- 2.1.19 Arrangements should be made to service all fire fighting equipment immediately, and, thereafter, the equipment to be maintained at intervals of not more than one year, and
- 2.1.20 Records of Stewards training to be made available.

3 Recommendation

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee hear verbal updates on these outstanding issues by the appropriate officers and representations from Airdrieonians Football Club's Stadium Manager and consider the renewal of the General Safety Certificate.


Director of Administration

Should any Member require further information please contact John Murray of the Department of Administration at extension 2259.