



We copy what we see let's make our sport smoke free





FARINGDON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB



Smoking & Vaping policy

OXFORDSHIRE SMOKEFREE SIDELINES IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE OXFORDSHIRE FA, BERKS AND BUCKS FA, ACTIVE OXFORDSHIRE, OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND THE COUNTIES' LOCAL YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUES.

We aim to introduce a culture of smokefree sidelines across Oxfordshire to encourage harm reduction to those exposed to smoking. Children and young people are at risk the more they are exposed to smoke and the acceptance of smoking/vaping in our society. Furthermore, young people are most at risk of becoming smokers themselves if they grow up in communities where smoking/vaping is the norm. The aim of smokefree sidelines is to change social norms and work to prevent the uptake of smoking/vaping in young people. One approach to address this is to promote outside spaces used by children and young people as voluntary smokefree areas.

Smoking remains the biggest cause of preventable deaths in Oxfordshire and is known to increase health inequalities within our society. Smoking often starts as a childhood addiction and evidence has shown that most adult smokers started smoking at a young age.

The move for clubs to adopt a smokefree sidelines policy complements existing club policies or supports your club's desire to create a healthy family-friendly environment. We believe that such an environment and image will be advantageous in attracting new members and positively promoting the club within your local community.

A survey of local youth football clubs found that 86% thought that smoking on the sidelines where young people play and train is not acceptable and 85% felt it negatively impacted their enjoyment of the game. Two key reasons for not asking a fellow supporter not to smoke on the sideline was that there was a lack of a policy and signage.

Together with Oxfordshire Football Association and youth leagues we aim to:

- Work collectively and individually, to promote smokefree sidelines in order to provide healthy, safe places that give everyone a chance to perform at their best in their chosen sport or activity.
- To educate members of your club including children and young people about the dangers of smoking and the short and long term health consequences of smoking.

Adopting smokefree sidelines is not about targeting smokers unfairly, but more asking current smokers to be aware of their visibility to children who may see them smoking. The idea is to encourage smokers to either refrain from smoking during the match or to move away from the side lines and smoke where children and young adults are not present. As a sports club involved in creating positive environments for wellbeing, we want to support our members and supporters who want to consider quitting. This is done through on-going promotion and developing as active role models to the children and young people involved in our club

For more information or support to quit smoking in Oxfordshire please visit www.stopforlifeoxon.org or www.nhs.uk/smokefree

Alternatively, phone 0800 122 3790, or text STOPOXFORD to 60777

Children copy what adults do. 886 children start smoking each year in Oxfordshire and 10.1% of young people under the age of 17 smoke regularly.

Two thirds of smokers started smoking as children, before realising how hard it is to quit and when they are most vulnerable to the addictive properties of nicotine. Children growing up in smoking households are three times more likely to become smokers themselves.

In a small local survey 40% of primary school children in year 7 and 8 lived in a home where someone smoked. Nationally, 62% of pupils reported being exposed to second hand smoke in the home or in a car.

Research shows that children and young people who see adults using tobacco think that smoking is more common than it actually is. Smoking in sight of children and young people can lead them to believe that it is normal, acceptable, or OK to smoke.

Vaping is a safer option, but we have seen a very sharp increase in children vaping - particularly disposable vapes. NHS figures for 2021 showed that 9% of 11- to 15-year-old children used e-cigarettes, up from 6% in 2018. That's a rapidly rising trend we need to stop.

Whether it's disposable vapes marketed to kids with bright colours, or low prices, or cartoon characters or child-friendly flavours - or indeed products being sold that don't meet our rules on content.

Today we step up our efforts at **Faringdon Town Football Club** and by all our **club members** to stop kids getting hooked on Smoking and vaping.

This policy is designed to protect all our members from the dangers of inhaling smoke or other fumes linked to **smoking/vaping** and to comply with smoke free legislation.

Signage is displayed to inform club members, visiting players, other visitors, contractors etc. of the Club's Non-Smoking/Vaping Policy within the club and on the side lines.

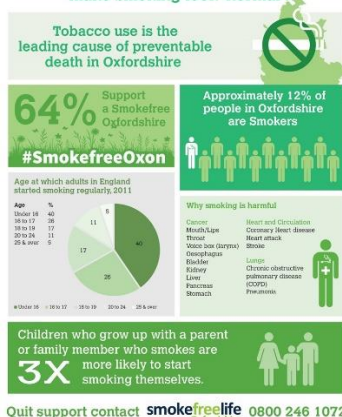
This Policy in Compliance with Health & Safety Regulations and Sport England

- Club members, visiting players, spectators, and any other person(s) are required **NOT** to **SMOKE** or **VAPE** within the Club house on the sidelines or in view of any children.
- The designated area set aside for smoking or vaping is on the patio area. Where you will find that Bins are provided for the extinguishing of cigarette ends and we would ask any smokers to please use these and not to discard their cigarette ends on the floor. Any empty Vapes please take these home and dispose of them in a safe manner **DO NOT** place these in any bins as they may cause a fire.

#smokefreesidelines

Why parents and other spectators are being asked to refrain from smoking tobacco or e-cigarettes when watching youth football...

Kids copy behaviour. Please don't make smoking look 'normal'.



**No
smoking
or vaping
on these
premises**