



Accident & Emergency Statement

Issue 1

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Our Commitment to Safety

Hitchin Netball Club is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and well-managed environment for all players, volunteers, officials, and spectators. The health, safety, and wellbeing of young people are central to everything we do.

This statement explains, at a high level, how accidents, injuries, and medical emergencies are managed during Club activities. It sits alongside our wider safeguarding, welfare, and health & safety framework.

Scope

This statement applies to all Hitchin Netball Club activities, including:

- Training sessions
- Matches and fixtures
- Tournaments, camps, and events
- Club trips and tours
- Any other activity organised or authorised by the Club

It applies to all players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and visitors attending Club activities.

Supervision and First Aid

- All sessions are supervised by appropriately qualified coaches or volunteers.
- First aid provision is available at Club activities in line with England Netball guidance.
- Coaches and volunteers are trained to respond appropriately to accidents and emergencies and to seek further assistance when required.

In the Event of an Accident or Injury

If an accident or injury occurs during a Club activity, the following principles apply:

- The situation will be assessed promptly and calmly.
- Appropriate first aid will be provided where required.
- For serious injuries or medical emergencies, emergency services will be contacted immediately.
- The injured person will not be asked to continue participating if it is unsafe to do so.
- The rest of the group will be supervised and kept safe.

Medical Emergencies

Emergency services will be called without delay if there is:

- A serious injury
- Loss of consciousness or collapse
- Breathing difficulty
- Any situation where urgent medical attention is required

The Club will always prioritise the safety and wellbeing of the individual over continuing play.

Parental / Carer Communication

- Parents or carers will be informed as soon as reasonably possible if their child is injured, unwell, or requires medical attention.
- For head injuries or suspected concussion, parents/carers will receive specific guidance on monitoring and next steps, in line with Club policy.
- Players will only return to activity following injury when it is safe and appropriate to do so.

Accident and Incident Reporting

- All accidents and incidents, regardless of severity, are recorded by the Club.
- Records are kept securely and reviewed to support ongoing safety and risk management.
- Serious incidents may be reported to England Netball and the Club's insurers in line with national guidance.

This process helps the Club identify trends, improve safety arrangements, and ensure appropriate follow-up action is taken.

Head Injuries and Concussion

Hitchin Netball Club takes head injuries and concussion extremely seriously.

- Any player with a suspected head injury or concussion will be immediately removed from activity.
- The player will not return to play on the same day.
- Parents/carers will be informed promptly and provided with guidance.
- Return to play will follow the Club's Head Injury & Concussion Policy and recognised medical guidance.

Safeguarding and Welfare

If an accident, injury, or incident raises a safeguarding or welfare concern:

- It will be managed in line with the Club's Safeguarding Policy.
- Appropriate action will be taken to protect those involved.
- Concerns will be escalated and reported where required.

Continuous Review and Improvement

The Club regularly reviews accidents and incidents to:

- Identify potential risks
- Update risk assessments
- Improve safety procedures
- Support training and awareness for coaches and volunteers

This helps ensure we maintain a safe environment for all participants.

Related Policies:

This statement should be read alongside the following Club policies:

- Safeguarding Policy Statement
- Player Welfare and Support Policy
- Head Injury & Concussion Policy
- Codes of Conduct

These documents are available on the Club website.