

## **Executive Instruction regarding pitch usage**

### **PdeB and Silverpark**

#### **(Detailed PdeB guidelines attached)**

### **Common sense is required to protect our pitches**

Our pitches in Pairc deBurca and Silver Park are, according to external experts and our own grounds team, **necessarily massively** overused by any standard applied to the use of grass pitches in Ireland. This results, as we all know, in damage and unplayability on occasions throughout the year with all the inconvenience and disruption to teams and members that involves.

We have invested hugely (**timing of which was never on our side and members have sacrificed a lot over recent years to make it happen**) in drainage and repairs at both venues this year at great inconvenience and disruption to players and teams and sections across the club. The result of this investment should be much better drainage in Pdeb, better goalmouths on all pitches, better surfaces on the most used elements of pitches in all venues and the full repair of the most damaged patches in Silver Park.

In order to protect our pitches into the future for all of our teams and sections the Executive has decided that the following simple rules shall apply to all training:

- **No drills/warm ups to be carried out inside the 21-yard line or on any damaged patches on any of the three pitches – this means for example that continued practicing of penalties on a damaged penalty spot will cause further damage to the point of unplayability.**
- **When possible drills/warm ups must be carried out off the pitch in PdeB on the clubhouse side area between the steps and the hurling arena.**
- **When possible drills/warm ups to be carried out in Silver Park off the pitch on Silver Park 2 and on the now restored area in the racecourse corner beyond Silver Park 2.**
- **The temporary goals to be set up for training where matches or scoring drills are happening to the left or right of the existing goals so as to remove unnecessary wear and tear from our goalmouths.**

**Common sense and respect for our pitches is  
a vital responsibility of us all.**

## Specific Guidelines for use of Pairc de Burca

Pairc deBurca represents a very significant investment by all of our members. We must respect this facility and we need the cooperation of Team Managers, Coaches and Players to be aware of and adhere to follow the guidelines:

1. In advance of any game the Manager/Coach must satisfy himself or herself that the pitch is free from all hazards/traps i.e. glass, wire, cans, holes, etc., before each game is played.
2. The Manager /Coach must ensure any litter generated by the club and spectators is removed from the pitch and surrounding areas after each match/training session.
3. It is the Managers'/Coaches' responsibility to escalate to the club any serious or Health & Safety issues regarding the pitch surface or goalposts that they may become aware of, such as but not limited to faulty goalposts, heavily worn or presence of deep divots etc.
4. Tape is NOT to be used on goalposts where clips are provided. Pitches and perimeter areas are to be left clean and tidy after play.
5. All portable and demountable goalposts must be secured with the steel pins provided
6. Upon completion of the game the Manager must ensure that mobile goal posts are brought to the storage area of the pitch and stores facing inwards on each other and securely locked.
7. No person should be allowed to climb or swing on the goals
8. Managers and coaches must open dressing rooms and inspect that the rooms are clean and tidy before and after.
9. Open pitch gate and inspect that the pitch is in good order and after the match.
10. Flag the pitch using the flags in the flag bin and remove after completion of the match
11. Install the nets into their correct position and rehang after the match.
12. Manager / coach must lock up the pitch after each match/training session.
13. Each team management are fully responsible for pitch activities for their allocated slot
14. On wet days, traffic to the pitch and side-lines should be limited to team mentors, players, and subs.
15. All teams' warmups must be carried out on the off-pitch areas.
16. No goalkeeping drills allowed on the main goals, cross pitch goals to be used. A net can be installed and / or a temporary portable goal can be arranged if requested in advance.
17. The pitch watering system is not to be interfered at any time. This is a high-pressure water watering system and unauthorized use may result in serious injury or damage to this expensive equipment. This is always under the control of the ground section.

### **The pitch lights**

18. The training light lights stay on for one hour only with the relevant code
19. The match pitch lights have 2 codes, one for turning on and one for turning off. It is the responsibility of the team manager to manage this.
20. If the training code is on, it cannot be overridden by the match codes until the training code hour has been timed out.
21. Training and match slots must be pre booked through section rep on pitch allocation group.
22. No individual training is allowed.
23. Goal Guards must not be interfered with. Where goal guards are to be removed that must be flagged in advance to the pitch allocation group.