



Policy 07 Medical Checks

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Circulation: All club personnel and Club website Policy Section

Rationale

All players registering to play for MPYFC (or Associate Members) are asked to provide details of medical conditions that their child may have. Any medication they may be taking is also required. It is however, what we do with this information that is important.

Assessing Risk

MPYFC team personnel are not medically trained and cannot be expected to determine the risks associated with medical conditions and playing football. For this reason, the burden of assessing such a risk lies with the family. However, there are certain steps that we can take in order to ensure players remain safe and that the club adopts a best practice approach to minimising risk.

The condition

Some common conditions will be familiar such as Asthma and allergies and in these circumstances, managers should ensure they take the correct precautions:

- In the case of Asthma, the child always brings their medication (inhaler) and that the parent is either present at all matches or has consented to allow the team official to oversee the child taking their medication the should they need it.
- In the case of allergies (particularly severe nut allergies) that this is communicated to other team members and parents so that foods containing such allergens are not brought into contact with the player concerned.

There will, however be uncommon conditions listed on the enrolment form with which team officials are completely unfamiliar. In such cases it is very important that the Team Manager speaks with a parent to find out more about the condition and how playing football may affect their condition. For example you could ask the following questions:

- Tell me a little bit more about this condition as I have never come across it before.
- What does it mean for the child when involved in strenuous exercise or sport?
- Has his/her condition previously led to any kind of adverse reaction to playing football or sport?
- What does their doctor say about them taking part in football? Do they offer any advice?
- Will you be present at games and training?
- Are you happy for me to rest your child if I feel their condition is being affected by the game?
- Is there anything further that you think I need to know?
- Are you happy for me to share this information with the other team officials?

Having plans in place

As a result of the conversation with the parent, be sure to make plans for the possibility that the child may have an acute adverse reaction to playing.

If you feel the need to speak further with someone about a condition that you have encountered on the enrolment form, please contact Alan Jackson, Club Welfare Officer 07773 372905
AJackson@mpyfc.co.uk