

Football Club Licence

Comments from Alex Bray on behalf of Liphook United Football Club.

The club is naturally very keen to agree a new lease, if possible, with the council, as trustees over the land at the Recreation Ground. I have reviewed the expiring lease and would respectfully like to request the following amendments:

- 1) The current lease allows for matches to be played on a Saturday OR Sunday. However, league rules require boys and men's games to be played on a different day to girls and ladies (Saturday and Sunday respectively). As such, in order for the club to be continue to be inclusive, we would like to request that the lease is amended so that games can be played on Saturdays AND Sundays so we can ensure that we can offer football to all.
- 2) The pitch layout appended to the expiring lease includes the area covered by the 11v11, 5v5 and 7v7 pitches. We would like to request that it also formally covers the 9v9 pitch that is currently used and marked out opposite the clubhouse.
- 3) The lease allows the club to play matches at the Recreation Ground from September to April. This is likely to cause a few issues, as so many games have been cancelled over winter due to the pitches being unplayable (the last game played by the club at the Recreation Ground was 3rd December). We would therefore like to extend the time frame, during which we are permitted to play matches, to cover the wider period August to May. This would ensure that league games postponed during the worst weather can be rearranged and played in May but also allow for a few pre-season friendlies towards the end of Summer, to give the competitive teams the best possible chance of starting the season well. I have discussed this with Dugg already and this would still give the pitches two months recovery time. If this causes any concern around overuse, I would suggest that we add a caveat that games in that window can only go ahead with the permission of the Grounds Manager.
- 4) The teams train at the Recreation Ground midweek when the light allows it. This is covered in the lease already, but we would like to request that it is amended slightly to allow for the occasional rearranged (or friendly) match midweek within the playing window above. In practice, I think this would be rare, and would again be happy to include the caveat 'with Grounds Managers permission' so that the situation can be monitored and any concerns regarding overuse addressed.