



RUNCORN SAXONS FC



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

**Club Chairperson**

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Shin Pad & Sports Glasses Safeguarding Policy

Effective Date: 21 July 2026

Applies To: All Players Aged Under 18

1. Policy Statement

Runcorn Saxons FC is fully committed to providing a safe and protective environment for all players involved in club activities. In response to a recent training ground incident, we are introducing a stricter shin pad policy as part of our safeguarding framework.

This policy is designed to reduce the risk of avoidable injuries and to ensure that all players under the age of 18 are wearing adequate protective equipment in accordance with Runcorn Saxons FC safety standards.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

All youth players registered with Runcorn Saxons FC (aged under 18)

All youth training sessions, matches, and official club activities

Parents, carers, coaches, and matchday volunteers involved in the youth section

3. Policy Requirements

3.1 Mandatory Shin Pad Use

- Shin pads must be worn at all times during training, friendlies and competitive fixtures
- Players arriving without shin pads will not be permitted to participate in any Runcorn Saxons FC on-field activity

3.2 Prohibited Equipment

- “Micro” or “Mini” shin pads are strictly prohibited for U18 players
- These types of pads have been assessed and deemed insufficient in providing adequate coverage and impact protection
- Any player found wearing non-compliant shin pads will be immediately withdrawn from play until suitable equipment is provided

3.3 Approved Shin Pads Must:

- Provide full coverage of the shinbone (from just above the ankle to below the knee)
- Be appropriately sized for the player's leg
- Carry a CE mark indicating compliance with European safety standards

3.4 Mandatory Sports Glasses Use:

- If players need to wear prescription lenses they must wear approved glasses or goggles for any club related activities.
- Polycarbonate Lenses: This is the most important property of all protective spectacles or goggles. Good polycarbonate is virtually unbreakable and will sustain the impact of a ball or finger.
- Runcorn Saxons FC will contribute £50 towards our players glasses to support parents with the cost - Contact the Treasury team for more information.

4. Responsibilities

Parents/Guardians are responsible for ensuring their child arrives fully equipped, including suitable shin pads and sports glasses. Coaches and Team Managers will not allow a child to engage in any activities if the child is not wearing appropriate shin pads or sports glasses.



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5. Enforcement

This policy will be enforced without exception. Continued non-compliance will result in temporary suspension from Runcorn Saxons FC activities until the issue is resolved.

6. Review and Updates

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Club Welfare Officer, or earlier if further FA guidance is issued.

7. Supporting Statement

Shin guards and, where required, approved sports glasses or goggles are mandatory items of a player's equipment and must provide adequate protection. Wearing shin guards that are incorrectly sized or unsafe, or failing to wear approved sports glasses or goggles when required, increases the risk of injury and does not comply with the Runcorn Saxons FC Safeguarding Framework.