

15 March 2004

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR CITY DEVELOPMENT
in respect of

Safety at Sports Grounds Act 1975
Fire Safety and Safety of Sports 1987 Pt 3
Regulated Stand, Harvey Hadden Stadium, Wigman Road, Bilborough,
Nottingham

1.0 SUMMARY

This report deals with the review of the General Safety Certificate of the regulated stand at the Harvey Hadden Stadium which is required to be reviewed every 4 years.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- a) reviews the General Safety Certificate for the regulated stand at Harvey Hadden in accordance with the requirements of the above legislation and permits a maximum capacity of 706 spectators for the purpose of watching athletics and
- b) that the Certificate 'holder' be named as Ms Kirsty Smith (Harvey Hadden Acting General Manager) and
- c) reviews the Certificate again in March 2008 and in the intervening period, Committee Members make annual visits to the premises during July each year, along with representatives of the Emergency Services.

3.0 BACKGROUND

On 1st April 1998, when Nottingham City Council became a Unitary Authority, the responsibility for issuing, reviewing and replacing Safety Certificates for appropriate sporting venues was transferred from Nottinghamshire County Council. The stand at Harvey Hadden Stadium is defined as a regulated stand requiring a Safety Certificate to enable spectators to watch athletics. The original General Safety Certificate was issued in July 1999, subject to the provision of contingency plans, full risk assessments, fire risk assessments, electrical certification and specified works of repair. All these matters were subsequently attended to. In November 2001, the Licensing Committee agreed that the Certificate be reviewed in March 2004 rather than August 2003 to coincide with the commencement of the athletics season.

4.0 PROPOSALS

The General Safety Certificate requires the 'holder', now to be Ms Kirsty Smith (Acting General Manager), to retain control over the whole and each part of the venue and to take all necessary precautions for the reasonable safety of spectators admitted to the regulated stand.

Details of the safety arrangements, precautions and management are specified in the schedules of the Certificate and are as follows:

Schedule A	Definitions
B	Staff and Crowd Control
C	First-Aid and Medical Facilities
D	Buildings, Structures and Installations
E	Fire Safety
F	Testing and Inspection by the Holder
G	Records and Certificates

In addition to the above detailed requirements, there are a number of appendices to the Certificate which cover the following:

- Deviations from the green guide
- Permitted number of spectators
- Specified activities
- Drawings
- Contingency plans, risk assessments and fire risk assessments

There is only one deviation from the green guide (4th Edition of the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds) and this concerns the seating row depth, which is 330mm whereas the preferred depth is 700mm. This deviation is considered inconsequential and will not impair the safe ingress or egress of spectators.

At present the running track and other athletic facilities are being replaced and upgraded and the work is not likely to be completed until June/July 2004 and as such, no events will take place until completed to the satisfaction of the City Council's Safety Advisor responsible for Leisure Services and Community Services, and upon the submission of satisfactory documentation as required by Schedule G.2.1 of the Safety Certificate.

5.0 LEGISLATION IMPLICATIONS

The relevant legislation requires a review of the General Safety Certificate for regulated stands every 4 years and unless the Committee approves the continuing use of the stand for a maximum permitted number of 706 spectators, the facility at the stadium cannot be used for spectating purposes.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

The venue does provide access and accommodation to enable spectators with mobility limitations to be accommodated safely and the works currently taking place will provide better access to track and field events for athletes of all abilities.

7.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

8.0 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None, other than the fact that over the past few years, the seating within the stand has been the subject of vandalism and arson attacks which the management have and are attempting to reduce by improved perimeter fencing and other security initiatives.

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