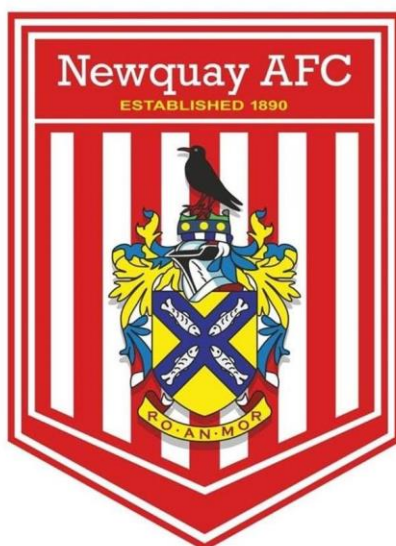


Newquay AFC

**SUPPORTING 16- AND 17-YEAR-OLD
PLAYERS IN OPEN AGED FOOTBALL**



Policy implemented and agreed by Committee	July 2025
Policy review due	July 2026

Newquay AFC is aware that there are many 16- and 17-year-old players looking to play in Open Aged Football.

This is a fantastic opportunity for these young players to progress and be challenged both technically and physically, however officials, managers and players must also recognise that these young players are still minors.

There are many ways that a club can ensure these young players are enjoying their football and stay at the club by playing football in a safe environment.

Newquay AFC are committed to:

- Adopting and adhering to the FA Safeguarding Policy whilst ensuring we have our own relevant Club policies in place.
- Ensuring all coaches and physios working with 16/17-year-olds are named and attached to the team on the Whole Game System.
- Ensuring that all coaches and physios working with 16/17-year-olds obtain an FA DBS check and undertake the relevant FA safeguarding training.
- The Manager/Coach speaking with the U18's player about their expectations of joining the team, including playing time and their role within the team.
- Ensuring that the young player feels comfortable in the changing room environment and explaining that if they do not wish to undress in the changing room they can arrive and depart wearing their playing kit.
- Mentoring any young players throughout the season and ensure that the other players on the team are mindful of the player's age when both on the pitch and in the changing room.
- Safeguarding U18's player at all times, but particularly during matches to ensure that he/she is not subjected to verbal or physical abuse by opposing players who are trying to intimidate them.
- Reporting any concerns to the match official and the County FA. Manager/Coach to make the match official aware that there is an U18 player on the team.

- Remembering by law U18's are not allowed to drink alcohol.
- We do not allow U18's to take part in any initiation (hazing) rituals.
- Thinking about the travel arrangements for both home and away matches for U18' players. Away travel for the majority of matches will be arranged by the Club in the form of minibus transport.
- Ensuring the Club have consent from parents and their emergency contact details for travel and use of any images in media/social media.
- In the event of an emergency, the Club will use your emergency contact details to call you, so please ensure you keep the Club up to date should this change.
- Providing each player with the FA 'Understanding your Rights' leaflet (included in this pack).

For further information or guidance on safeguarding or player welfare, or to provide feedback, please contact:

Emma Wright, Newquay AFC Safeguarding, Welfare and Compliance Officer.

Safeguarding.newquayafc@gmail.com

Or/and the Cornwall FA:

Claire Summers-Evans, Safeguarding Officer for the Cornwall FA.

claire.summers-evans@cornwallfa.com or phone 01208 262989