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| <b>SECTION</b>          | Inclusion and Safety               |
| <b>POLICY</b>           | Reporting Discrimination Procedure |
| <b>DATE OF CREATION</b> | February 2024                      |
| <b>VERSION</b>          | 2                                  |
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## 1. Purpose

Club Doncaster takes all forms of discrimination very seriously. In the event of any form of discriminatory behaviour happening during a game, whether on the pitch or from the stands, the Club has the following steps in place to execute in the event of such instances:

- The incident is reported to the match referee in the first instance.
- The referee should report the matter to the home Club's safety officer and the Police (if present) via the fourth official.
- The Police and safety officer should seek to identify the person/people responsible and take appropriate action while the match continues.
- If, after a reasonable amount of time, the problem continues, then the referee, in consultation with the Police and safety officer, may remove the players from the field of play and suspend the match. This will allow the Police and safety office a further opportunity to deal with the problem.
- Only if the matter cannot be dealt with satisfactorily, warnings having gone unheeded and the welfare of any of the participants, in terms of facing the threat of continued racism, homophobia or other abuse, the referee may consider abandoning the match.
- Any decision to suspend or abandon a match should be taken by the referee after full consultation with the Police, safety officer and where possible with the EFL Football Services Department or Duty Director.
- Where no Police are present in the stadium then initial decision-making responsibility falls on the safety officer, including informing the Police.

The protocol is discussed with both sets of players, managers and match officials before the start of each season and it is emphasised that reports of abuse are encouraged and will be taken seriously.

Any such incidents of discriminatory abuse are reported by the officials to the Football Association, with a decision then taken on whether further investigation is required. If at any time your Club became aware that any player or manager has received abuse based on race, sexual orientation, gender or religion in the stadium, during or after a fixture or on social media, please ensure that you speak to those affected.

You will then be in an informed position to provide welfare support and obtain any information relevant to bring the offender(s) to justice through Police involvement and to enable the club to take appropriate action against those responsible.

## **2. Reporting**

There are a number of methods for supporters to report an incident:

1. Report it to a steward or Police officer. Reporting incidents early helps clubs to take immediate action.
2. Confidentially report it via the Kick It Out App, available on IOS and Android.
3. Report it to Kick It Out on social media (@KickItOut), phone (0800 169 9414) or email ([info@kickitout.org](mailto:info@kickitout.org)).
4. Via the Kick It Out website form at – <https://www.kickitout.org/>
5. Text the direct service stating which block, row and seat you are sat in to 07825 012 850 stating either: foul language, smoking, racism, standing, homophobia, drinking, pyro. This can also be emailed to [edi@clubdoncaster.co.uk](mailto:edi@clubdoncaster.co.uk).