



THURLOW NUNN LEAGUE

GUIDE

TO THE

FA GROUND GRADINGS H, G, F AND E

FA Ground Grading references	FA Ground Grade H (Applicable to clubs at level 7 wishing to be promoted to level 6)	FA Ground Grade G (Applicable to clubs at level 6, i.e. Thurlow Nunn League Division One)	FA Ground Grade F (Applicable to clubs at level 5, i.e. Thurlow Nunn League Premier Division)	FA Ground Grade E (Applicable to clubs at level 5 wishing to be promoted to level 4,)
<p>1. GROUND</p> <p>It must be possible for spectators to view the match, either standing or seated, for the full length of at least 2 sides of the playing area. Where a side is designated as spectator-free, measures must be in place to ensure there is no unauthorised access.</p> <p>The location of the ground, in so far as its relation to the conurbation whose name the club bears, or is traditionally associated with, must meet with the approval of both The Football Association and the Board of Directors or Management Committee of the League of which it is in membership.</p>	<p>The ground must give an overall appearance and impression of being a football ground suitable for the National League System ("NLS")</p> <p>It must be possible for spectators to view the match, either standing or seated, for the full length of at least two sides of the playing area. Where one side is designated as spectator-free, measures must be in place to ensure that there is no unauthorised access.</p> <p>The location of the ground, in so far as its relation to the conurbation whose name the club bears, or is traditionally associated with, must meet with the approval of both The Football Association and the Board of Directors or Management Committee of the League of which it is in membership.</p> <p>The club must disclose plans and details of any proposed future move to a new stadium or of any significant alteration to the existing ground to both the League and The Football Association.</p>	<p>The ground must give an overall appearance and impression of being a football ground suitable for the National League System ("NLS")</p> <p>It must be possible for spectators to view the match, either standing or seated, for the full length of at least three sides of the playing area. Where one side is designated as spectator-free, measures must be in place to ensure that there is no unauthorised access.</p> <p>The location of the ground, in so far as its relation to the conurbation whose name the club bears, or is traditionally associated with, must meet with the approval of both The Football Association and the Board of Directors or Management Committee of the League of which it is in membership.</p> <p>The club must disclose plans and details of any proposed future move to a new stadium or of any significant alteration to the existing ground to both the League and The Football Association.</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade F</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade F</p>
<p>1.1 Security of Tenure</p>	<p>The club must demonstrate security of tenure as required by The Football Association and the League of which it is a member. (Standardised Rule 2.3.2)</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>
<p>1.2 Ground Share</p>	<p>Ground sharing is permitted in accordance with the provisions of individual league rules and the Regulations for the Establishment and Operation of the National League System.</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>
<p>1.3 Capacity</p>	<p>There is no minimum safe capacity, but clubs should be mindful that the minimum requirement for Grade E is 1000.</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>The ground must have a minimum safe capacity of 1,000, calculated by a competent person in accordance with the guidance given in the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds.</p>

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1.4 Boundary of Ground	<p>The ground must be enclosed by a boundary, not necessarily of a permanent nature. As a general rule, the minimum height, when measured from outside the ground, should be 1.83 metres.</p> <p>It should be noted that at higher grades (E and above) the boundary fence should be of a construction to prevent viewing from outside the ground.</p>	<p>The ground must be enclosed by a permanent boundary. As a general rule, the minimum height, when measured from outside the ground, should be 1.83 metres.</p> <p>It should be noted that at higher grades (E and above) the boundary fence should be of a construction to prevent viewing from outside the ground.</p> <p>Where any side of the ground is bounded by private land/property, the fixed boundary of that private land/property maybe acceptable as the boundary of the ground.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade G	<p>The ground must be enclosed by a permanent boundary that prevents spectators from viewing the game from outside the ground. The boundary must be of sound construction of pre-cast concrete, brick, breeze block or metal cladding with steel or concrete posts and be of a minimum height of 1.83 metres as measured from outside the ground.</p> <p>Whilst lapped timber, latch panel wood fences and wire mesh fences with wooden posts might be acceptable, hedges, shrubs and/or trees will not normally be accepted.</p> <p>Where any side of the ground is bounded by private land/property, the fixed boundary of that private land/property maybe acceptable as the boundary of the ground.</p>
1.5 Clubhouse	<p>There must be a clubhouse facility either on the ground or in the near vicinity and which must be open on match days to provide refreshments to spectators. NB for Grade G and above, the clubhouse, if not on the ground, must be immediately adjacent to it.</p>	<p>There must be a clubhouse facility either on or adjacent to the ground, which must be open on match days to provide refreshments to spectators.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade G	<p>There must be a clubhouse facility either on or adjacent to the ground, which must be open on match days to provide refreshments to spectators and visiting Players, Officials and Match Officials, unless provided for elsewhere in the ground.</p>
1.6 Car Parking	<p>There should be adequate car parking facilities either on or adjacent to the ground. Car parking within the ground may not be acceptable.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
1.7 Pitch Perimeter Barrier	<p>Subject to the provisions detailed below, there must be a permanent fixed barrier ideally 1.1 metres high measured from the spectator side of the pitch, of sound construction (e.g. concrete and steel) and free from sharp edges surrounding the pitch on all sides that may be occupied by spectators. Existing barriers/rails not at 1.1 metres high may be acceptable (but see Ground Grading doc Appendix 1.7).</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H

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Pitch Perimeter Barrier (cont)	<p>The barrier, if other than solid wall construction, may be infilled. Advertising boards are acceptable for this purpose.</p> <p>There must be a minimum of 1.83 metres, ideally 2 metres, between the playing surface and the pitch perimeter barrier.</p> <p>Immediately in front of an area of seated accommodation, the boundary of the playing area may be indicated by means other than a permanent fixed barrier, provided the Club is able to provide assurances that no spectator be allowed to stand in this area to watch the match.</p>			(A minimum of 2.25 metres is required at Grade A.)
1.8 Pitch Standards	<p>The playing surface must be grass, unless otherwise authorised by the Competition's Board of Directors or Management Committee, must be of the highest possible standard. It must be level and free from surface depressions and excessive undulations.</p> <p>The maximum slope allowable shall not exceed an even gradient of vertical to horizontal 1: 41 in any direction.</p> <p>The playing surface must be maintained to a standard acceptable to the competition in which the club is playing or seeks to play.</p> <p>3G football turf</p> <p>3G football turf may only be used provided conditions (i) to (v) below have been met (the "Performance Standard"):</p> <p>(i) The pitch must be surfaced with 3G football turf that has laboratory type approval according to the FIFA Quality Concept for Football Turf (2012 & 2015 editions) – FIFA Recommended One Star/Quality level.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H

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	<p>(ii) The 3G football turf pitch must be listed on The Association's register of 3G football turf pitches by no later than 31 July and tested annually at the Club's expense.</p> <p>(iii) Where a 3G football turf pitch is not yet listed on The Association's register (for example if it is a newly installed pitch), a Club must obtain a Performance Test Certificate or Laboratory report and submit it to The Association by no later than 31 July.</p> <p>(iv) The Association reserves the right to instruct a Club to have its pitch tested at any time in order to ensure that it meets the Performance Standard. All such tests shall be at the Club's expense.</p> <p>(v) The 3G football turf, including run-offs, shall be one continuous playing surface and shall be green in colour at least one metre from the outer edge of the touchline and goal line. All line markings shall be in accordance with the Laws of Association Football.</p>			
1.9 Playing Area	<p>The playing area must be a minimum of 100 metres x 64 metres and must conform to the requirements of the Laws of the Game.</p> <p>Goalposts and net supports must be of professional manufacture and conform to the current safety requirements and to the Laws of the Game.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
1.10 Technical Area	<p>Two covered trainers boxes clearly marked "Home" and "Away" (or "Visitors") must be provided unless adequate provision is made in a seated stand. They must be on the same side of the pitch ideally either side of the halfway line, ideally both equidistant from it, and ideally a minimum of 3</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	<p>Two covered trainers boxes clearly marked "Home" and "Away" (or "Visitors") must be provided unless adequate provision is made in a seated stand. They must be on the same side of the pitch ideally either side of the halfway line, ideally both equidistant from it, and ideally a minimum of 3</p>

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Technical Area (cont)	<p>metres apart and should provide an unobstructed view of the playing area.</p> <p>When new boxes are being constructed or installed, they must be on each side of the half way line, equidistant from it and a minimum of 3 metres apart.</p> <p>Each box should accommodate at least 8 persons on fixed seats or benches. Where bench seating is provided, a minimum of 0.5 metre must be allowed for each person (i.e. 8 persons require a minimum of 4 metres).</p> <p>Portable trainers' boxes are permitted and must be fixed securely when in use.</p> <p>A technical area must be marked out, in accordance with the guidance contained in the 'Laws of the Game' booklet.</p>			<p>metres apart and should provide an unobstructed view of the playing area.</p> <p>When new boxes are being constructed or installed, they must be on each side of the half way line, equidistant from it and a minimum of 3 metres apart.</p> <p>Each box should accommodate at least 8 persons on fixed seats or benches. Where bench seating is provided, a minimum of 0.5 metre must be allowed for each person (i.e. 8 persons require a minimum of 4 metres).</p> <p>(This increases to 11 persons at Grade B.)</p> <p>Portable trainers' boxes are permitted and must be fixed securely when in use.</p> <p>A technical area must be marked out, in accordance with the guidance contained in the 'Laws of the Game' booklet.</p>
1.11 Secure Walkway	<p>There must be a safe, unimpeded passage for players and match officials between their dressing rooms and the pitch.</p> <p>The design of the safe walkway will inevitably differ from ground to ground and it will rarely guarantee the safe passage of players and match officials unless supplemented by stewards. A club should implement procedures appropriate to the particular structure and be ready to respond to on the field situations which might affect spectator behaviour.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	<p>There must be a safe, unimpeded passage for players and match officials between their dressing rooms and the pitch.</p> <p>The use of protection designed products such as permanent structures or retractable tunnels to separate players and spectators is recommended.</p> <p>The design of the safe walkway will inevitably differ from ground to ground and it will rarely guarantee the safe passage of players and match officials unless supplemented by stewards. A club should implement procedures appropriate to the particular structure and be ready to respond to on the field situations which might affect spectator behaviour.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade F

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1.12 Floodlighting	<p>Floodlights must be provided to an average lux reading of 120. No single reading can be less than one quarter of the highest reading.</p> <p>Reading shall be on a grid of 88 markings (8 across, 11 down) evenly spaced with the outside readings falling on the pitch boundary line. The average of all the readings is taken to be the average illumination level in lux of the floodlighting installation</p> <p>The lux values must be tested every two years in accordance with the current guidelines by an approved independent contractor. Floodlights must be retested after any significant alterations. Existing certification will be accepted provided that the test was carried out within the last two years unless work has been carried out at the ground which may have affected previous readings.</p> <p>An example of an "approved" contractor is one which is in possession of the NICEIC (National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting) Approved Contractors Award or ISO 9000/BS 5750 (International Standards/British Standards) or is a member of the Electrical Contractors' Association. Alternatively, it can be a contractor deemed acceptable by the league.</p> <p>The contractor must, when detailing the lux values, give confirmation in writing of the date when the illumination test equipment used was last calibrated.</p> <p>When new or improved installations are being planned, an average lux reading of 180 should be provided.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>Floodlights must be provided to an average lux reading of 120. No single reading can be less than one quarter of the highest reading so as to ensure an even spread of light.</p> <p>Reading shall be on a grid of 88 markings evenly spaced with the outside readings falling on the pitch boundary line. The average of all the readings is taken to be the average illumination level in lux of the floodlighting installation.</p> <p>The certificate must have been issued no more than six months prior to the application.</p> <p>An "approved" contractor is one which is in possession of the NICEIC (National Inspection Council for Electrical Installation Contracting) Approved Contractors' award or ISO 9000/BS 5750 (International Standards Organisation/British Standard) or is a member of the Electrical Contractors' Association.</p> <p>The contractor must, when detailing the lux values, give confirmation in writing of the date when the illumination test equipment used was last calibrated.</p> <p>When new or improved installations are being planned, an average lux reading of at least 180 must be provided.</p>
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1.13 Public Address System.	A public address system is not compulsory for this Grade, but clubs should be mindful that it may be necessary to convey information to spectators in the event of an emergency.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	A public address system must be provided which is clearly audible in all those areas of the ground which can be occupied by spectators.	Same as FA Ground Grade F
1.13 Entrances	<p>There must be at least 1 fully operational turnstile (which must be of the revolving type) or a pay box where a charge for entry to the ground can be taken. In both cases a grille or similar for the payment window and a lock that can be operated from inside must be incorporated.</p> <p>It must be possible to gain access to the spectator viewing areas from the turnstiles via a bound surface to a minimum width of 0.9 metre.</p>	<p>There must be at least 1 fully operational turnstile (which must be of the revolving type) or a pay box where a charge for entry to the ground can be taken. In both cases a grille or similar for the payment window and a lock that can be operated from inside must be incorporated.</p> <p>Electronic turnstiles with bar code readers are also acceptable but an emergency procedure must be in place in the event of a power failure.</p> <p>Adequate protection and security must be incorporated for the turnstile operator or, where tickets are sold from a box office, the cashier.</p> <p>It must be possible to gain access to the spectator viewing areas from the turnstiles via a bound surface to a minimum width of 0.9 metre.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade G	<p>There must be at least 2 spectator entrances to control the ingress of spectators. These must be controlled by fully operational turnstiles of the revolving type and must be suitably housed and lit. A grille or similar for the payment window and a lock that can be operated from inside must be incorporated.</p> <p>Electronic turnstiles with bar code readers are also acceptable but an emergency procedure must be in place in the event of a power failure.</p> <p>Adequate protection and security must be incorporated for the turnstile operator or, where tickets are sold from a box office, the cashier.</p> <p>It must be possible to gain access to the spectator viewing areas from the turnstiles via a bound surface to a minimum width of 0.9 metre.</p>
1.15 Exits	<p>All exits must be clearly signed, ideally with "running man" signs, and are to be kept clear and free from obstructions. (For further information, reference should be made to the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds.)</p> <p>There must be access via a bound surface to all exits from the nearest spectator viewing areas.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H

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1.16 Lighting	Whilst their installation is strongly recommended, neither working nor emergency lighting is any longer a grading requirement. Clubs are reminded that they have a responsibility to ensure the safety of spectators entering, leaving and moving about the ground and, if a ground is used in non-daylight hours, adequate artificial lighting should be provided. Further, consideration must be given by a club to its procedures in the event of a power failure.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
1.17 Adjoining pitches	Where deemed that they are likely to interfere with the playing of a match, ball games will not be played on adjoining pitches whilst league or cup games are in progress.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
1.18 Emergency Access	Access must be provided for the emergency services and maintained free from obstruction.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
2. SPECTATOR FACILITIES 2.1 Spectator Accommodation	Covered accommodation must be of sound construction of timber/steel/brick/concrete or any combination of these materials. Existing timber stands are only acceptable subject to a fire risk assessment conducted by a competent person. The minimum covered accommodation must be 50.	Development, other than hard standing, may all be on one side of the ground. Covered accommodation, which should preferably be on two sides of the ground, must be of sound construction of timber/steel/brick/concrete or any combination of these materials. Existing timber stands are only acceptable subject to fire risk assessment conducted by a competent person. The minimum covered accommodation must be 100, of which at least 50 must be seated and located in one stand.	Development, other than hard standing, may all be on one side of the ground. Covered accommodation, which should preferably be on two sides of the ground, must be of sound construction of timber/steel/brick/concrete or any combination of these materials. Existing timber stands are only acceptable subject to fire risk assessment conducted by a competent person. The minimum covered accommodation must be 200, of which at least 100 must be seated. These seats may be located in two stands, each with a minimum capacity of 50.	Development, in addition to hard standing, should ideally be on more than one side of the ground. Covered accommodation, which should preferably be on two sides of the ground, must be of sound construction of timber/steel/brick/concrete or any combination of these materials. Existing timber stands are only acceptable subject to fire risk assessment conducted by a competent person. The minimum covered accommodation must be 250, of which at least 150 must be seated. These 150 seats, in not more than two stands, may be inclusive of Directors/Committee and press seating.

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	<p>Bench seating will be permitted provided that it is in good repair and that individual spaces (min 500mm) are clearly marked.</p> <p>Any seating must afford a good view of the pitch and be clean, functional and in good condition.</p> <p>Standing spectators are not allowed in or near a seated spectator stand where they can obstruct views. Areas where spectators are not permitted to stand must be clearly marked with yellow hatched markings. Alternatively, appropriate signage may be acceptable.</p> <p>Hard standing to a minimum width of 0.9 metre, measured from the spectator side of the pitch perimeter barrier, must be provided on a minimum of 2 adjacent end/sides of the ground with direct access from the entrance. The surface must be of a bound material. Spectators must not be permitted to access any end/side without hard standing.</p>	<p>Whilst individual seats are preferred, existing bench seating may be permitted provided that it is in good repair and that individual spaces (min 500 mm) are clearly marked.</p> <p>The 50 seats must afford a good view of the pitch and be clean, functional and in good condition.</p> <p>Separate seating for Directors/Committee and guests is not compulsory for this grade.</p> <p>Standing spectators are not allowed in or near a seated spectator stand where they can obstruct views. Areas where spectators are not permitted to stand must be clearly indicated with yellow hatched markings. Alternatively, appropriate signage may be acceptable.</p> <p>Hard standing to a minimum width of 0.9 metre, measured from the spectator side of the pitch perimeter barrier, must be provided on a minimum of two adjacent sides of the ground with direct access from the entrance. The surface must be of bound material. Spectators must not be allowed to access any end/side without hard standing</p> <p>Existing athletics stadia may be exempt from this requirement.</p>	<p>Whilst individual seats are preferred, existing bench seating may be permitted provided that it is in good repair and that individual spaces (min 500 mm) are clearly marked.</p> <p>These 100 seats must afford a good view of the pitch and be clean, functional and in good condition.</p> <p>There must be a minimum of 16 seats provided for Directors/Committee and guests. The seats must be clearly marked "Home" and "Away Directors".</p> <p>Additional seating may be provided in other areas of the ground. However, these seats are not to be classified as being "in lieu" of the number shown above.</p> <p>Standing spectators are not allowed in or near a seated spectator stand where they can obstruct views. Areas where spectators are not permitted to stand must be clearly indicated with yellow hatched markings. Alternatively, appropriate signage may be acceptable.</p> <p>Hard standing to a minimum width of 0.9 metre, measured from the spectator side of the pitch perimeter barrier, must be provided on a minimum of three sides of the ground with direct access from the entrance. The surface must be of bound material. Spectators must not be allowed to access any end/side without hard standing</p> <p>Existing athletics stadia may be exempt from this requirement.</p> <p>NB. Where the facility is shared with cricket, hard standing on a minimum of two and a half sides may be acceptable.</p>	<p>No stand may have less than 50 seats.</p> <p>Whilst individual seats are preferred, existing bench seating may be permitted provided that it is in good repair and that individual spaces (min 500 mm) are clearly marked.</p> <p>The 150 seats must afford a good view of the pitch and be clean, functional and in good condition.</p> <p>There must be a minimum of 16 seats provided for Directors/Committee and guests. The seats must be clearly marked "Home" and "Away Directors".</p> <p>Additional seating may be provided in other areas of the ground. However, these seats are not to be classified as being "in lieu" of the number shown above.</p> <p>Standing spectators are not allowed in or near a seated spectator stand where they can obstruct views. Areas where spectators are not permitted to stand must be clearly indicated with yellow hatched markings. Alternatively, appropriate signage may be acceptable.</p> <p>Hard standing to a minimum width of 0.9 metre, measured from the spectator side of the pitch perimeter barrier, must be provided on 4 sides of the ground, unless a different configuration exists (see 1 above). The surface must be of bound material.</p>

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2.2 Press Seating	There is no requirement for dedicated press seating.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	A minimum of 2 seats must be provided with lighting and writing facilities for use by the press and other media. The press seating must have a clear view of the field of play.
2.3 Terracing	<p>Terracing, where provided, must comply with the requirements of the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds. Terracing that is crumbling, has grass/weeds growing through it or has broken, loose concrete will not be accepted.</p> <p>Any level surface within the ground should ideally be hard standing, such as tarmac, concrete, concrete paving or other approved materials which create a bound surface. However, flat and well maintained grassed areas may be accepted.</p> <p>The use of tree bark instead of grass may be acceptable, subject to prior permission being obtained from the League and The Football Association.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	<p>Terracing, where provided, must comply with the requirements of the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds. Terracing that is crumbling, has grass/weeds growing through it or has broken, loose concrete will not be accepted.</p> <p>Any level surface within the ground should ideally be hard standing, such as tarmac, concrete, concrete paving or other approved materials which create a bound surface. However, flat and well maintained grassed areas may be accepted.</p> <p>Spectator access must be denied to any grass banking so that it cannot be used for viewing the match.</p>
2.4 Toilets	<p>Toilets must be located within the ground and must be accessible both to male and to female spectators. NB Where it is necessary to exit the ground to gain access to toilets located in an adjacent clubhouse, these may be deemed acceptable, provided no great distance is involved.</p> <p>A minimum of 2 WCs must be provided.</p>	<p>Toilets must be located within the ground and must be accessible to both male and female spectators. NB Where it is necessary to exit the ground to gain access to the toilets located in an adjoining clubhouse, these may be deemed acceptable provided no great distance is involved.</p> <p>The minimum toilet facilities that must be provided are :-</p> <p>Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC Female: 2 WCs.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade G	<p>Toilets must be located within the ground and must be accessible both to male and to female spectators. Such toilets need not be in a dedicated toilet block but must be in addition to those used by people using the clubhouse.</p> <p>The following minimum toilet facilities that must be provided in total, excluding those located in any clubhouse, are :-</p> <p>Male: 2 urinals or equivalent and 1 WC Female: 2 WCs.</p>

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Toilets (cont)	<p>In addition, wash hand basins, with running water, warm air hand driers and/or paper towels, together with a supply of toilet paper, must be provided in each toilet area.</p> <p>These facilities may be of a temporary or mobile kind but must be connected to the mains supply (i.e. water and power) and main drainage or an acceptable alternative drainage system.</p> <p>They must be fully accessible with permanent access.</p> <p>Individual toilet units often known as 'portaloos' are permissible on a temporary basis but may not be included in the minimum toilet requirements.</p> <p>All toilet areas must be in working order, with a roof and operational lighting, and maintained to a high level of cleanliness.</p> <p>The location of all toilet facilities must be indicated with appropriate signage.</p>	<p>In addition, wash hand basins, with running water, warm air hand driers and/or paper towels, together with a supply of toilet paper, must be provided in each toilet area. Whilst replaceable linen roller towels in a cabinet are acceptable, individual hand towels are not permitted.</p> <p>The provision of toilet facilities within a clubhouse is acceptable if these are accessible and available at all times on match days. These facilities may be of a temporary or mobile kind but must be connected to the mains supply (i.e. water and power) and main drainage or an acceptable alternative drainage system.</p> <p>They must be fully accessible with permanent access.</p> <p>Individual toilet units often known as 'portaloos' are permissible on a temporary basis but may not be included in the minimum toilet requirements.</p> <p>All toilet areas must be in working order, with a roof and operational lighting, and maintained to a high level of cleanliness.</p> <p>The location of toilet facilities must be indicated with appropriate signage.</p>		<p>In addition, wash hand basins, with running water, warm air hand driers and/or paper towels, together with a supply of toilet paper, must be provided in each toilet area. Whilst replaceable linen roller towels in a cabinet are acceptable, individual hand towels are not permitted.</p> <p>These facilities may be of a temporary or mobile kind but must be connected to the mains supply (i.e. water and power) and main drainage or an acceptable alternative drainage system.</p> <p>They must be fully accessible with permanent access.</p> <p>Individual toilet units often known as 'portaloos' are permissible on a temporary basis but may not be included in the minimum toilet requirements.</p> <p>All toilet areas must be in working order, with a roof and operational lighting, supplied with toilet paper and maintained to a high level of cleanliness.</p> <p>The location of all toilet facilities must be indicated with appropriate signage.</p>
2.5 Refreshment facilities 2.5.1 Directors/Committee/ Guests	<p>Refreshments must be made available for visiting officials and guests.</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>A separate room or reserved area shall be made available in which refreshments for Directors/Committee and guests can be served.</p>	<p>A separate room must be made available in which refreshments for Directors/Committee and guests can be served.</p> <p>This area must be able to accommodate a minimum of 16 persons (24 at Grade D) with nearby toilet facilities.</p>

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2.5.2 Ground Refreshment Facilities	Refreshment facilities must be provided at the ground or in an adjacent clubhouse (see 2.4 Toilets). These facilities may be of a temporary or mobile type.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Refreshment facilities shall be provided in each separate area of the ground. These facilities may be of a temporary or mobile type.
2.6 Disabled Facilities	<p>A club must take full account of the needs of disabled spectators and be mindful of its obligations under the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Reference should be made to the publications/data sheets issued by both The Football Association and the Football Foundation.</p> <p>No specific requirement is currently included in the ground grading criteria, but The Football Association strongly recommends that access is provided to both a covered viewing area and toilet and refreshment facilities.</p>	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
2.7 Segregation	When segregation is in operation, there must be adequate toilet facilities and refreshment facilities in each segregated area in addition to the appropriate means of egress and exit.	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H	Same as FA Ground Grade H
3. DRESSING ROOM FACILITIES 3.1 Players	<p>All dressing room areas must be maintained to a high standard of cleanliness and be heated, well ventilated, free from damp and secure on match days.</p> <p>Separate dressing rooms must be provided for both teams within the enclosed area of the ground. The dressing rooms must be of sound construction and be of a permanent nature.</p> <p>Existing dressing room dimensions will be acceptable provided they are a minimum of 12 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas.</p>	<p>All dressing room areas must be maintained to a high standard of cleanliness and be heated, well ventilated, free from damp and secure on match days.</p> <p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>All dressing room areas must be maintained to a high standard of cleanliness and be heated, well ventilated, free from damp and secure on match days.</p> <p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p>All dressing room areas must be maintained to a high standard of cleanliness and be heated, well ventilated, free from damp and secure on match days.</p> <p>Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>

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<p>Players (cont)</p>	<p>NB. Clubs need to be aware of the increase at grade D to a minimum size of 18 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas, as from 31st March 2018.</p> <p>Where clubs are planning to build new dressing rooms these must be a minimum size of 18 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas.</p> <p>Each dressing room must have the following:</p> <p>a shower area comprising of at least 4 showerheads, 1 wash hand basin located outside the shower area (all of the above must have hot and cold running water),</p> <p>and at least 1 WC in cubicle.</p> <p>There must be a cushioned treatment table which is clean and in good condition in each dressing room.</p>			
<p>3.2 Match Officials</p>	<p>The size of the match officials' dressing room must be a minimum of 4 square metres, excluding the shower and toilet areas.</p> <p>When new dressing rooms are being constructed, the match officials' room should be a minimum size of 6 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas.</p> <p>NB. Clubs need to be aware of the increase at grade D to a minimum size of 6 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas, as from 31st March 2018.</p>	<p>The size of the match officials' dressing room must be a minimum of 4 square metres, excluding the shower and toilet areas.</p> <p>When new dressing rooms are being constructed, the match officials' room should be a minimum size of 6 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas.</p> <p>NB. Clubs need to be aware of the increase at grade D to a minimum size of 6 square metres, excluding shower and toilet areas, as from 31st March 2018.</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade G</p>	<p>Same as FA Ground Grade G</p>

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Match Officials (cont)	<p>Each match officials' dressing room must have the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">at least 1 shower,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1 wash hand basin (all of the above must have hot and cold running water),</p> <p>and at least 1 WC in cubicle. (This must be for the exclusive use of the match officials but need not necessarily be en suite.)</p> <p>Provision should be made for separate dressing rooms for both male and female match officials.</p> <p>Where new dressing rooms are being constructed or existing are being re-designed, separate purpose built facilities for both male and female match officials must be provided.</p> <p>There must be an audible electronic warning device (bell or buzzer) in working order located in the match officials' dressing room and which is linked to the players' dressing rooms.</p>	<p>Each match officials' dressing room must have the following:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">at least 1 shower,</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">1 wash hand basin (all of the above must have hot and cold running water),</p> <p>and at least 1 WC in cubicle.</p> <p>Provision should be made for separate dressing rooms for both male and female match officials.</p> <p>Where new dressing rooms are being constructed or existing are being re-designed, separate purpose built facilities for both male and female match officials must be provided.</p> <p>There must be an audible electronic warning device (bell or buzzer) in working order located in the match officials' dressing room and which is linked to the players' dressing rooms.</p>		
4. MEDICAL	<p>A stretcher must be provided for the removal of injured players from the pitch.</p> <p>Additionally, all clubs must provide first aid equipment for the use of players and spectators. Its location in the ground, if other than a dedicated treatment room, should be clearly marked by notices placed in the dressing rooms for teams and match officials.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Same as FA Ground Grade H</p>

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	<p>NB. For Grade D a dedicated medical room for use of the players and spectators is required.</p> <p>There must be a nominated and suitably qualified person in attendance to assist with spectator problems unless the St John Ambulance Brigade, Red Cross Society or other capable agency are in attendance. The requirements of the Guide to Safety at Sports Grounds are for one first aider per 1000 anticipated spectators, with a minimum of two.</p> <p>If a crowd of less than 2000 is anticipated, known and practiced arrangements should be in place to summon either a doctor or NHS ambulance alternative.</p> <p>For crowds of over 2,000, an experienced crowd doctor should be in attendance.</p> <p>These requirements in no way purport to be a comprehensive list of Health and Safety issues, which remain the responsibility of the club to address.</p>			
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IMPORTANT NOTE

Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the information provided above, clubs should also refer to the Thurlow Nunn League website and the ground grading documentation issued by The Football Association.