



Section 3: Our Pitches and Facilities

Ballyboden St Enda's uses a number of pitches and facilities that are central to the activities carried out by the Club.

The Club is committed to ensuring that all pitches and facilities are safe, well-maintained and that use is maximised for the benefit of all teams. Given the demand on our pitches and facilities, there is a high level of organisation involved and cooperation is required by all members of the Club so that use of our pitches and facilities runs as smoothly as possible.

SECTION 3.1: LOCATIONS OF PITCHES AND FACILITIES

The table below lists the pitches and facilities available for use by Ballyboden St Enda's.

Location	Pitch/Facility Type	Address
Páirc Uí Mhurchú	Club House Main Pitch Ball Wall Dressing Rooms x 4	Firhouse Road, Dublin 16, D16 A2F8
Cherryfield	Grass Pitch x 4	Opposite Páirc Uí Mhurchú, Firhouse Road, Dublin 16, D16 A2F8
Sancta Maria	Multipurpose facility: Gym Grass Pitch (sand-based) All Weather Pitch All Weather Training Pitch Ball Wall Handball Alley Dressing Rooms x 4	Access via Ballyboden Road, Dublin 16, D16 T2X2
Ballycullen (Knocklyon Park)	Grass Pitch x 2 Dressing Rooms x 4	Knocklyon Park, Saint Colmcille Way, Dublin 16, D16 X579
The Hermitage	Grass Pitch x 3	Access via Sarah Curran Avenue to Saint Enda's Park, Grange Road, Dublin 16, D16 Y7Y5
Coláiste Éanna	Grass Pitch	Hillside Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16, D16 E248
St Colmcilles Community School	Grass Training Pitch	Scholarstown Road, Knocklyon, Dublin 16, D16 H298

Table 3.1: Locations of Club Pitches and Facilities

SECTION 3.2: ALLOCATION AND USE OF PITCHES AND FACILITIES

Pitch Allocation

Pitches are allocated by the Club Executive, who delegate authority to an agreed individual/s for this purpose.

Certain pitches are allocated to set age-grades or specific codes for training and/or games. The Club will communicate this to coaches at the start of the season and throughout as necessary. The Club will also provide a schedule for training/games. It is essential that teams adhere to their allocated pitch and agreed schedule. No switching of pitches is allowed without the approval of the Club and coaches must arrive and vacate pitches in a prompt and timely fashion.

Queries about pitch allocations or bookings can be directed to info@ballyboden.ie.

Pitch Care Guidelines

To ensure that our pitches are well maintained, all members are asked to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Do not eat or chew gum on pitches;
- Do not smoke on pitches;
- Do not litter pitches – if you see any please dispose of it properly;
- Ensure that animals on the Club premises do not soil the pitches;
- Ensure that directions around equipment are followed at all times;
- Ensure that no player/s access a pitch that has been declared unplayable (see below).

Unplayable Pitches

It is absolutely essential that pitches are not played or trained on when they are declared unplayable by the Club Executive, South Dublin County Council (Cherryfield and Ballycullen) or the OPW (The Hermitage). When a pitch is declared unplayable this includes the pitch, all open space in the vicinity and space in front of and behind the goal mouth. Failure to abide by the decisions of the Club, Executive, South Dublin County Council or the OPW could mean that the right to use the pitches could be withdrawn.

We ask mentors to be pro-active in checking whether or not pitches are deemed unplayable during poor weather.

When the Club Executive declares that pitches are unplayable, notices will be displayed in the Club House, the car park and on the website/social media.

South Dublin County Council advertise when their pitches are unplayable. This information can be obtained online or by ringing the Council Offices (01 452 0530 or 01 462 0000). <http://www.sdublincoco.ie/Media>

The OPW do not advertise when the pitches in The Hermitage are unplayable. Mentors should therefore contact the park or the Museum during bad weather to check if pitches are playable (01 493 1025 or 01 494 4208).

Weather and Pitches

No outdoor club activity is permitted where Met Éireann have issued a Red Alert or Orange Alert warning.

The Club Executive may also call off all activity in the event of a Yellow Alert warning from Met Éireann.

If there is no blanket Club call off for a yellow warning, mentors can proceed with club activities with caution, but are expected to call off activity themselves if there are any concerns for safety. In this event they are also required to share their safety concerns with the pitch allocation team. Concerns raised by individual mentors may result in a blanket call off by the Club Executive.

No Club activity is allowed on the Club's Sancta Maria Hockey Pitch, when it is frozen, or covered with snow. No Club activity is allowed on the Club's All-Weather Pitch when it is covered with snow. Common sense should be applied by mentors in other conditions e.g. will children/players enjoy the session or match in extreme cold or driving wind and rain? If the answer is "no", cancel the event.

All decisions on pitches playability lies with the Head of Facilities on the Executive Committee, or with those to whom he has delegated the decision. The pitch co-ordination team will be aware of and circulate any decisions on pitch availability.

If council grass pitches are closed, then St Colmcille's and Coláiste Éanna will also be closed. Decisions regarding Páirc Uí Mhurchú and Prunty are for the Club to make.

Dressing Rooms

There are Dressing Rooms in a number of the locations used by the Club. To ensure that Dressing Rooms are well-maintained and kept clean and tidy, all members are asked to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Players must remove boots before entering Dressing Rooms;
- The Home Team must check that the Dressing Rooms of the home and visiting team(s) as well as the match officials are clean before use and must clean them after use also;
- Players are advised not to leave valuables or cash in the Dressing Rooms – the Club will not accept responsibility for any loss. Visiting teams and match officials should also be advised of this;
- Mentors must ensure that the Dressing Rooms are locked after use;
- Mentors must ensure that at least one adult is present in the Dressing Room at all times with the team to ensure that no damage is caused to club property;
- Mentors should never be alone in a Dressing Room with a juvenile;
- Bicycles must not be left in the Dressing Rooms or in the corridors of Dressing Rooms.

Equipment

Equipment such as flags, nets, portable goals etc. are stored in a number of locations used by the Club. To ensure that equipment is well-maintained, tidy and usable, all members are asked to adhere to the following guidelines:

- If you use it, put it back in a tidy manner;
- If you notice that flags or nets are defective or damaged, report this to the Club (info@ballyboden.ie);

- If you notice that portable goals are defective or damaged, do not use them and report this to the Club immediately (info@ballyboden.ie);
- Adults only should be asked to hang nets;
- Adults only should be asked to erect portable goals and – when doing so – must ensure that the goals are secured appropriately with pegs.

SECTION 3.3: HEALTH AND SAFETY

Ballyboden St Enda's encourages an active lifestyle. Therefore, the Club strongly encourages parents and players to walk or cycle to and from activities where possible. There are bicycle racks in a number of the Club locations including: Páirc Uí Mhurchú; Ballycullen; The Hermitage; Sancta Maria. All members are asked to refrain from parking in local housing estates.

The Club has a number of defibrillators available for use, these are located as follows:

- On the wall outside the entrance to the Club House closest to the pitch;
- In the Dressing Rooms in Ballycullen;
- In the Dressing Rooms in Sancta Maria.

Mentors and teams are requested to be aware of security and to lock Dressing Rooms after use.

SECTION 3.4: FIRST AID

Ballyboden St Enda's works with David O'Connor of First Aid Direct for all first aid supplies and training needs. David is contactable at david@fad.ie or via 087 902 1517. Supplies are online at www.firstaidcoursesdublin.ie.

