



# **FAI Stadium Infrastructure Criteria**

Version 1.0 – July 2011

# Table of Contents

---

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| <b>PURPOSE &amp; SCOPE</b> .....           | <b>5</b>  |    |
| <b>DEFINITIONS</b> .....                   | <b>7</b>  |    |
| <b>PRELIMINARY CATEGORY CRITERIA</b> ..... | <b>8</b>  |    |
| Article 1                                  | field of play .....                               | 8  |
| Article 2                                  | emergency access to playing area .....            | 8  |
| Article 3                                  | pitch perimeter .....                             | 8  |
| Article 4                                  | floodlights .....                                 | 9  |
| Article 5                                  | warm-up area .....                                | 9  |
| Article 6                                  | goals & goalpost safety .....                     | 9  |
| Article 7                                  | substitutes' benches .....                        | 9  |
| Article 8                                  | dressing rooms .....                              | 10 |
| Article 9                                  | first aid treatment for players & officials ..... | 10 |
| Article 10                                 | boundary wall .....                               | 10 |
| Article 11                                 | control room / area .....                         | 10 |
| Article 12                                 | ground regulations .....                          | 11 |
| Article 13                                 | fire-safety equipment .....                       | 11 |
| Article 14                                 | stands & spectator facilities .....               | 11 |
| Article 15                                 | refreshment facilities .....                      | 11 |
| Article 16                                 | passageways .....                                 | 12 |
| Article 17                                 | public access & egress .....                      | 12 |
| Article 18                                 | emergency lighting system .....                   | 12 |
| Article 19                                 | public address system .....                       | 12 |
| Article 20                                 | sanitary facilities for spectators .....          | 13 |
| Article 21                                 | first aid facilities for spectators .....         | 13 |
| Article 22                                 | facilities for spectators with disabilities ..... | 13 |
| Article 23                                 | facilities for VIP's .....                        | 13 |
| Article 24                                 | media facilities .....                            | 13 |
| <b>CATEGORY 1 CRITERIA</b> .....           | <b>14</b>   |    |
| Article 25                                 | field of play .....                               | 14 |
| Article 26                                 | emergency access to playing area .....            | 14 |
| Article 27                                 | pitch perimeter .....                             | 15 |
| Article 28                                 | floodlights .....                                 | 15 |
| Article 29                                 | warm-up area .....                                | 15 |
| Article 30                                 | goals & goalpost safety .....                     | 15 |
| Article 31                                 | substitutes' benches .....                        | 16 |
| Article 32                                 | flagpoles .....                                   | 16 |
| Article 33                                 | dressing rooms .....                              | 16 |
| Article 34                                 | delegates room .....                              | 16 |

|            |   |    |
|------------|---|----|
| Article 35 | first aid treatment for players & officials | 16 |
| Article 36 | parking for players & officials             | 17 |
| Article 37 | doping control room / area                  | 17 |
| Article 38 | boundary wall                               | 17 |
| Article 39 | control room / area                         | 17 |
| Article 40 | ground regulations                          | 18 |
| Article 41 | fire-safety equipment                       | 18 |
| Article 42 | stands & spectator facilities               | 18 |
| Article 43 | refreshment facilities                      | 18 |
| Article 44 | passageways                                 | 19 |
| Article 45 | public access & egress                      | 19 |
| Article 46 | emergency lighting system                   | 19 |
| Article 47 | public address system                       | 19 |
| Article 48 | sanitary facilities for spectators          | 20 |
| Article 49 | first aid facilities for spectators         | 20 |
| Article 50 | facilities for spectators with disabilities | 20 |
| Article 51 | seating for VIP's                           | 20 |
| Article 52 | parking area for VIP's                      | 20 |
| Article 53 | press facilities                            | 21 |
| Article 54 | media working area                          | 21 |
| Article 55 | TV camera platform                          | 21 |
| Article 56 | TV & radio commentary positions             | 21 |
| Article 57 | TV studios                                  | 21 |
| Article 58 | outside broadcast (OB) area                 | 21 |
| Article 59 | press conference room                       | 21 |

## **CATEGORY 2 CRITERIA** . . . . . **22**

|            |   |    |
|------------|---|----|
| Article 60 | field of play                               | 22 |
| Article 61 | emergency access to playing area            | 22 |
| Article 62 | pitch perimeter                             | 23 |
| Article 63 | floodlights                                 | 23 |
| Article 64 | warm-up area                                | 23 |
| Article 65 | goals & goalpost safety                     | 23 |
| Article 66 | substitutes' benches                        | 24 |
| Article 67 | flagpoles                                   | 24 |
| Article 68 | dressing rooms                              | 24 |
| Article 69 | delegates room                              | 24 |
| Article 70 | first aid treatment for players & officials | 25 |
| Article 71 | parking for players & officials             | 25 |
| Article 72 | doping control room / area                  | 25 |
| Article 73 | boundary wall                               | 26 |

|            |   |    |
|------------|---|----|
| Article 74 | control room / area                         | 26 |
| Article 75 | ground regulations                          | 26 |
| Article 76 | fire-safety equipment                       | 26 |
| Article 77 | stands & spectator facilities               | 27 |
| Article 78 | refreshment facilities                      | 27 |
| Article 79 | passageways                                 | 27 |
| Article 80 | public access & egress                      | 28 |
| Article 81 | emergency lighting system                   | 28 |
| Article 82 | public address system                       | 28 |
| Article 83 | sanitary facilities for spectators          | 29 |
| Article 84 | first aid facilities for spectators         | 29 |
| Article 85 | facilities for spectators with disabilities | 29 |
| Article 86 | seating for VIP's                           | 29 |
| Article 87 | parking area for VIP's                      | 29 |
| Article 88 | press facilities                            | 30 |
| Article 89 | media working area                          | 30 |
| Article 90 | TV camera platform                          | 30 |
| Article 91 | TV & radio commentary positions             | 30 |
| Article 92 | TV studios                                  | 30 |
| Article 93 | outside broadcast (OB) area                 | 30 |
| Article 94 | press conference room                       | 31 |

**CATEGORY 3 CRITERIA** . . . . . **32**

|             |   |    |
|-------------|---|----|
| Article 95  | field of play                               | 32 |
| Article 96  | emergency access to playing area            | 32 |
| Article 97  | pitch perimeter                             | 33 |
| Article 98  | floodlights                                 | 33 |
| Article 99  | warm-up area                                | 33 |
| Article 100 | goals & goalpost safety                     | 33 |
| Article 101 | substitutes' benches                        | 34 |
| Article 102 | flagpoles                                   | 34 |
| Article 103 | dressing rooms                              | 34 |
| Article 104 | delegates room                              | 34 |
| Article 105 | first aid treatment for players & officials | 34 |
| Article 106 | parking for players & officials             | 35 |
| Article 107 | doping control room / area                  | 35 |
| Article 108 | boundary wall                               | 35 |
| Article 109 | control room / area                         | 35 |
| Article 110 | ground regulations                          | 36 |
| Article 111 | fire-safety equipment                       | 36 |
| Article 112 | stands & spectator facilities               | 36 |

|             |  |    |
|-------------|--|----|
| Article 113 | <i>refreshment facilities</i>                      | 36 |
| Article 114 | <i>passageways</i>                                 | 37 |
| Article 115 | <i>public access &amp; egress</i>                  | 37 |
| Article 116 | <i>emergency lighting system</i>                   | 37 |
| Article 117 | <i>public address system</i>                       | 37 |
| Article 118 | <i>sanitary facilities for spectators</i>          | 38 |
| Article 119 | <i>first aid facilities for spectators</i>         | 38 |
| Article 120 | <i>facilities for spectators with disabilities</i> | 38 |
| Article 121 | <i>seating for VIP's</i>                           | 38 |
| Article 122 | <i>parking area for VIP's</i>                      | 38 |
| Article 123 | <i>press facilities</i>                            | 39 |
| Article 124 | <i>media working area</i>                          | 39 |
| Article 125 | <i>TV camera platform</i>                          | 39 |
| Article 126 | <i>TV &amp; radio commentary positions</i>         | 39 |
| Article 127 | <i>TV studios</i>                                  | 39 |
| Article 128 | <i>outside broadcast (OB) area</i>                 | 39 |
| Article 129 | <i>press conference room</i>                       | 40 |

# FAI Stadium Infrastructure Criteria – Purpose & Scope of application

---

Acting under its mandate to promote, foster and develop the game of football the Football Association of Ireland is committed to ensuring that the facilities at which our games are played, meet appropriate levels.

The purpose of this document is to ensure that;

- quality and appropriate facilities of consistent standards are provided for players, coaches and officials;
- football spectators are accommodated in a safe, comfortable and customer-friendly environment;
- media and press representatives are able to perform their business in an appropriate and safe working environment.

These criteria govern the structural criteria to be fulfilled by a stadium in order to be classified as FAI Preliminary category, or FAI category 1, 2, or 3.

The relevant competition regulations governing a competition will specify the category of stadium required for all matches in that competition.

The relevant competition regulations may specify conditions under which the competition regulators or licensing committee may grant an exception to a particular criterion or criteria.

These criteria apply for games which do not otherwise come within the scope of the UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations 2010.

The criteria can also be used to provide guidelines for clubs who are interested in developing their facilities to a particular quality standard or who aim to play at a higher level. The FAI will aim to support, advise and assist clubs in achieving these criteria, and in developing facilities on a long-term basis. Guidance notes can be found on the website **[www.fai.ie](http://www.fai.ie)**.

For further information or to seek assistance with the criteria or developments at your ground, please contact **[facilities@fai.ie](mailto:facilities@fai.ie)**.

# FAI Stadium Infrastructure Criteria – References

---

These criteria are based on Irish Law, Government Codes of Practice, UEFA & FAI guidelines. The following documents have been used as references.

- *Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds, Department of Education (1996)*
- *UEFA Safety and Security Regulations Edition 2006*
- *UEFA Stadium Infrastructure Regulations 2010*
- *Guidance notes on the installation and maintenance of floodlights, (FAI), Version 1.0 (July 2008)*
- *Guidance notes on construction, maintenance and performance of artificial turf pitches, (FAI), Version 2.0 (November 2009)*

# FAI Stadium Infrastructure Criteria – Definitions

---

For the purpose of these criteria, the following definitions apply:

- a) Closed-circuit television system: surveillance cameras with pan, tilt and zoom functions for monitoring spectators, stadium approaches and entrances, and all viewing areas within the stadium.
- b) Control room: room reserved for the persons who have overall responsibility for all match-related safety and security matters, namely the chief police officer, the event controller, stadium security officer and their staff.
- c) Delegate’s room: room reserved for the official match delegate and referee observer.
- d) Flash interview position: area between the pitch and the dressing rooms, where live TV and radio interviews can be conducted.
- e) Football turf: artificial turf used to surface a football field.
- f) Mixed zone: area between the dressing rooms and the parking area reserved for the team buses, where accredited written press, radio and TV reporters can interview players after the match.
- g) OB van area: secure area for parking TV companies’ outside broadcast vans.
- h) Public address system: electronic system of loudspeakers capable of conveying spoken messages to all areas of the stadium instantaneously.
- i) Standing accommodation: areas with benches, sectors for standing spectators or terraces without seats.
- j) Temporary stands: seating which, by virtue of its material, design and construction, is clearly intended for use for a very limited period and is not fixed to a suitable load-bearing foundation.
- k) The Code: Refers to the Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds, Department of Education, January 1996

In these criteria, the use of the masculine form refers equally to the feminine.



# I. Preliminary Category Criteria

## Section 1: Areas relating to players and officials

### Article 1 - *Field of Play*

---

The field of play can be either a natural playing surface or artificial turf.

The field of play must be smooth and level.

If Artificial Turf, it must be in accordance with FAI Guidelines for Artificial Turf; its surface must be green and marked in white.

The pitch measurements for the Field of Play must comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game, and with the regulations governing the competition where competition rules apply. Where the competition rules do not stipulate a size, then the field of play must comply with the following dimensions:

- 95 – 105 metres length
- 64 – 68 metres width

The Playing Area must incorporate a minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary).

The minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary) should measure at least 2.25m on touch lines and 2.25m on goal line.

### Article 2 - *Emergency Access to Playing Area*

---

Emergency Service Vehicles, including ambulance and fire engines, must be able to gain access to the playing area.

### Article 3 - *Pitch Perimeter*

---

There must be separation of the spectators from the playing area by way of an appropriate fence / wall / barrier to prevent encroachment.

It is important to distinguish between a pitch perimeter barrier which exists to separate spectators from the playing area, and a crush barrier. Crush barriers must comply with the requirements of the 'Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds'.

## **Article 4 - Floodlights**

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with a floodlighting system maintaining a minimum average luminance of 250 E<sub>v</sub>(lx).

For a game which is to be broadcast, the floodlights must be sufficient to satisfy the requirements of the broadcaster.

## **Article 5 - Warm-up Area**

---

A warm-up area for substitutes must be made available along the touchlines or behind the advertising boards behind the goal.

## **Article 6 - Goals and Goalpost Safety**

---

Goalposts and crossbars must be in compliance with the Laws of the Game as promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), which means, in particular, that:

- the distance between the posts must be 7.32m;
- the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground must be 2.44m;
- the goalposts and crossbars must be white;
- they must not pose any danger to players.

The goalposts must be in compliance with the two standards for goalpost safety set out in the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) standards;

- IS 357:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Code of Practice on the Procurement, Installation, Maintenance, Inspection and Storage.
- IS 356:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Functional and Safety Requirements – Test methods for Portable and Fixed Goals.

## **Article 7 - Substitutes' Benches**

---

The stadium must be equipped with two covered benches at pitch level; these should ideally have seating for at least 13 people and be positioned either side of the halfway line, parallel to the touch line. Ideally, where possible, the benches should be positioned 5 metres from the field of play and equidistant from the touch line and the halfway line.

## **Article 8 - Dressing-rooms**

---

A stadium must be equipped with a dressing-room for each team with a minimum of five showers, individual seated toilet(s), seating room for at least 25 persons, one massage table & one tactical board.

The dressing room area must include a referees' dressing-room with a minimum of one shower, one individual seated toilet, one wash hand basin, five seats and a desk. Provision should be made for both male and female referees.

The surfaces of the corridors in the dressing rooms' area and, in particular, stairs, must be of material that protects players, referees and other officials from the risk of slipping.

All dressing rooms must be heated, well-ventilated, and free from damp, secure and maintained at all times in a good state of decoration.

A stadium must guarantee direct, private and protected access for both teams and the referees from their dressing-rooms to the playing area and ensure their safe arrival at/departure from the stadium.

## **Article 9 - First Aid and Treatment Facilities for Players and Officials**

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated room or private area for first aid and medical treatment of players and officials.

## **Section 2: Spectator Related Areas**

### **Article 10 - Boundary Wall**

---

The stadium must be completely enclosed by an outside Boundary Wall or fencing of solid construction, to prevent unauthorized access. Where one side of the ground is formed of private land/property, then the boundary of that property may in certain cases be acceptable as the boundary of the ground.

### **Article 11 - Control Room / Area**

---

The stadium must have a central control room, or designated area, that provides a good overview of the inside of the stadium, and is equipped with communication facilities.

## **Article 12 - Ground Regulations**

---

Ground Regulations must be displayed in suitable areas of the stadium, including outside turnstiles and entry points. These regulations must provide at least information on the following:

- admission rights;
- abandonment or postponement of events;
- description of prohibitions and penalties, such as entering the field of play, throwing objects, use of foul or abusive language, discriminatory or any racist behaviour, graffiti, etc.;
- restrictions with regard to alcohol, flares, smoke canisters, fireworks, banners, etc.;
- seating rules;
- causes for ejection from the ground;
- risk analysis specific for the stadium.

## **Article 13 - Fire Safety Equipment**

---

The stadium must be equipped with adequate fire safety equipment (including fire detection and fire fighting equipment), which meets the approval of the Statutory Authorities.

## **Article 14 - Stands and Spectator Facilities**

---

The stadium must have an approved Safe Holding Capacity, as determined by an approved safety engineer.

The Safe Holding Capacity for the ground must be relevant and safe for the match it is intended to host.

The Safe Holding Capacity should be defined in terms of individual seats, standing places and total number for each section of the ground and for the ground in total.

Spectator accommodation must be provided in at least 2 areas of the ground.

## **Article 15 - Refreshment Facilities**

---

The stadium must have refreshment and catering facilities for all spectators in every sector of the stadium.

## **Article 16 - *Passageways***

---

The stadium must have clearly indicated unobstructed passageways and stairways. These must have slip resistant surfaces (ideally concrete or tarmacadam), and must not contain any shale, stones, gravel, grass or other loose material.

During an event, measures must be in place to ensure that all passageways, corridors, stairs, doors, gates and emergency exit routes are kept free of any obstructions which could impede the free flow of spectators.

## **Article 17 - *Public Access and Egress***

---

Entry gates and/or turnstiles must be designed in such a way as to avoid congestion and ensure the smooth flow of the crowd. The positioning of entry gates and/or turnstiles should be such that segregation could be applied when necessary.

All public passageways and stairways in the spectator areas must be clearly distinguished from the seating area (e.g. painted in a bright colour, ideally yellow), as must all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, and all exit doors and gates leading out of the stadium.

All exit doors and gates in the stadium, and all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, must:

- be designed to remain unlocked (but their usage is manned) while spectators are in the stadium;
- open outwards in the direction of the egress and evacuation routes.

Approaches to the stadium must be adequately signposted (for example by means of internationally understandable pictograms) to guide spectators to their sectors. All turnstiles, entry and exit gates and doors must be operational and similarly clearly indicated by signs which are universally understood.

## **Article 18 - *Emergency Lighting System***

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with an emergency lighting system approved by the competent local authorities, for use in the event of a general lighting failure in all parts of the stadium to which the public has access, including all exit and evacuation routes.

## **Article 19 - *Public Address System***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a public address system (P.A.). The P.A. system must be sufficient to communicate with spectators in all areas of the stadium and must not be vulnerable to failure of the main power supply.

## **Article 20 - Sanitary Facilities for Spectators**

---

Seated toilets for all spectators of both sexes, as well as urinals, must be made available in each sector of the stadium, with a ratio of one seated toilet per 200 spectators and one urinal per 125 spectators.

Toilets must be clean and hygienic; Amenities such as toilet paper, soap and hand washing and drying facilities must be available.

Routes to toilets must be adequately signposted.

## **Article 21 - First Aid Facilities for Spectators**

---

Each stadium must have fully-equipped first-aid facilities (room, area or ambulance) approved by the competent local authorities. These facilities must be clearly identified and access to them must be clearly signposted.

## **Article 22 - Facilities for Spectators with Disabilities**

---

A stadium should have access for spectators with disabilities, and their helpers.

In addition, persons with disabilities should have access to sanitary facilities and refreshment and catering facilities in the vicinity of the sector where they are positioned.

## **Article 23 - Facilities for VIP's**

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for seating VIP's. Ideally, this should consist of covered seating, as close to the halfway line as possible.

## **Article 24 - Media Facilities**

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for at least 2 written press personnel. Seating and writing facilities, as well as internet facilities should be provided.

## II. Category 1 Criteria

### Section 1: Areas relating to players and officials

#### **Article 25 - *Field of Play***

---

The field of play can be either a natural playing surface or artificial turf.

The field of play must be smooth and level.

If natural grass, the pitch must be in good condition, and playable for the entire competition / season.

Ideally there should be effective drainage and irrigation systems in place.

If Artificial Turf, it must be in accordance with FAI Guidelines for Artificial Turf; Its surface must be green and marked in white.

The pitch measurements for the Field of Play must comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game, and with the regulations governing the competition where competition rules apply. Where the competition rules do not stipulate a size, then the field of play must comply with the following dimensions:

- 100 – 105 metres length
- 64 – 68 metres width

The Playing Area must incorporate a minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary).

The minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary) should measure at least 2.25m on touch lines and 2.25m on goal line.

No object may be placed less than 21m above the field of play.

#### **Article 26 - *Emergency Access to Playing Area***

---

Emergency Service Vehicles, including ambulance and fire engines, must be able to gain access to the playing area.

## **Article 27 - Pitch Perimeter**

---

There must be separation of the spectators from the playing area by way of an appropriate fence / wall / barrier to prevent encroachment.

It is important to distinguish between a pitch perimeter barrier which exists to separate spectators from the playing area, and a crush barrier. Crush barriers must comply with the requirements of the 'Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds'.

## **Article 28 - Floodlights**

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with a floodlighting system maintaining a minimum average luminance of 350 Ev(lx).

For a game which is to be broadcast, the stadium must have a floodlighting system which allows the host broadcaster to ensure adequate broadcasting of the game.

## **Article 29 - Warm-up Area**

---

A warm-up area for substitutes must be made available along the touchlines or behind the advertising boards behind the goal.

## **Article 30 - Goals and Goalpost Safety**

---

Goalposts and crossbars must be in compliance with the Laws of the Game as promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), which means, in particular, that:

- the distance between the posts must be 7.32m;
- the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground must be 2.44m;
- the goalposts and crossbars must be white;
- they must not pose any danger to players.

The goalposts must be in compliance with the two standards for goalpost safety set out in the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) standards;

- IS 357:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Code of Practice on the Procurement, Installation, Maintenance, Inspection and Storage.
- IS 356:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Functional and Safety Requirements – Test methods for Portable and Fixed Goals.



## **Article 31 - *Substitutes' Benches***

---

The stadium must be equipped with two covered benches at pitch level; these should ideally have seating for at least 13 people and be positioned either side of the halfway line, parallel to the touch line. Ideally, where possible, the benches should be positioned 5 metres from the field of play and equidistant from the touch line and the halfway line.

## **Article 32 - *Flagpoles***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a minimum of 5 flagpoles or other supports which allow at least 5 flags to be flown at the stadium.

## **Article 33 - *Dressing-rooms***

---

A stadium must be equipped with a dressing-room for each team with a minimum of five showers, individual seated toilet(s), seating room for at least 25 persons, one massage table & one tactical board.

The dressing room area must include a referees' dressing-room with a minimum of one shower, one individual seated toilet, one wash hand basin, five seats and a desk.

Provision should be made for both male and female referees.

The surfaces of the corridors in the dressing rooms' area and, in particular, stairs, must be of material that protects players, referees and other officials from the risk of slipping.

All dressing rooms must be heated, well-ventilated, and free from damp, secure and maintained at all times in a good state of decoration.

A stadium must guarantee direct, private and protected access for both teams and the referees from their dressing-rooms to the playing area and ensure their safe arrival at/departure from the stadium.

## **Article 34 - *Delegate's Room***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a delegate's room, with access to communications facilities. This room should have easy access to the team and referees' dressing rooms.

## **Article 35 - *First aid and treatment facilities for players and officials***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated room or private area for first aid and medical treatment of players and officials.

## **Article 36 - *Parking for Players and Officials***

---

A minimum of 2 coach parking spaces and 10 car parking spaces should be available in the stadium for players and officials.

This space must be located in a safe and secure area in the immediate vicinity of the dressing room area.

## **Article 37 - *Doping Control Room / Area***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated doping control station which meets the requirements set out in Annex II of this document.

- The doping control station must be near the team dressing rooms and inaccessible to the public and the media.
- It must be at least 20m<sup>2</sup> and comprise a waiting room, testing room and toilet area, all adjoining.
- The waiting room must form part of or be immediately adjacent to the testing room (a partition dividing the two areas is also acceptable). It must contain sufficient seating for eight people, clothes-hanging facilities or lockers, and a refrigerator.
- The testing room must contain one table, four chairs, a sink with running water, a lockable cabinet and a toilet area (adjacent to the room or in the room itself).
- The toilet area must be within the testing room, or immediately adjacent and with direct private access to the testing room. It must contain a seated toilet, a sink with running water and, if possible, a shower.

Where the competition rules allow, if there is no dedicated doping control room, then an area must be provided which is capable of accommodating a mobile drug testing unit.

## **Section 2: Spectator Related Areas**

### **Article 38 - *Boundary Wall***

---

The stadium must be completely enclosed by an outside Boundary Wall or fencing of solid construction, to prevent unauthorized access. Where one side of the ground is formed of private land/property, then the boundary of that property may in certain cases be acceptable as the boundary of the ground.

### **Article 39 - *Control Room / Area***

---

The stadium must have a central control room, or designated area, that provides a good overview of the inside of the stadium, and is equipped with communication facilities.

## **Article 40 - Ground Regulations**

---

Ground Regulations must be displayed in suitable areas of the stadium, including outside turnstiles and entry points. These regulations must provide at least information on the following:

- admission rights;
- abandonment or postponement of events;
- description of prohibitions and penalties, such as entering the field of play, throwing objects, use of foul or abusive language, discriminatory or any racist behaviour, graffiti, etc.;
- restrictions with regard to alcohol, flares, smoke canisters, fireworks, banners, etc.;
- seating rules;
- causes for ejection from the ground;
- risk analysis specific for the stadium.

## **Article 41 - Fire Safety Equipment**

---

The stadium must be equipped with adequate fire safety equipment (including fire detection and fire fighting equipment), which meets the approval of the Statutory Authorities.

## **Article 42 - Stands and Spectator Facilities**

---

The stadium must have an approved Safe Holding Capacity of at least 200 spectators, as determined by an approved safety engineer.

The Safe Holding Capacity for the ground must be relevant and safe for the match it is intended to host.

The Safe Holding Capacity should be defined in terms of individual seats, standing places and total number for each section of the ground and for the ground in total.

Spectator accommodation must be provided in at least 2 areas of the ground.

## **Article 43 - Refreshment Facilities**

---

The stadium must have refreshment and catering facilities for all spectators in every sector of the stadium. These must include outlets for hot and cold food and hot and cold beverages in each sector. Each outlet must comply with Food Hygiene Regulations and hold a licence issued by the relevant Health Authority.

## **Article 44 - *Passageways***

---

The stadium must have clearly indicated unobstructed passageways and stairways. These must have slip resistant surfaces (ideally concrete or tarmacadam), and must not contain any shale, stones, gravel, grass or other loose material.

During an event, measures must be in place to ensure that all passageways, corridors, stairs, doors, gates and emergency exit routes are kept free of any obstructions which could impede the free flow of spectators.

## **Article 45 - *Public Access and Egress***

---

Entry gates and/or turnstiles must be designed in such a way as to avoid congestion and ensure the smooth flow of the crowd. The positioning of entry gates and/or turnstiles should be such that segregation could be applied when necessary.

All public passageways and stairways in the spectator areas must be clearly distinguished from the seating area (e.g. painted in a bright colour, ideally yellow), as must all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, and all exit doors and gates leading out of the stadium.

All exit doors and gates in the stadium, and all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, must:

- be designed to remain unlocked (but their usage is manned) while spectators are in the stadium;
- open outwards in the direction of the egress and evacuation routes.

Approaches to the stadium must be adequately signposted (for example by means of internationally understandable pictograms) to guide spectators to their sectors. All turnstiles, entry and exit gates and doors must be operational and similarly clearly indicated by signs which are universally understood.

## **Article 46 - *Emergency Lighting System***

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with an emergency lighting system approved by the competent local authorities, for use in the event of a general lighting failure in all parts of the stadium to which the public has access, including all exit and evacuation routes.

## **Article 47 - *Public Address System***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a public address system (P.A.). The P.A. system must be sufficient to communicate with spectators in all areas of the stadium and must not be vulnerable to failure of the main power supply.

## **Article 48 - Sanitary Facilities for Spectators**

---

Seated toilets for all spectators of both sexes, as well as urinals, must be made available in each sector of the stadium. The minimum requirement for sanitary facilities are the following, based on an 80:20 ratio of male:female:-

- a) 1 seated toilet per 250 males
- b) 1 urinal per 125 males
- c) 1 seated toilet per 125 females

Toilets must be clean and hygienic; Amenities such as toilet paper, soap and hand washing and drying facilities must be available.

Routes to toilets must be adequately signposted.

## **Article 49 - First Aid Facilities for Spectators**

---

Each stadium must have fully-equipped first-aid facilities (room, area or ambulance) approved by the competent local authorities. These facilities must be clearly identified and access to them must be clearly signposted.

## **Article 50 - Facilities for Spectators with Disabilities**

---

A stadium should have access and seating for spectators with disabilities and their helpers.

In addition, persons with disabilities should have access to sanitary facilities and refreshment and catering facilities in the vicinity of the sector where they are positioned.

One disabled toilet must be available for every 15 wheelchair users.

## **Article 51 - Seating for VIP's**

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for seating for at least 50 VIP's, 10 of which must be reserved for the visiting team. Ideally, this should consist of covered seating, as close to the halfway line as possible.

## **Article 52 - Parking Areas - VIP**

---

The stadium must make provision for sufficient VIP parking spaces in a safe and secure area.

## **Section 3: Spectator Media-related Areas**

### ***Article 53 - Press Facilities***

---

The Press facilities must consists of at least 20 seats, 5 of which must be equipped with desks. Seating and writing facilities, a power supply and internet facilities should be provided. These facilities must have an unobstructed view of the entire playing area.

### ***Article 54 - Media Working Area***

---

At least one room or area, equipped with desks, power supply and phone / internet connections should be provided. This area should be at least 50m<sup>2</sup>.

### ***Article 55 - TV Camera Platform***

---

In order to allow broadcast of games, the stadium should be equipped with at least one TV camera platform. This should be exactly in line with the half-way line and is recommended to be at least 4m<sup>2</sup>, to accommodate at least one camera.

A temporary TV Camera Platform may be installed where required.

### ***Article 56 - TV & Radio Commentary Positions***

---

A minimum of 2 TV and Radio commentary positions must be provided.

### ***Article 57 - TV Studios***

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for 1 room to be used as a TV studio if required.

### ***Article 58 - Outside Broadcast (OB) Van Area***

---

A stadium should have a designated OB Area.

### ***Article 59 - Press Conference Room***

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for 1 room to be used as a press conference room if required. This can be part of the same room used as the media working room.

## III. Category 2 Criteria

### Section 1: Areas Relating to Players and Officials

#### **Article 60 - *Field of Play***

---

The field of play can be either a natural playing surface or artificial turf.

The field of play must be smooth and level.

If natural grass, the pitch must be in good condition, and playable for the entire competition / season.

There must be effective drainage and irrigation systems in place.

If Artificial Turf, it must be in accordance with FAI Guidelines for Artificial Turf; Its surface must be green and marked in white.

The pitch measurements for the Field of Play must comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game, and with the regulations governing the competition where competition rules apply. Where the competition rules do not stipulate a size, then the field of play must comply with the following dimensions:

- 100 – 105 metres length
- 64 – 68 metres width

The Playing Area must incorporate a minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary).

The minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary) should measure at least 2.25m on touch lines and 2.25m on goal line.

No object may be placed less than 21m above the field of play.

#### **Article 61 - *Emergency Access to Playing Area***

---

Emergency Service Vehicles, including ambulance and fire engines, must be able to gain access to the playing area.

## **Article 62 - Pitch Perimeter**

---

There must be separation of the spectators from the playing area by way of an appropriate fence / wall / barrier to prevent encroachment.

It is important to distinguish between a pitch perimeter barrier which exists to separate spectators from the playing area, and a crush barrier. Crush barriers must comply with the requirements of the 'Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds'.

## **Article 63 - Floodlights**

---

For matches that are being broadcast outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with a floodlighting system maintaining the following minimum average illuminance (calculated according to Annex I):

- a) 800 Ev(lx) towards fixed cameras
- b) 500 Ev(lx) towards mobile cameras

For matches that are being broadcast outside of daylight hours, in order to ensure that a match can proceed in the event of a power failure, an independent backup power supply, capable of supplying at least two-thirds of the equivalent light intensity values, must be available.

## **Article 64 - Warm-up Area**

---

A warm-up area for substitutes must be made available along the touchlines or behind the advertising boards behind the goal.

## **Article 65 - Goals and Goalpost Safety**

---

Goalposts and crossbars must be in compliance with the Laws of the Game as promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), which means, in particular, that:

- the distance between the posts must be 7.32m;
- the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground must be 2.44m;
- the goalposts and crossbars must be white;
- they must not pose any danger to players.

The goalposts must be in compliance with the two standards for goalpost safety set out in the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) standards;

- IS 357:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Code of Practice on the Procurement, Installation, Maintenance, Inspection and Storage.
- IS 356:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Functional and Safety Requirements – Test methods for Portable and Fixed Goals.



## **Article 66 - *Substitutes' Benches***

---

The stadium must be equipped with two covered benches at pitch level; These should ideally have seating for at least 13 people and be positioned either side of the halfway line, parallel to the touch line. Ideally, where possible, the benches should be positioned 5 metres from the field of play and equidistant from the touch line and the halfway line.

## **Article 67 - *Flagpoles***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a minimum of 5 flagpoles or other supports which allow at least 5 flags to be flown at the stadium.

## **Article 68 - *Dressing-rooms***

---

A stadium must be equipped with a dressing-room for each team with a minimum of five showers, individual seated toilet(s), seating room for at least 25 persons, one massage table & one tactical board.

The dressing room area must include a referees' dressing-room with a minimum of one shower, one individual seated toilet, one wash hand basin, five seats and a desk.

Provision should be made for both male and female referees.

The surfaces of the corridors in the dressing rooms' area and, in particular, stairs, must be of material that protects players, referees and other officials from the risk of slipping.

All dressing rooms must be heated, well-ventilated, and free from damp, secure and maintained at all times in a good state of decoration.

A stadium must guarantee direct, private and protected access for both teams and the referees from their dressing-rooms to the playing area and ensure their safe arrival at/departure from the stadium.

## **Article 69 - *Delegate's Room***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a delegate's room, with access to communications facilities. This room should have easy access to the team and referees' dressing rooms.

## **Article 70 - First Aid and Treatment Facilities for Players and Officials**

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated room or private area for first aid and medical treatment of players and officials.

## **Article 71 - Parking for Players and Officials**

---

A minimum of 2 coach parking spaces and 10 car parking spaces should be available in the stadium for players and officials.

This space must be located in a safe and secure area in the immediate vicinity of the dressing room area.

## **Article 72 - Doping Control Room / Area**

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated doping control station which meets the requirements set out in Annex II of this document.

- The doping control station must be near the team dressing rooms and inaccessible to the public and the media.
- It must be at least 20m<sup>2</sup> and comprise a waiting room, testing room and toilet area, all adjoining.
- The waiting room must form part of or be immediately adjacent to the testing room (a partition dividing the two areas is also acceptable). It must contain sufficient seating for eight people, clothes-hanging facilities or lockers, and a refrigerator.
- The testing room must contain one table, four chairs, a sink with running water, a lockable cabinet and a toilet area (adjacent to the room or in the room itself).
- The toilet area must be within the testing room, or immediately adjacent and with direct private access to the testing room. It must contain a seated toilet, a sink with running water and, if possible, a shower.

Where the competition rules allow, if there is no dedicated doping control room, then an area must be provided which is capable of accommodating a mobile drug testing unit.

## **Section 2: Spectator Related Areas**

### **Article 73 - *Boundary Wall***

---

The stadium must be completely enclosed by an outside Boundary Wall or fencing of solid construction, to prevent unauthorized access. Where one side of the ground is formed of private land/property, then the boundary of that property may in certain cases be acceptable as the boundary of the ground.

### **Article 74 - *Control Room / Area***

---

The stadium must have a central control room that provides a good overview of the inside of the stadium, and is equipped with communication facilities. The central control room must accommodate the event controller and/or safety/security officer, P.A. announcer, Senior Garda Officer and other emergency service personnel as necessary.

### **Article 75 - *Ground Regulations***

---

Ground Regulations must be displayed in suitable areas of the stadium, including outside turnstiles and entry points. These regulations must provide at least information on the following:

- admission rights;
- abandonment or postponement of events;
- description of prohibitions and penalties, such as entering the field of play, throwing objects, use of foul or abusive language, discriminatory or any racist behaviour, graffiti, etc.;
- restrictions with regard to alcohol, flares, smoke canisters, fireworks, banners, etc.;
- seating rules;
- causes for ejection from the ground;
- risk analysis specific for the stadium.

### **Article 76 - *Fire Safety Equipment***

---

The stadium must be equipped with adequate fire safety equipment (including fire detection and fire-fighting equipment), which meets the approval of the Statutory Authorities.

## **Article 77 - Stands and Spectator Facilities**

---

The stadium must have an approved Safe Holding Capacity of at least 2500 spectators, as determined by an approved safety engineer.

This must consist of at least 1500 individual seats, of which at least 500 must be covered.

The Safe Holding Capacity should be defined in terms of individual seats, standing places and total number for each section of the ground and for the ground in total.

Spectator accommodation must be provided in at least 2 areas of the ground.

## **Article 78 - Refreshment Facilities**

---

The stadium must have refreshment and catering facilities for all spectators in every sector of the stadium. These must include outlets for hot and cold food and hot and cold beverages in each sector. Each outlet must comply with Food Hygiene Regulations and hold a licence issued by the relevant Health Authority.

## **Article 79 - Passageways**

---

The stadium must have clearly indicated unobstructed passageways and stairways. These must have slip resistant surfaces (ideally concrete or tarmacadam), and must not contain any shale, stones, gravel, grass or other loose material.

During an event, measures must be in place to ensure that all passageways, corridors, stairs, doors, gates and emergency exit routes are kept free of any obstructions which could impede the free flow of spectators.

## **Article 80 - Public Access and Egress**

---

Entry gates and/or turnstiles must be designed in such a way as to avoid congestion and ensure the smooth flow of the crowd. The positioning of entry gates and/or turnstiles should be such that segregation could be applied when necessary.

All public passageways and stairways in the spectator areas must be clearly distinguished from the seating area (e.g. painted in a bright colour, ideally yellow), as must all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, and all exit doors and gates leading out of the stadium.

All exit doors and gates in the stadium, and all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, must:

- be designed to remain unlocked (but their usage is manned) while spectators are in the stadium;
- open outwards in the direction of the egress and evacuation routes.

Approaches to the stadium must be adequately signposted (for example by means of internationally understandable pictograms) to guide spectators to their sectors. All turnstiles, entry and exit gates and doors must be operational and similarly clearly indicated by signs which are universally understood.

## **Article 81 - Emergency Lighting System**

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with an emergency lighting system approved by the competent local authorities, for use in the event of a general lighting failure in all parts of the stadium to which the public has access, including all exit and evacuation routes.

## **Article 82 - Public Address System**

---

The stadium must be equipped with a public address system (P.A.). The P.A. system must be sufficient to communicate with spectators in all areas of the stadium and must not be vulnerable to failure of the main power supply.

## **Article 83 - Sanitary Facilities for Spectators**

---

Seated toilets for all spectators of both sexes, as well as urinals, must be made available in each sector of the stadium. The minimum requirement for sanitary facilities are the following, based on an 80:20 ratio of male:female:-

- a) 1 seated toilet per 250 males
- b) 1 urinal per 125 males
- c) 1 seated toilet per 125 females

Toilets must be clean and hygienic; Amenities such as toilet paper, soap and hand washing and drying facilities must be available.

Routes to toilets must be adequately signposted.

## **Article 84 - First Aid Facilities for Spectators**

---

Each stadium must have fully-equipped first-aid facilities (room, area or ambulance) approved by the competent local authorities. These facilities must be clearly identified and access to them must be clearly signposted.

## **Article 85 - Facilities for Spectators with Disabilities**

---

A stadium should have access and seating for spectators with disabilities and their helpers. In addition, persons with disabilities should have access to sanitary facilities and refreshment and catering facilities in the vicinity of the sector where they are positioned.

One disabled toilet must be available for every 15 wheelchair users.

## **Article 86 - Seating for VIP's**

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for seating for at least 100 VIP's, 20 of which must be reserved for the visiting team. Ideally, this should consist of covered seating, as close to the halfway line as possible.

## **Article 87 - Parking Areas - VIP**

---

The stadium must make provision for sufficient VIP parking spaces in a safe and secure area.

## **Section 3: Spectator Media-related Areas**

### **Article 88 - *Press Facilities***

---

The Press facilities must consists of at least 20 covered seats, 10 of which must be equipped with desks. Seating and writing facilities, a power supply and internet facilities should be provided. These facilities must have an unobstructed view of the entire playing area.

### **Article 89 - *Media Working Area***

---

At least one room or area, equipped with desks, power supply and phone / internet connections should be provided. This area should ideally be at least 100m<sup>2</sup>, capable of accommodating 50 media representatives.

### **Article 90 - *TV Camera Platform***

---

The stadium must be equipped with at least one TV camera platform. This should be exactly in line with the half-way line and is recommended to be at least 6m<sup>2</sup>, to accommodate at two cameras.

### **Article 91 - *TV & Radio Commentary Positions***

---

A minimum of 3 TV and Radio Commentary Positions must be provided.

### **Article 92 - *TV Studios***

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for 1 room to be used as a TV studio when required. This should be at least 5m long x 5m wide x 2.3m high.

### **Article 93 - *Outside Broadcast (OB) Van Area***

---

A stadium should have a designated OB Area measuring at least 200m<sup>2</sup>.

## **Article 94 - *Press Conference Room***

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for 1 room to be used as a press conference room, if required. This can be part of the same room used as the media working room.

It must be equipped with a desk, camera platform, podium, split box, sound system and chairs. It must have seating for at least 30 media representatives.



## IV. Category 3 Criteria

### Section 1: Areas Relating to Players and Officials

#### **Article 95 - *Field of Play***

---

The field of play can be either a natural playing surface or artificial turf.

The field of play must be smooth and level.

If natural grass, the pitch must be in good condition, and playable for the entire competition / season.

There must be effective drainage and irrigation systems in place.

If Artificial Turf, it must be in accordance with FAI Guidelines for Artificial Turf; Its surface must be green and marked in white.

The pitch measurements for the Field of Play must comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game, and with the regulations governing the competition where competition rules apply. Where the competition rules do not stipulate a size, then the field of play must comply with the following dimensions:

- 105 metres length
- 68 metres width

The Playing Area must incorporate a minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary).

The minimum distance between the Field of Play and the Advertising Boards (or other perimeter boundary) should measure at least 2.25m on touch lines and 2.25m on goal line.

No object may be placed less than 21m above the field of play.

#### **Article 96 - *Emergency Access to Playing Area***

---

Emergency Service Vehicles, including ambulance and fire engines, must be able to gain access to the playing area.

## **Article 97 - Pitch Perimeter**

---

There must be separation of the spectators from the playing area by way of an appropriate fence / wall / barrier to prevent encroachment.

It is important to distinguish between a pitch perimeter barrier which exists to separate spectators from the playing area, and a crush barrier. Crush barriers must comply with the requirements of the 'Code of Practice for Safety at Sports Grounds'.

## **Article 98 - Floodlights**

---

For matches that are being broadcast outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with a floodlighting system maintaining the following minimum average illuminance (calculated according to Annex I):

- a) 1200 Ev(lx) towards fixed cameras
- b) 800 Ev(lx) towards mobile cameras

In order to ensure that a match can proceed in the event of a power failure, an independent backup power supply, capable of supplying at least two-thirds of the equivalent light intensity values, must be available.

## **Article 99 - Warm-up Area**

---

A warm-up area for substitutes must be made available along the touchlines or behind the advertising boards behind the goal.

## **Article 100 - Goals and Goalpost Safety**

---

Goalposts and crossbars must be in compliance with the Laws of the Game as promulgated by the International Football Association Board (IFAB), which means, in particular, that:

- the distance between the posts must be 7.32m;
- the distance from the lower edge of the crossbar to the ground must be 2.44m;
- the goalposts and crossbars must be white;
- they must not pose any danger to players.

The goalposts must be in compliance with the two standards for goalpost safety set out in the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI) standards;

- IS 357:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Code of Practice on the Procurement, Installation, Maintenance, Inspection and Storage.
- IS 356:2007 Playing Field Equipment Goals – Functional and Safety Requirements – Test methods for Portable and Fixed Goals.

## **Article 101 - *Substitutes' Benches***

---

The stadium must be equipped with two covered benches at pitch level; These should have seating for at least 13 people and be positioned either side of the halfway line, parallel to the touch line. Ideally, where possible, the benches should be positioned 5 metres from the field of play and equidistant from the touch line and the halfway line.

## **Article 102 - *Flagpoles***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a minimum of 5 flagpoles or other supports which allow at least 5 flags to be flown at the stadium.

## **Article 103 - *Dressing-rooms***

---

A stadium must be equipped with a dressing-room for each team with a minimum of five showers, individual seated toilet(s), seating room for at least 25 persons, one massage table & one tactical board.

The dressing room area must include a referees' dressing-room with a minimum of one shower, one individual seated toilet, one wash hand basin, five seats and a desk.

Provision should be made for both male and female referees.

The surfaces of the corridors in the dressing rooms' area and, in particular, stairs, must be of material that protects players, referees and other officials from the risk of slipping.

All dressing rooms must be heated, well-ventilated, and free from damp, secure and maintained at all times in a good state of decoration.

A stadium must guarantee direct, private and protected access for both teams and the referees from their dressing-rooms to the playing area and ensure their safe arrival at/departure from the stadium.

## **Article 104 - *Delegate's Room***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a delegate's room, with access to communications facilities. This room should have easy access to the team and referees' dressing rooms.

## **Article 105 - *First Aid and Treatment Facilities for Players and Officials***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated room or private area for first aid and medical treatment of players and officials.

## **Article 106 - *Parking for Players and Officials***

---

A minimum of 2 coach parking spaces and 10 car parking spaces should be available in the stadium for players and officials.

This space must be located in a safe and secure area in the immediate vicinity of the dressing room area.

## **Article 107 - *Doping Control Room / Area***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a dedicated doping control station which meets the requirements set out in Annex II of this document.

- The doping control station must be near the team dressing rooms and inaccessible to the public and the media.
- It must be at least 20m<sup>2</sup> and comprise a waiting room, testing room and toilet area, all adjoining.
- The waiting room must form part of or be immediately adjacent to the testing room (a partition dividing the two areas is also acceptable). It must contain sufficient seating for eight people, clothes-hanging facilities or lockers, and a refrigerator.
- The testing room must contain one table, four chairs, a sink with running water, a lockable cabinet and a toilet area (adjacent to the room or in the room itself).
- The toilet area must be within the testing room, or immediately adjacent and with direct private access to the testing room. It must contain a seated toilet, a sink with running water and, if possible, a shower.

## **Section 2: Spectator Related Areas**

### **Article 108 - *Boundary Wall***

---

The stadium must be completely enclosed by an outside Boundary Wall or fencing of solid construction, to prevent unauthorized access. Where one side of the ground is formed of private land/property, then the boundary of that property may in certain cases be acceptable as the boundary of the ground.

### **Article 109 - *Control Room / Area***

---

The stadium must have a central control room that provides a good overview of the inside of the stadium, and is equipped with communication facilities. The central control room must accommodate the event controller and/or safety/security officer, P.A. announcer, Senior Garda Officer and other emergency service personnel as necessary.

## **Article 110 - Ground Regulations**

---

Ground Regulations must be displayed in suitable areas of the stadium, including outside turnstiles and entry points. These regulations must provide at least information on the following:

- admission rights;
- abandonment or postponement of events;
- description of prohibitions and penalties, such as entering the field of play, throwing objects, use of foul or abusive language, discriminatory or any racist behaviour, graffiti, etc.;
- restrictions with regard to alcohol, flares, smoke canisters, fireworks, banners, etc.;
- seating rules;
- causes for ejection from the ground;
- risk analysis specific for the stadium.

## **Article 111 - Fire Safety Equipment**

---

The stadium must be equipped with adequate fire safety equipment (including fire detection and fire-fighting equipment), which meets the approval of the Statutory Authorities.

## **Article 112 - Stands and Spectator Facilities**

---

The stadium must have an approved Safe Holding Capacity, as determined by an approved safety engineer.

Any standing accommodation is prohibited.

The Safe Holding Capacity should be defined in terms of individual seats, total number for each section of the ground and for the ground in total.

This must consist of at least 4500 individual seats.

Spectator accommodation must be provided in at least 2 areas of the ground.

## **Article 113 - Refreshment Facilities**

---

The stadium must have refreshment and catering facilities for all spectators in every sector of the stadium. These must include outlets for hot and cold food and hot and cold beverages in each sector. Each outlet must comply with Food Hygiene Regulations and hold a licence issued by the relevant Health Authority.

## **Article 114 - *Passageways***

---

The stadium must have clearly indicated unobstructed passageways and stairways. These must have slip resistant surfaces (ideally concrete or tarmacadam), and must not contain any shale, stones, gravel, grass or other loose material.

During an event, measures must be in place to ensure that all passageways, corridors, stairs, doors, gates and emergency exit routes are kept free of any obstructions which could impede the free flow of spectators.

## **Article 115 - *Public Access and Egress***

---

Entry gates and/or turnstiles must be designed in such a way as to avoid congestion and ensure the smooth flow of the crowd. The positioning of entry gates and/or turnstiles should be such that segregation could be applied when necessary.

All public passageways and stairways in the spectator areas must be clearly distinguished from the seating area (e.g. painted in a bright colour, ideally yellow), as must all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, and all exit doors and gates leading out of the stadium.

All exit doors and gates in the stadium, and all gates leading from the spectator areas into the playing area, must:

- be designed to remain unlocked (but their usage is manned) while spectators are in the stadium;
- open outwards in the direction of the egress and evacuation routes.

Approaches to the stadium must be adequately signposted (for example by means of internationally understandable pictograms) to guide spectators to their sectors. All turnstiles, entry and exit gates and doors must be operational and similarly clearly indicated by signs which are universally understood.

## **Article 116 - *Emergency Lighting System***

---

For matches played outside of daylight hours, the stadium must be equipped with an emergency lighting system approved by the competent local authorities, for use in the event of a general lighting failure in all parts of the stadium to which the public has access, including all exit and evacuation routes.

## **Article 117 - *Public Address System***

---

The stadium must be equipped with a public address system (P.A.). The P.A. system must be sufficient to communicate with spectators in all areas of the stadium and must not be vulnerable to failure of the main power supply.

## **Article 118 - Sanitary Facilities for Spectators**

---

Seated toilets for all spectators of both sexes, as well as urinals, must be made available in each sector of the stadium. The minimum requirement for sanitary facilities are the following, based on an 80:20 ratio of male:female:-

- a) 1 seated toilet per 250 males
- b) 1 urinal per 125 males
- c) 1 seated toilet per 125 females

Toilets must be clean and hygienic; Amenities such as toilet paper, soap and hand washing and drying facilities must be available.

Routes to toilets must be adequately signposted.

## **Article 119 - First Aid Facilities for Spectators**

---

Each stadium must have fully-equipped first-aid facilities (room, area or ambulance) approved by the competent local authorities. These facilities must be clearly identified and access to them must be clearly signposted.

## **Article 120 - Facilities for Spectators with Disabilities**

---

A stadium should have access and seating for spectators with disabilities and their helpers.

In addition, persons with disabilities should have access to sanitary facilities and refreshment and catering facilities in the vicinity of the sector where they are positioned.

One disabled toilet must be available for every 15 wheelchair users.

## **Article 121 - Seating for VIP's**

---

A stadium should be able to make provision for seating for at least 250 VIP's, 50 of which must be reserved for the visiting team. Ideally, this should consist of covered seating, as close to the halfway line as possible.

## **Article 122 - Parking Areas - VIP**

---

A minimum of 100 VIP parking spaces must be available in a safe and secure area.

## **Section 3: Spectator Media-related Areas**

### **Article 123 - Press Facilities**

---

The Press facilities must consists of at least 50 covered seats, 25 of which must be equipped with desks. Seating and writing facilities, a power supply and internet facilities should be provided. These facilities must have an unobstructed view of the entire playing area.

### **Article 124 - Media Working Area**

---

At least one room or area, equipped with desks, power supply and phone / internet connections should be provided. This area should be at least 100m<sup>2</sup>, capable of accommodating 50 media representatives.

Dedicated space must be provided for at least 15 photographers, if possible, in a separate, fully equipped working area.

### **Article 125 - TV Camera Platform**

---

The stadium must be equipped with at least one TV camera platform. This should be exactly in line with the half-way line and is recommended to be at least 6m<sup>2</sup>, to accommodate at two cameras.

### **Article 126 - TV & Radio Commentary Positions**

---

A minimum of 5 TV and Radio Commentary Positions must be provided.

### **Article 127 - TV Studios**

---

A stadium must be equipped with at least 2 TV studios, each at least 5m long x 5m wide x 2.3m high.

### **Article 128 - Outside Broadcast (OB) Van Area**

---

A stadium should have a designated OB Area measuring at least 200m<sup>2</sup>.



## **Article 129 - *Press Conference Room***

---

Within the stadium, a press conference room or a dedicated section of the media working room must be available, equipped with a desk, camera platform, podium, split box, sound system and chairs.

It must have seating for at least 50 media representatives.

A space must be available between the dressing rooms and team bus parking areas, which can be converted into a mixed zone.

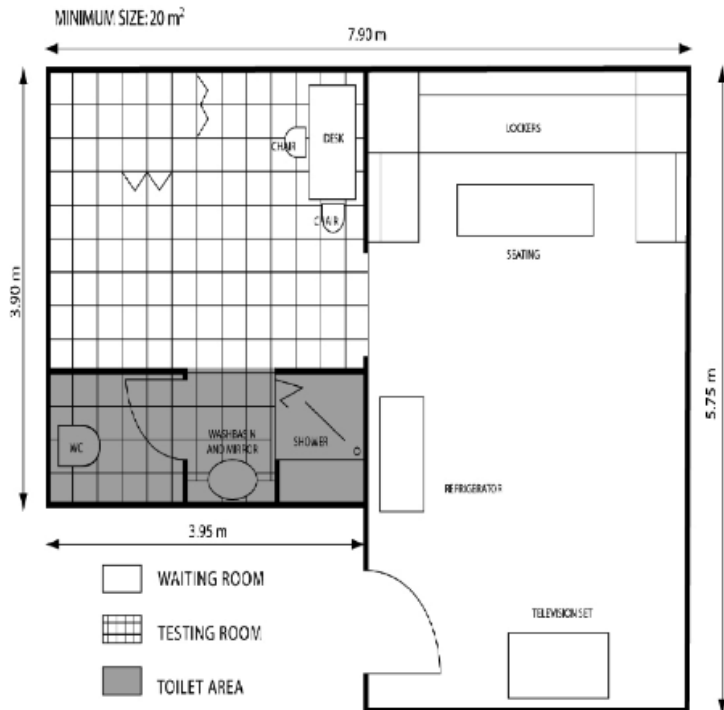
## ANNEX I: Calculation of the Floodlighting Average Illuminance

The floodlighting average illuminance corresponds to the vertical illuminance with a uniformity of  $E_{min}/E_{max} \geq 0.4$  and  $E_{min}/E_{med} \geq 0.6$ .

For this calculation, the following abbreviations apply:

| Symbol or abbreviation                 | Term                   | Explanation   |
|--|------------------------|---|
| $E_{min}/E_{max}$<br>$E_{min}/E_{med}$ | Illuminance uniformity | Ratios describing how evenly light is distributed over the pitch surface.                     |
| E                                      | Illuminance            | The quantity of light falling (incident) on a surface at a specific point, expressed in lux.  |
| $E_v$                                  | Vertical illuminance   | Illuminance on a vertical plane 1.5m above the pitch (orientation towards a specific camera). |
| Lx                                     | Lux                    | The unit of illuminance incident on a pitch surface ( $1lx = 1lm/m^2$ ).                      |
| Lm                                     | Lumen                  | The spectral power distribution of a lamp weighted by the eye sensitivity curve.              |

# ANNEX II: Plan of Doping Control Station









**Facility Development Unit**

Football Association of Ireland  
National Sports Campus  
Abbotstown  
Dublin 15

Phone: 01 8999 500  
Fax: 01 8999 320  
Email: [facilities@fai.ie](mailto:facilities@fai.ie)