



NORTH CURRY FOOTBALL CLUB YOUTH SHIN PAD POLICY

DEVELOPING PLAYERS • BUILDING CONFIDENCE • CREATING OPPORTUNITIES



PROTECTING EVERY PLAYER. Keeping children safe is more important than following football fashion.

WHY ARE WE INTRODUCING THIS POLICY?



At North Curry FC, player welfare is our highest priority.



Football is a contact sport and knocks, tackles and accidental collisions are part of the game.



Whilst shin pads are compulsory under the Laws of the Game, not all shin pads provide the same level of protection.



The FA advises that micro or mini shin pads provide less coverage of the shin and may increase the risk of injury.
(FA Guidance – 14 Feb 2024)

NORTH CURRY FC POLICY

From the start of the 2026/27 season:

All youth players (U7–U18) must wear shin pads that:

- ✓ Provide substantial coverage of the front of the shin
- ✓ Are appropriately sized for the player
- ✓ Are CE marked
- ✓ Are fully covered by football socks
- ✓ Are securely fitted



CE

Look for the CE mark when purchasing shin pads.

THE FOLLOWING ARE NOT PERMITTED



Micro shin pads



Mini shin pads



Decorative or novelty shin pads



Shin pads that only cover a very small area of the shin

These must not be worn during:

- Training
- Friendly matches
- League matches
- Tournaments



NOT PERMITTED:

MICRO / MINI SHIN PADS
Less coverage. Greater risk.



ACCEPTABLE:

FULL-SIZE SHIN PADS
Better coverage. Better protection.



COACHES' RESPONSIBILITIES



Before every session, coaches will check shin pads where necessary.



Coaches will ask players to change unsuitable shin pads.



Players will not take part if they are not wearing adequate shin pad protection.



This policy is applied consistently across all youth teams.



OUR COMMITMENT

This policy is not about performance. It is not about appearance. It is about protecting young players and reducing avoidable injuries while they enjoy football.



Potential Unleashed

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



Why are professional players allowed to wear them?

Adult professional players make their own decisions. As a youth football club, we have a duty of care to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of children.



Will my child be able to play?

Players wearing unsuitable shin pads will be asked to change into appropriate shin pads before participating in training or matches.



Safe and positive environment



Player development at the core



Respect, teamwork and sportsmanship



Clear communication with families



Opportunities for all to enjoy and achieve.



By working together, we can create the best environment for every child to enjoy football, develop their potential and achieve their goals.

Potential Unleashed