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Stockport County

Football Club

**Privacy & Data Protection**

**Policy**

**Introduction**

At Stockport County Football Club we take privacy seriously and we are committed to protecting it.

This policy explains when and why Stockport County Football Club collect personal information about individuals who are customers, prospective future customers, previous customers, users of our websites, social media channels and other individuals who may be connected to them, how this information is used, the conditions under which it may be disclosed to others and broadly how it is kept secure.

**Who we are (Data Controller)**

Stockport County Football Club is the data controller in relation to the processing activities described below. This means that Stockport County Football Club decides why and how personal information is processed.

This policy also covers any closely associated companies under the same management control. Whenever a customer deals with one of these other companies, Stockport County Football Club will be the ‘controller’ of any personal information. Where this policy refers to “we”, “our” or “us” below, unless it mentions otherwise, it is referring to Stockport County Football Club. A “controller” is an organisation that decides why and how personal information is processed.

**How we collect your information**

We collect personal information from you in the following ways:

**Personal information you give to us**

This is information about you that you give to us by, for example:

* Visiting our website (<https://www.stockportcounty.com/>)
* Using our Web or mobile applications
* Viewing or following our channels on any social media platforms
* Posting your own content on any social media platforms and tagging our account
* Corresponding with us by phone, email, direct message via social media, or otherwise
* Attending one of our organised or sponsored events (match days and events)
* Partaking in supporter surveys or questionnaires

and is provided by your voluntarily.

This includes information provided at the time of registering to use our site, buying match day or event tickets, subscribing to the services we provide through our websites and other channels, requesting further information, material or associated services, managing personal details (including accessing documentation and engaging in correspondence with us by phone, email or otherwise).

If you complete any surveys that we request you to complete for research purposes, we will collect information in such circumstances as well. The information you give us will typically include your name, address, email address and phone number(s), age, equality monitoring information, age, date of birth and supporter feedback and may include records of any correspondence and responses to marketing campaigns.

**Personal information we collect about you**

We may collect the following information, either by request or automatically:

* Your contract details
* Equality monitoring information
* Geographic and demographic information
* Preferences and interests and other information you provide through, amongst other things, your attendance at match days and events
* Reponses given in surveys
* Visits to our websites and apps, including, data about the information and resources you access

We may also automatically collect technical information, including:

* Anonymous data collected by the hosting server
* The Internet Protocol (IP) address used to connect your computer or device to the Internet
* Browser type and version
* Time zone setting
* Browser plug-in types and versions
* Operating system and platform

We may also collect any personal information which you allow to be shared that is part of your public profile(s) on third party social networks, including but not limited to:

* Time zone setting
* Browser plug-in types and versions
* Operating system and platform, and your preferences
* Interests and other behaviours

**Personal information we may receive from other sources:**

We may also obtain certain personal information about you from sources outside of our business which may include third-party companies where you have previously provided you consent to personal information being shared, in accordance with those third parties’ own privacy policies.

The personal information we receive from third party sources is typically your contact details, certain demographic information, and may also include details about information you have previously requested and/or preferences you have previously expressed concerning specific areas of interest.

**Types of personal information we process about you**

We may process a range of personal information about you. The make it easier to understand the information that we use about you, we have divided this information into categories in the list below and provided a short explanation of the type of information each category typically covers.

**Basic contact and identification details**

Such as name, address, phone number, email address and date of birth

**Behavioural**

Such as your activities, actions or behaviours

**Contact information**

Which can be used to address, send or otherwise communicate a message to you

**Geo-location information**

Which contains or reveals the location of your electronic devices

**Health & Safety information**

Next-of-kin details to contact in case of an emergency

**Identification information**

Contained in a formal identification document such as your passport

**Banking/Billing information**

Used to collect payment from you or return money owed to you. Credit check your application for credit terms and information relating to the provision of credit to you

**Fraud information**

Relating to the occurrence, investigation or prevention of fraud

**Legal information**

Relating to legal claims made by you or against you or the claims process

**Booking transactions information**

Relating to match day ticket or event tickets/bookings and ancillary services provided to you

**Correspondence information**

Contained in our correspondence or other communications with you about our products, services or business

**How we use your personal information**

The purposes for which we use your information and the legal basis under data protection laws on which we rely to do this are explained below.

**Where this is a Legal Requirement**

We will use your personal information to comply with our legal obligations, such as:

* To assist any public authority, industry regulator or criminal investigation body
* To correctly identify you when you contact us and/or to verify the accuracy of data we hold about you

We will also use your personal information in complying with the law and any relevant regulation, including responding to regulators.

**Where it is required to complete or company with a contract**

We may use and process your personal information where we have sold you a product or products, supplied you (or continue to supply you) with any services, where we have arranged for the supply of another party’s products or services to you.

We will use this information as part of ensuring that the terms of the relevant contract(s) are carried out or entered into. This may include circumstances in which we are not a party to the contract ourselves, however we have been appointed to administer or provide services relating to that contract. For the purposes of this description, a ‘contract’ will typically mean a sale and purchase agreement. Please refer to ‘type of personal information we process about you’ above for details of the type of personal information we process for these purposes.

**Where we have assessed there is a Legitimate Interest**

We may (where applicable data protection laws permit) use and process your personal information where it is necessary for us to pursue either our legitimate interests as a business, or the Legitimate Interests of another third party, for the following purposes:

1. To correspond or communicate with you generally, for example with company or relevant location news
2. For marketing activities (other than where we rely on your consent to contact you by email or text with information about our products and services or share your details with third parties to do the same, as explained below)
3. For analysis to inform our future marketing strategy, and/or to enhance or personalise your customer experience (such as improving the quality or relevance of information we provide to you in the future)
4. To verify the accuracy of data that we hold about you and create a better understanding of you as a customer or potential customer
5. For network and information security in order for us to take steps to protect your information against loss or damage, theft or unauthorised access
6. For prevention of fraud and other criminal activities
7. To comply with a request from you in connected with the exercise of your rights (for example where you have asked us not to contact you for marketing purposes, we will keep a record or this on our suppression lists in order to be able to comply with your request)
8. To review facts, assess and improve our service to customers through recordings of any call with our offices
9. For the management or any queries, complaints of claims you bring
10. In running our business and maintaining appropriate websites, records and service administration
11. For the establishment and defend of our legal rights

**Where you have provided Consent**

We may use and process your personal information on the basis that you have consented for us to do so, for the following purposes:

1. To contact you via email or SMS with marketing information about relevant goods and services, predominantly being match day and events
2. Such other purposes for which consent is required to process personal data under applicable data protection laws

You may withdraw your consent for us to use your information in any of these ways at any time. Please see ‘withdrawing your consent’ for further details.

For any grievances related to the use of your personal information, you may contact us at:

Postal: Stockport County 2010 Limited, Hardcastle Road, Edgeley, Stockport, SK3 9DD

Email: dataprotection@stockportcounty.com

**Others who may receive or have access to your personal information**

**Our suppliers and service providers**

We may disclose your information to certain selected third-party service providers, subcontractors and other organisations where necessary for the purposes of them providing services to us or directly to you on our behalf.

Such third parties may include:

* Cloud service providers (such as hosting, data storage and software services providers)
* Our ticketing system provider
* Our app developer/provider
* Digital and marketing agencies
* Administrative service providers
* Debt management providers (where relevant)

When we use third party service providers in this way, we only disclose to them any personal information that is necessary for them to provide their service and we have a contract in place that requires them to keep your information secure and not to use it other than in accordance with our specific instructions for the purposes intended and set out in this Policy.

**Credit/debit card payment processors**

Where relevant, when you purchase certain products or services via our website, over the phone or at our ticket office, a credit or debit card payment may be processed with your instruction by a third party payment processing agent who specialises in the secure online capture and processing of a credit/debit card transactions. If you have any questions regarding secure transactions please ask us at the time of making the payment or contact us using the details at the end of this policy.

We do not store of keep a record of your credit card details on our website or within our own systems.

**Other ways we may share your personal information**

We may transfer your personal information to a third party as part of a sale or some or all of our business and assets to any third party or as part of any business restructure or reorganisation. We may also transfer your personal information if we are under a duty to disclose or share it in order to comply with any legal obligation, for example to detect or report a crime, to enforce or apply the terms of our contracts or to protect the rights, property or safety of other data subjects.

We may also share your personal data with our legal and other professional advisors, and insurers, from time to time for legitimate reasons. If or when we do so, we will always take steps with the aim of ensuring that your privacy rights continue to be protected and your rights are upheld.

**Where we transfer your personal information**

Information you provide to us may be transferred to countries outside the UK. For example, if any of our servers or those of our third-party service providers are from time to time location in a country outside of the UK. These countries may not have similar data protection laws to the UK.

If we transfer your information outside of the UK in this way, we will take steps to ensure that appropriate security measures are taken with the aim of ensuring that your privacy rights continue to be protected as outlined in this policy. This is because some countries outside the UK do not have the same adequate data protection laws equivalent to those within the UK. These steps may include, for example imposing contractual obligations on the recipient of your personal information or ensuring that the recipients subscribe to other relevant regulatory regimes or best practice that aim to ensure adequate protection.

We have standard contractual clauses and other relevant measures in place for transfers of personal data to these providers and other relevant third parties, as required under applicable data protection laws.

If you require more information about the protections that we put in place in these circumstances or to access a copy, please contact us using the details at the end of this policy.

If you use our services, access our systems or view any of our content whilst you are outside of the UK, your information may be transferred outside the UK in order to provide you with those services.

If you are physically located within the territory of Mainland China, when we collect your personal information, our transferring of your personal information may be subject to certain Chinese data protection law requirements. In such a case, we will not rely on the lawful basis of “Legitimate Interests” to transfer your personal information. For each transfer of your personal information, the lawful basis of which is indicated as “Legitimate Interests” in this section above, we instead will rely on the lawful basis of Consent. In such cases, we will not transfer your personal information unless you have consented.

**How long we keep your information for**

When we collect your personal information, the length of time we retain it is determined by a number of factors including the purpose for which we use that information and our obligations under other laws. We do not retain personal information in an identifiable format for any longer than we consider necessary.

The length of time we retail your personal data may also vary depending on the legal basis we are using.

When you contract our offices by telephone, these calls may be recorded. Such call recordings are retaining for no longer than 90 days.

**Where your personal data is required to complete or comply with a Contract**

We may need your personal information to comply with our own legal and accounting responsibilities, and/or to establish, bring or defend legal claims. For this purpose, we will always retain your personal information for 7 years after the data it is no longer needed by us for any of the purposes listed under ‘How we use your personal information’ above. Where we are only required to retain some of your information for these purposes, we will use our reasonable endeavours to ‘minimise’ the data and not to retain any information which we do not need to hold for 7 years.

The only exceptions to this are where:

* Where we have assessed there is a Legitimate Interest
* If you are a citizen of the UK, we will not retain personal data for longer than 3 years after a Legitimate Interest Assessment has been made or renewed
* If you are not a citizen of the UK, we may retain your personal details for longer than 3 years where we consider it necessary, justifiable or there is a legal requirement to do so, subject at all times to upholding your rights as a data subject
* Where you have provided consent

We will retain your personal data for as long as we consider it necessary and justifiable and in line with your reasonable expectations, subject at all times to upholding your rights as a data subject (including the right for you to withdraw your consent and the right to have your personal data erased).

Even where you have given and not withdrawn consent, we may at any point make the decision not to retain your personal data where we consider it to be no longer necessary and justifiable.

**Security and links to or from other organisations**

We are committed to maintaining security standards to ensure that your information is held securely in systems that can be controlled and protected in accordance with data security best practice. In order to protect against unauthorised access or disclosure we put in place suitable physical, electronic and managerial procedures to safeguard and secure the information we collect from you. Where possible we only store information in structured systems (databases) which can only be accessed with secure passwords and other appropriate security controls.

Occasionally it may be necessary to store or transfer some of your personal data in unstructured ways, such as on paper or in document formats that are necessary to enable us to collect and process that information in accordance with the purpose. In these cases, we will take steps to ensure that procedures and controls are in place to maintain the security of and access to that information.

Unfortunately, the transmission of information via the internet is never completely secure. Although we will do our best to protect your personal information, we cannot guarantee the security of your information transmitted to or from our website at all times and any transmission is therefore at your own risk. Once we have received your personal information, we put in place appropriate security controls against accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, or unauthorised access.

Our websites may contain links to other websites run by other organisations. Similarly, we may refer you from time to time to other organisations and to whom you may also provide personal data. This policy does not apply to those other organisations where this happens, therefore we encourage you to read their separate privacy statements. We cannot be responsible for the privacy policies and practices of other websites or third parties, even if you access those websites or otherwise make contact with those organisations using links or contact details that we provide.

In addition, if you linked to our website, a contact details form, or any other material we have published electronically from a third-party website or an email sent to you by a third party, we are not responsible for the privacy policies and practices of the owners and operators of those third parties and recommend that you check their privacy statements as well.

Where we have given (or where you have chosen) a password which enables you to access certain information we hold in any of our systems, you are responsible for keeping this password confidential. We ask you not to share your password with anyone and to tell us as soon as possible if you think your password may have been stolen, exposed or compromised in any way.

**Cookies**

Like many other websites, the Club’s websites use cookies. A cookie is a small file which asks permission to be placed on your computer or mobile device’s hard drive. These cookies primarily help us to analyse use of our websites and provider a better experience by tailoring information to you.

**Marketing**

We may collect your personal data and certain information about your preferences in interests in order for you to receive marketing information directly from us by email, SMS, via third-party social media platforms and targeted online promotions in the following ways:

1. If you register for ‘more information’ on one of our websites
2. If you receive and act upon a marketing campaign run by one of our marketing affiliates
3. If you tag a Group company or brand on any of our social media channels using any geolocation or using any recognisable tags
4. If you make a ticketing enquiry by telephone to one of our offices
5. If you attend one of our hosted or sponsored events
6. If you enter a competition or free prize draw, we are running,
7. If you opt-in to receive newsletters or regular insights, interviews, perspectives, videos, podcasts relating to our business or market.
8. If you engage with other electronic content we provide, including following one of our channels on a social media platform.
9. If you download our apps to one of your devices

In any of these cases listed above we may contact you with further marketing information in future in the ways mentioned in this policy, except where you indicate your preference not to (and otherwise only with your consent, if consent is required).

We may contact you with marketing information by telephone, email or post, via third-party social media platforms, or with targeted advertising delivered online through social media and platforms operated by other companies by using your personal information. We may also use your personal information to tailor marketing to improve its relevance to you. We only do so with your consent (if consent is required) and will respect your preferences where you indicate your preference not to receive a particular type of marketing.

If you ‘tag’ any Stockport County Football Club or brand in any of our social media channels using any geolocation or any tags, we may use the content you have shared as user-generated content within our channels. By tagging us in this way you therefore agree to allow Stockport County Football Club to share or republish your own content (which may include your name and image) within our own social media channel activity, strictly in accordance with the terms of use of the social media channel provider.

If you choose to leave a review about Stockport County Football Club on any third-party site, Stockport County Football Club have the right to publish using your name, image and review details.

We will only share your information with third parties for marketing purposes where they are:

1. A Group company offering similar products and services but potentially under a different brand name.
2. A data processor acting on our instructions as data controller as part of the means we use to send our marketing information to you and track whether you have received and/or acted on it.

If you would like to opt-out of receiving marketing from any third party company we may share your information with, you can do so at any time by contacting them or using the unsubscribe links in any such information you receive from them.

From time to time, we may ask you to update your marketing preferences by asking you to confirm your preferences for the frequency and method of receiving future marketing information from us. You have the right to opt-out of our use of your personal information to provide marketing to you in any of the ways mentioned above at any time. Please see ‘Withdrawing your Consent and Objecting’ to our use of your personal information above for further details on how you can do this.

**Your rights**

If you are a located in the UK, an EEA country, India or mainland China you have a number of rights in relation to your personal information under data protection law, which are summarised below. Not all these rights may be applicable to individuals in countries outside the UK, or you may have different rights. In relation to certain rights, we may ask you for information to confirm your identity and, where applicable, to help us to locate your personal information. We will respond to you within any applicable time limits under the relevant data protection laws.

**Accessing your personal information and data portability**

You have the right to make a reasonable request for a copy of the information that we hold about you by emailing or writing to us at the address below. We may not provide you with a copy of your personal information if this concerns other individuals or we have another lawful reason to withhold that information. You may in limited circumstances have a right of data portability (i.e. to ask us to create a file to transfer to you or a different service provider) of electronically-processed personal data held about you.

**Correcting and updating your personal information**

The accuracy of your information is important to us, and we are always keen to make sure we can regularly and easily review and correct the information that we hold about you. If any of personal information changes, in particular your name or address/email address and contact telephone numbers, or you discover that any of the other information we hold is inaccurate or out of date, please let us know by contacting us as soon as possible using any of the contact details below.

**Withdrawing your consent**

Where we rely solely on your consent as the legal basis for processing your personal information, as set out under ‘How we use your personal information’, you may withdraw your consent at any time by contacting us using the details at the end of this policy. If you withdraw your consent, our use of your personal information before you withdraw is still lawful.

**Objecting to our use of your personal information**

Where we rely on an identified legitimate interest as the legal basis for processing your personal information for any purpose(s), as out under ‘How we use your personal information’, you may object to us using your personal information for these purposes by emailing or writing to us at the address below.

Except for the purposes for which we are sure we can continue to process your personal information; we will temporarily stop processing your personal information in line with your objection until we have assessed the matter. If we agree that your objection is justified in accordance with your rights under data protection laws, we will permanently stop using your data for those purposes. Otherwise, we will provide you with our justification as to why we need to continue using your data.

You may object to us using your personal information for direct marketing purposes at any time and we will comply with your request within a reasonable time. If you would like to do so, please use our unsubscribe links in any such marketing we send you electronically.

**Erasing your personal information or restricting its processing**

In certain circumstances, you may ask for your personal information to be removed from our systems by emailing or writing to us at the address below. Unless there is a reason that the law allows us to continue to use your personal information, we will make reasonable efforts to comply with your request. You may also ask us to restrict processing your personal information where you believe it is unlawful for us to do so, you have objected to its use and our investigation is pending or you require us to keep it in connection with legal proceedings.

In these situations, we may only process your personal information whilst its processing is restricted if we have your consent or are legally permitted to do so, for example for storage purposes, to protect the rights of another individual or company or in connection with legal proceedings.

**Complaining to the UK data protection regulator and other data protection authorities**

You have the right to complain to the relevant data protection regulator that oversees the processing of your data if you are concerned about the way we have processed your personal information.

In the UK, this is the Information Commissioners Office (ICO). Please visit the ICO’s website www.ico.org.uk for further details.

**Contact us**

Our contact details for queries about your personal data, including to exercise any of your data subject rights are:

Postal: Stockport County 2010 Limited, Hardcastle Road, Edgeley, Stockport, SK3 9DD

Email: dataprotection@stockportcounty.com

**Changes to this policy**

We may review this policy from time to time and any changes will be notified to you by posting an updated version on our website. In some circumstances we may also notify or contact you, for example by email, to let you know about the changes. Any such changes will take effect 7 days after the date on which we post the modified terms on our website. We recommend you regularly check for changes and review this policy whenever you visit our websites.

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| Effective Date | February 2025 – Second version |
| Written By | Ellie O’Connor – Head of People |
| Approved By Chief Executive Officer | Simon Wilson  |
| Approved By Board Member | Gavin Bailey  |
| Approved by EDI Lead | Ellie O’Connor  |
| Review Date | February 2026 |
| Update responsibility | Head of People |

**Review History**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Number | Date | Review details | Authorised by (Board) |
| 1 | February 2024 | Development &Creation of Document | February 2024 |
| 2 | February 2025 | Policy review | February 2026 |