



Flags, Banners and Surfers Policy

Introduction

Swansea.Com Stadium has a commitment to protect supporters whilst also providing the best possible match day experience. We know that many supporters like to display banners and flags when visiting the stadium and our aim is to be as accommodating as possible whilst ensuring everyone's safety.

For their own safety, and that of others, fans should adhere to the following policy regarding banners and flags:

1. General

1.1 Swansea.Com Stadium reserves the right to refuse to allow flags, banners or surfers to be displayed, particularly if content is considered to be offensive, discriminatory, defamatory or inflammatory.

1.2 Any item that the Swansea.Com stadium or any of its employees believe could potentially be used as a weapon and/or compromise public safety is strictly prohibited and will be confiscated.

1.3 Swansea.Com Stadium reserves the right to change this policy as it deems fit or as required by the local authority, the Stadium Flag Consultant, the Sports Ground Safety Authority (SGSA) or any other body that helps to determine the safety of spectators at the Swansea.Com Stadium.

1.4 Whilst the Swansea.Com Stadium endeavours to take good care of banners and flags that are brought into the Stadium, it accepts no liability for any loss or damage that may occur at any time.

1.5 Confiscated items cannot be returned – they are given up as a condition of entry.

1.6 Flags, banners and surfers displayed directly by Swansea.Com Stadium, Swansea City Football Club and Ospreys Rugby are not subject to the regulations within this policy as they are subject to tighter internal scrutiny.

2. Flagpoles

2.1 Flagpoles no more than 7mm in diameter and 1 metre in length are permitted, subject to section 1.2.

2.2 Flagpoles should be wood or plastic. Metal flagpoles are not permitted.

2.3 Supporters wishing to introduce flags on poles longer than 1 metre in length must contact the club in advance via email to support@swanseacity.com

2.4 Subject to advance agreement with Swansea.Com Stadium, flags on poles exceeding 1 metre in length may be waved prior to kick-off but must not obstruct the views of other and under no circumstances are to be waved after kick-off.

3. Flags

3.1 Flags should be no bigger than 150cm in depth or width. Anything above these measurements will be classed as a banner.

3.2 Flags should be presented to stewards prior to entry to the stadium where they will be inspected and approved prior to entry.

3.3 Swansea.Com Stadium reserve the right to confiscate any flags brought into the Stadium without being approved prior to entry. Swansea.Com Stadium reserves the right to ask supports to refrain from waving flags in certain circumstances.

4. Banners

4.1 Materials measuring more than 150cm will be considered as banners.

4.2 All banners must meet or exceed British Standard BS5867 type B (or equivalent Fire Retardant Standards DIN 4102-1 B1 or ISO 6941) and a certificate to this effect must be produced. Proof of certification may be required whenever they are brought into the Stadium.

4.3 On occasion, where a designated sterile area (e.g. empty block of seats) is available within the Stadium, it may be possible for banners to be placed in the sterile area. Permission to do so must first be obtained from the Stadium in advance via email to support@swanseacity.com or, in circumstances where this is not possible, by a senior steward prior to entry on a match day.

4.4 Banners will not be allowed where they may block advertising, signage, exit routes, restrict the views of other supporters or in any way compromise the safe operation of the stadium. It is the responsibility of supporters who bring flags, banners and surfers into the stadium to ensure they are securely fastened at all times.

4.5 Swansea.Com Stadium reserves the right to remove any articles that have not been appropriately secured or become loose during a match.

5. Surfers

5.1 Surfers (banners larger than 250cm and/or intended to be passed over supporter's heads before a match) should be kept on site at the Swansea.Com Stadium and issued to supporters on match days.

5.2 Any such surfers should be handed to stewards or taken to a designated area immediately after use.

5.3 The use of surfers or surfer style banners designed to be passed over supporter's heads will not be allowed after kick-off.

5.4 Supporters wishing to introduce new surfers and banners must contact the stadium in advance via email to support@swanseacity.com

5.5 The banner / surfer must be presented to the Stadium at least three working days before match day with the appropriate fire certificate. The banner / surfer must also be presented prior to entry into the Stadium where it will be inspected by a senior steward.

5.6 Any surfers or banners brought into the Stadium without being approved will be confiscated.

5.7 All surfers must meet or exceed British Standards BS5867 type B (or equivalent Fire Retardant Standards DIN 4102-1 B1 or ISO 6941) and a certificate to this effect must be produced.

5.8 A register of banners and surfers which meet fire safety criteria will be maintained by the Stadium Safety Team in order to identify approved articles.

6. Certificates of Fire Retardant Compliance

6.1 Certificates of Fire Retardant Compliance should:

- a. State the Fire Retardant Standard to which the flag, banner or surfer complies (British Standard BS5867 type B or DIN 4102-1 B1 or ISO 6941).
- b. Bear a colour image and text description of the flag to which the certificate refers.
- c. Bear a unique certificate reference number and manufacturer contact details.
- d. Be signed by a named officer of the issuing organisation.

Further Information

If you require further information on Fire Retardant Standards or certification relating to flags, banners and surfers at the Swansea.Com Stadium, or if you need advice on the status of a flag you already own, or if you want to check that a flag or flagpole you intend to purchase meets the Swansea.Com Stadium Regulations please contact charles.ashburner@hotmail.co.uk

Alternatively, you may write to:

Charles Ashburner, Stadium Flag Consultant, 7 de la Beche Street, Swansea, SA1 3EZ