**Provision and Safeguarding of Female Referees**

This is an addition to the:

**Safeguarding Policy**

**Youth referees safeguarding Policy**

**Vulnerable adult Policy.**

St Ives Town FC supports the FA initiative to promote women into all aspects of football not least in the officiating of the game. With the increasing use of female referees the Club has produced this document to support this directive.

The safeguarding of our female referees sees that we as a club ensure we are prepared and welcoming to the club. St Ives Town FC ensures that provisions are put in place to ensure that safeguarding is the top of our agenda, privacy and dignity is, observed at all times, and any form of verbal, sexual abuse or threatening behaviour in regard to gender is not acceptable.

If any abuse is witnessed, it will be reported to the Welfare Officer and Club secretary and action such as dismissal for the ground be considered.

It is essential to ensure privacy and dignity of the female referee is observed. The Club will ensure that a separate changing accommodation is available and offered. This can take the form of using the secretary’s office, changing before or after her other team of officials in the allocated referee room.

Separate showering facility is not available. This is agreed prior to the match as to whether the female referee or male referees use the showering facilities first. Separate Toilet facilities are available.

It is important that communication takes place with all of the officials to ensure they are aware of our facility and take active input to ensure our standards are met and the safeguarding of our female referee is adhered to.

Written February 2019

Reviewed February 2021 Review February 2022