



United Kingdom Paintball Sports Federation Site Accreditation Scheme



United Kingdom Paintball Sports Federation

Site Accreditation Scheme

The UKPSF accreditation scheme is a set of standards that paintball sites can voluntarily sign up to in order to achieve positive status recognition and business advantage, and accordingly benefit from the support of a range of key agencies as a consequence of being an assured quality service provider.

The definition of accredited is "officially recognised or approved".

The accreditation scheme has been set up so a paintball site that maintains high standards of equipment, staff training, site services, safety and ultimately customer satisfaction is rewarded with an accreditation mark. Accordingly potential customers can identify responsible site owners through the UKPSF accreditation scheme. Sites, which achieve the required standard, will be able to use the "accredited site logo" on their publicity material.

There are 3 levels of UKPSF site membership.

Basic Membership

Basic membership is the starting point for all paintball sites. The site offers a degree of information on a voluntary basis to the UKPSF. This is in the form of a simple question and answer sheet and is designed to ensure that all UKPSF site members meet minimum standards.

Accredited Member (what this pack is all about)

A paper based self-certifying system where a venue will provide a wide range of information on the day to day running of their venue.

This should be the goal of all member site and it is hoped that when 80% of members have achieved the standard, the "basic" membership will have a one-year time limit.

Accreditation PLUS Member

The highest level of membership only achievable after basic and accredited membership has been achieved. This level of membership can only be achieved once a physical inspection has been carried out where all elements in the paper based scheme can be seen to be in place and being followed.

Accredited Member PACK

There will be four key elements to the scheme.

Stage One – The Pack

Section A

A site will have to submit certain information to the UKPSF concerning insurance, first aid, risk assessment, accident data, training procedures and other general information.

Section B

The site will be supplied with an assessment questionnaire. The site will perform a "self assessment" using the accreditation questionnaire. There is no time scale on this part. This allows site the opportunity to correct any deficiencies, if there are any, before they have to submit the accreditation pack to the UKPSF.

Sites can photocopy section A and B but must submit the originals to the UKPSF. Once the site has completed both sections the site owner must sign the declaration and return the completed pack to the UKPSF.

Information Updates

Accredited sites will be asked to update the information supplied to the UKPSF in on an annual basis

The scheme is a paperwork exercise and while a site owner may not see the relevance of most of the information requested.

Having looked at several accreditation schemes from industry and sporting organisations they all have a lot of paperwork.

I know you are probably saying "I have operated a safe site for ten years why do I need to create all this unnecessary paperwork?" the answer is simple It is all about accountability.

An example of this would be the training of marshals.

Most sites take a customer who has shown an interest in earning some spare cash or a tournament player who might want to finance his/her regular paintball, give him/her a fluorescent vest and call them a marshal.

Whilst this might be acceptable to you, if there was an incident and the Health and Safety and your insurance company became involved they might ask you for your marshal training procedure and who trained the marshal involved in the incident.

The answer "I did it!" is not good enough. You have to create a training programme and as the trainee achieves a standard the trainer signs the form. The trainee marshal then goes onto the next stage.

The training given can be by you, not necessarily an outside organisation, but by creating a training program it makes your paintball site look more professional to outside organisations.

Example of a training record

Trainee Marshal	A.N.Other	Trainer: A S Marshal
Training schedule	Assessed by A Marshal	Comments
Session one General safe area duties Kit issue and collection Playing area observation Customer care	Signed by the marshal responsible for the trainee	Suggests the purchase of a mask and squeegee
All aspects of safety	Date	Date
Session two On field marshalling with the senior marshal Safety aspects in the handling of "live" markers Cleaning of markers after the	Signed by the marshal responsible for the trainee	Another week at this level is suggested
games (not stripping)	Date	Date
Session three On field marshalling independent of senior marshal Training in field stripping of markers and after game cleaning and servicing	Signed by the marshal responsible for the trainee	Marshal is very competent with the customers but not sure about marker stripping. Another week at this level
,	Date	Date
Session four Take a group and marshal whilst observed by the senior marshal.	Signed by the marshal responsible for the trainee	Marshal handles the responsibility very well
Chronograph procedures	Date	Date
Advanced Training Filling of gas bottles Booking in of customers Safety talk	Signed by the site owner	Game manager status
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Date	Date
Advanced Training Attending a first aid course	Signed by the site owner	Senior game manager status

The above is a simple form, which could be adapted to most paintball sites. If one form is allocated to each marshal and a record of their training kept up to date then this is classed as a "training record". The idea is to complete the training over a specified period of between four weeks or six months - you set the time scale. Comments in *italics* are just examples.

The above training record is an example, not all paintball sites are the same and site owners expect different standards from their marshals. By creating a training procedure you have elevated your site above the site that takes on a trainee at 8.00am in the morning and by 9.30am they are a "trained" marshal. It happens and that is why the accreditation scheme is being set up to show which sites set standards and are accountable and which site can't show they can achieve a standard acceptable to the UKPSF and ultimately the customers.

Initially, there will be a substantial amount of work for a site owner but once a standard has been achieved then it will be simple to keep the system up to date. There is a degree of flexibility in the accreditation scheme because all sites are different and some have facilities that others can only dream about.

An example of this would be sanitary facilities – some sites have brick built facilities with flushing toilets, hand basins and showers: others have trees!!!!! So we must set a minimum standard that is achievable by all, this would be a "hire" unit serviced weekly or fortnightly with hand-washing facilities. Then the site that supplies "trees" will not be accredited and could have their membership revoked. If a site supplies "deluxe facilities" then it is up to the site to advertise this information in their brochures.

During discussions with local authorities, county councils, Health and Safety officers, environmental health officers, the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority and insurance companies all have expressed support for an accreditation scheme. Some have indicated that as a governing body if we set the standards for sites they would be willing to use our scheme when they are called upon to inspect a paintball venue.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Information submitted by a site as part of the accreditation scheme will remain confidential and will not be passed to any other parties without the agreement of the site owner. A case for the exchange of information could be with insurance companies who offer better rates for accredited sites or for councils who want to highlight the accredited sites within their boundaries.

Basic information - SECTION A

You must submit the following information to be included in your accreditation package.

Site name	
Venue Address	
Site Owner/Contact name	
Postal Address	
Address	
Town	
County	
Postcode	
Contact telephone number	
Mobile telephone number	
Web site	
E – mail address	
Submission date	
UKPSF Membership number	

SECTION A supporting documentation

Please find below a check list of documentation required to support your application for accreditation. Photocopies of all these documents must be enclosed with the submission.

If you tick the no section and believe you can explain why you do not have the documentation in place simple put this information in the box at the bottom.

Copy of your public liability certificateYesNoIf No WhyCopy of your employee liability certificateYesNoIf No WhyStandard information pack as supplied to a customerYesNoIf No WhyCopy of first aid certificates for your marshalsYesNoIf No WhyCopy of basic food hygiene certificate if you supply food prepared on siteYesNoIf No WhyConfirmation that you have an accident bookYesNoIf No WhyDo you have a copy of the UKPSF Child Protection Policy? If no please include the document that you use for Child Protection.YesNoIf No WhyCopy of your most recent risk assessments forms if usedYesNoIf No WhyCopy of your marshal training recordsYesNoIf No WhyIf you have had an independent safety audit please supply a copyYesNoIf No Why				
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				Why
	If you have had an independent safety audit			
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If No Why Comments		

INSPECTION REPORT - SECTION B

If you tick the no section and believe you can explain why you do not have the documentation in place simple put this information in the box at the bottom or on a separate sheet if more space is required. If the question does not applie please put a line through the yes and no box so we know it does not apply to you venue

Do you supply a location map and/or directions to the paintball site? If yes please supply copy	Yes	No	lf No Why
Do you have a branded sign at the entrance to the paintball site?	Yes	No	lf No Why
If your site has a car park is it clearly marked and away from or protected from the live game areas?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is there a sign pointing out that "Vehicles are left at owners risk" or similar wording?	Yes	No	lf No Why
If you do not have a car park and on-road parking is used, is it safe and legal?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is there an access track to the safe area in the event of an emergency vehicle being required?	Yes	No	lf No Why
If your marshals direct cars in the car park do they wear a high visibility vest or similar item?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is your entrance to the "Safe Area" clearly marked?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Do your marshals or game managers greet customers on arrival at the safe area?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is there sufficient cover in the safe area in case of inclement weather?	Yes	No	lf No Why

Does your site have public footpaths or rights of way in or close to playing areas?	Yes No
If the answer is YES have these been suitably netted or far enough away for the playing areas to prevent paintballs hitting the general public?	Yes No If No Why
If pellet netting is used, is it inspected regularly?	Yes No If No Why
Are there suitable warning signs placed in areas where the public could stray into playing areas?	Yes No If No Why
Is there a sign at the exit from the safe area so players know they are entering the playing area? (e.g. Goggles On)	Yes No If No Why
Is there a sign at the exit from the playing area so players know they are entering the safe area? (e.g. No markers beyond this point)	Yes No If No Why
If players are allowed to bring markers into the safe area is there a sign to say barrel plugs / sock must be used beyond this point?	Yes No If No Why
If the site has a firing range is this clearly marked?	Yes No If No Why
Are the playing areas clear of natural hazards or are hazards like ditches and rivers clearly marked to prevent customers straying into dangerous areas?	Yes No If No Why
Are the boundaries of the playing area clearly marked, or are players made aware of the game boundaries prior to the start of the game?	Yes No If No Why
Are all structures / buildings / barricades safe and stable and free from hazards? (i.e. protruding nails) and inspected regularly	Yes No If No Why
If walk ways / ramps / bridges are used are they suitably guarded to prevent customers falling from heights and inspected regularly?	Yes No If No Why

If the new second second second second second to many second	
If trenches are used, are they shored to prevent	
collapse? (HSE to be consulted if in doubt)	Yes No If No
	Why
If tunnels are used are they suitably	
constructed? (HSE to be consulted if in doubt)	Yes No If No
	Why
If the paintball site is outdoors and operates	
after the hours of darkness are the playing	Yes No If No
areas floodlit?	Why
Are playing areas inspected prior to the start of	
	Yes No If No
day for debris or damage since the previous	
event?	Why
Does the site have flushing toilets?	
	Yes No If No
	Why
	VVIIy
Does the site have a chemical toilet and is it	
serviced regularly?	Yes No If No
	Why
Deep the site have constate male and female	
Does the site have separate male and female	
facilities?	Yes No If No
	Why
If urinals are used do they have running water to	
, , ,	Yes No If No
flush the facility?	
	Why
Has the site sufficient toilet facilities based on	
one toilet per fifty participants?	Yes No If No
one tollet per linty participants:	Why
	VVIIÿ
Is there a suitable hand washing facility	
including towels (disposable) and soap based	Yes No If No
	Why
on one sink per toilet?	
If the site uses a septic tank is it serviced	
regularly?	Yes No If No
	Why

If No / Why Comments

Please note

The UKPSF are not experts in the Health and Safety law with regards to construction and buildings on site. If you are unsure about a structure then consult your local HSE inspector. It is better to consult now than be prosecuted if an accident occurred and you were found negligent.

Are there sufficient bins for litter to be disposed of during a game day?	Yes	No	lf No Why
If a skip is used does it have a means to prevent wind dispersal of refuse or animals scavenging?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is the safe area/playing areas/car park tidy and free from rubbish?	Yes	No	lf No Why

Is there a central administration area where			
players can consult the game manager?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Has the site owner ensured that marshals are			
correctly kitted out and that their equipment conforms to UKPSF standards?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Are all site staff easily recognisable?			
	Yes	No	lf No Why
Does the site operate a player-staff ratio of 1:15			
or better?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is there a minimum of three staff on site at all			
times regardless of the number of guests on site?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Have all staff been trained in the roles they will			
be doing and has the site supplied training records?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Are all marshalling staff over the minimum			
accepted age of 16 years old?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Do all staff know what to do in the event of a			
serious injury or incident?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Does the site have an adequate means of			
communication between the playing fields and	Yes	No	If No
the safe area in the event of an emergency?			Why
Are marshals supplied with whistles to signal an			
incident to the senior marshal and stop games?	Yes	No	lf No Why
Is at least one member of staff trained in first aid			
to a minimum standard? (i.e. First Aid At work)	Yes	No	lf No Why
On arrival at the venue do customers sign an			
insurance waiver/disclaimer?	Yes	No	lf No Why

If pyrotechnics are on sale is there a clear policy that these are not sold to players under 18 years old? (e.g. a sign)	Yes No If No Why
Prior to the start of the games is a comprehensive safety briefing given?	Yes No If No Why
Does the site make a note of who gave the briefing to the group? (e.g. entry in a diary)	Yes No If No Why
Does the marshal giving the briefing use a "crib sheet" to ensure key points are not missed from the briefing?	Yes No If No Why
Are all players even if they have played before asked to attend the briefing?	Yes No If No Why
Are the key marshals and or game managers introduced to the players? (first-aider, game manager in case they have a query/complaint)	Yes No If No Why
Does the briefing contain essential information about the wearing of the mask? (What happens if it is removed - how to adjust the strap - what to do if the mask steams up etc.)	Yes No If No Why
Does the site provide suitable materials to clean the mask and anti fog solution if required?	Yes No If No Why
When a player leaves the safe area for their first game does a marshal check that the mask is fitted correctly and the strap is tight?	Yes No If No Why
Are the key areas of the paintball site explained to the customers? (Safe area - goggles on areas – location of toilets etc.)	Yes No If No Why
If the site allows the use of pyrotechnics is the correct procedure for use explained and/or demonstrated during the safety briefing?	Yes No If No Why

Is a suitable explanation of how to use a			
paintball marker and where it is stored/located	Yes	No	If No
given at the safety briefing?			Why
If own guns are allowed in the safe area are			
players warned about the use of barrel	Yes	No	If No
bungs/socks?		_	Why
If the demonstration of the paintball marker is			
given in the safe area are paintballs used?	Yes	No	If No
given in the <u>sale area</u> are paintballs used?	163	NU	Why
Describe site demonstrate the merilian an the			
Does the site demonstrate the marker on the			
target zone?	Yes	No	If No
			Why
Are any natural hazards and game boundaries			
brought to the attention of the players during the	Yes	No	If No
safety talk?			Why
Is it explained that there is no physical contact			
allowed during or after a game? (Fighting or	Yes	No	If No
threatening behaviour)	100		Why
Are the consequences explained to the	-		
	Vaa	Na	If No
customers - If they break the site rules they	Yes	No	Why
could be excluded from the venue?			VVIIy
Does the safety talk point out that paintballs can	 		
cause bruises and cut the skin if fired at close	Yes	No	If No
range?			Why
Does the marshal ask if any player suffers from			
any medical condition to bring it to the attention	Yes	No	If No
of the marshal in charge of the group? (Asthma)			Why
5 5 1 ()			
Does the site have a no drinking/drugs (except			
for medical conditions) policy?	Yes	No	If No
for medical conditions, policy:	163	INU	Why
Are sustances discourses of from abouting other			
Are customers discouraged from shooting other			If NI-
players in the head?	Yes	No	If No
			Why
If junior players are playing does the site insist			<u> </u>
that the organiser (at least one adult/group)	Yes	No	If No
attends the safety briefing even if they are not			Why
playing?			

Does the site owner ensure that junior players have their waivers countersigned by an adult so the adult is aware of the risks involved when playing paintball?	Yes No If No Why
Does the site request parental consent forms instead of asking an adult to countersign the waiver?	Yes No If No Why
Does the site ensure all players are 11 but in year 7 or above?	Yes No If No Why
Is the minimum age highlighted on the sites publicity material?	Yes No If No Why

Does the site have a means to summon the		
emergency services if required?	Yes No If No Why	
Does the site have a first aid box?		
	Yes No If No Why	
Does the site have an emergency eye wash		
bottle?	Yes No If No Why	
Does the site supply clean dry coveralls?		
	Yes No If No Why	
Does the site supply an ambush hood /		
Balaclava or similar as standard ?	Yes No If No Why	
Are the paintball masks supplied clean, dry and		
contain ear and face armour?	Yes No If No Why	
Are the lenses serviceable? (i.e. not full of		
scratches that could result in customers removing a mask in a game area)	Yes No If No Why	
Are the foams inside the mask and the straps of		
an acceptable standard?	Yes No If No Why	
If other items of equipment are supplied are		
they of an acceptable standard?	Yes No If No Why	
Are the markers stored in a designated area		
away from the safe area?	Yes No If No Why	
Does the site possess a chronograph to check		
marker velocities?	Yes No If No Why	
Are the site markers checked regularly and if		
they are is a record kept?	Yes No If No Why	

If players are allowed to use their own markers	
are these chronographed before and randomly	Yes No If No
during the day?	Why
If players are allowed to use their own markers	
are barrel plugs / bags checked?	Yes No If No
	Why
Does the site operate a strict "semi automatic"	
or "single shot" rule for all paintball markers?	Yes No If No
	Why
If players are allowed to use their own goggles	
does a marshal make sure they are up to	Yes No If No
standard and inspect them?	Why
Does the site have a means of checking if the	
markers issued at the start of the day tally with	Yes No If No
the markers at the end of the day?	Why
In the central administration office is there a	
map to the local A&E hospital? (This can be in a	Yes No If No
folder or on display)*	Why
Does the site display their public liability	
certificate? (This can be in a folder or on	Yes No If No
	Yes NO Why
display)* Does the site display their UKPSF membership	
certificate? (This can be in a folder or on	Yes No If No
	Yes No If No Why
display)*	VVII
Does the site display their marshals' first aid	Yes No If No
certificates? (This can be in a folder or on	Yes No If No Why
display)*	
Does the site display their basic food hygiene	
certificates if food is prepared on site? (This can	Yes No If No Why
be in a folder or on display)*	
Is the site risk assessment available if a	
member of the public wants to inspect it?*	Yes No If No
	Why
Does the site have an accident book?	
	Yes No If No
	Why

If No / Why Comments		

* It is suggested that these documents are either displayed on a notice board or kept in a folder in the central administration area.

Is there a "Health and Safety Law – What you should know" poster displayed?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Is the site's Employees liability insurance certificate displayed?	Yes	No	lf No Why	

	1
If the site has compressed air or CO2 cylinders	
are they stored correctly?	Yes No If No
	Why
Do appointed persons carry out the filling of	
	Yes No If No
CO2 or compressed air cylinders?	
	Why
If CO2 is used does the site have a set of scales	
available when filling bottles?	Yes No If No
	Why
In there a sign warning of the dengars of CO2	
Is there a sign warning of the dangers of CO2	
and pointing out authorised fillers must wear	Yes No If No
gloves, eye and ear protection?	Why
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
If compressed air is used does the fill rig contain	
a device to prevent the over filling of bottles?	Yes No If No
a device to prevent the over himny of bottles!	
	Why
Please take a random selection of cylinders –	
	Yes No If No
and confirm that they are all in test?	
	Why
Does the site have a fire extinguisher or suitable	
5	
means to extinguish a fire?	Yes No If No
	Why
If the site uses propane gas are the bottles	
stored away from naked flames?	Yes No If No
	Why
Are the propage bettles stored in a well	
Are the propane bottles stored in a well-	
ventilated location and protected from	Yes No If No
accidental damage?	Why
Is main water supplied on site?	
	Yes No
If the site uses water containers are they clearly	
marked if they are for drinking or if the water	Yes No If No
	Why
must be boiled?	
If the site uses petrol containers are they	
correctly marked and stored away from naked	Yes No If No
flames?	Why

Do you have all electrical appliances PAT tested? (Portable Appliance Testing)	Yes	No	lf No Why
Are all electrical items connected to an RCD device?	Yes	No	lf No Why

Does the site provide food other than chocolate,				
crisps etc.?	Yes	No]	
If an outside caterer supplies food has the site		T	T	
owner ensured the caterer meets local hygiene standards?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
If the venue cooks food on site has the local				
authority's environmental health department inspected them?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Have the staff responsible for catering attended				
a basic food hygiene course?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Is there suitable hand washing facilities for staff				
who prepare food?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Is smoking banned in all indoor spaces and food				
preparation areas?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
If food is handled are tongs/utensils supplied or			· · · ·	
disposable latex type gloves used?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
If a BBQ is used does the site have a				
thermometer for checking the temperature of cooked food?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Does the site have a temperature chart to				
ensure food is cooked correctly?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
Is all waste / excess food disposed of at the end				
of the day to prevent animal's savaging?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
If the site owner prepares food at home and				
brings it to the site are they aware that the local authority must inspect their home?	Yes	No	lf No Why	
If food is stored in a fridge/freezer does the site				
keep records of the fridge/freezer temperature?	Yes	No	lf No Why	

Action/Comments		

The UKPSF not experts in the catering trade therefore if you cater on site it is suggested you contact your local authority for advice and make sure your staff have attended a basic food hygiene course. UKPSF accreditation is not an approval for catering

Is the site game manager over the age of 21?	 			
	Yes	No	lf No	
			Why	
Are players own markers separated from				\neg
general customers markers? (If allowed)	Yes	No	If No	
general customers markers: (in allowed)	165	INC	Why	
	L		,	
If own markers are allowed are the players			· ···	
directed to the marker preparation area if they	Yes	No	If No	
want to "work on their markers"?			Why	
Does the site operate a surrender rule to try and				
prevent close range shots?	Yes	No	If No	
			Why	
Does the game manager explain about the safe				
distance for shooting players?	Yes	No	If No	
		110	Why	ļ
Do the staff wear badges or are the uniforms			<u> </u>	
marked to ensure customers know the persons	Yes	No	If No	
responsibility? (Marshal, Game manager etc)	100	NO.	Why	
				—
In the safe area is there a sign pointing out the				
key "game rules"?	Yes	No	If No	
			Why	
Does the site offer chest protectors to female				
and junior players?	Yes	No	If No	
			Why	

If No / Why Comments			

SITE OWNER

I have completed the attached accreditation questionnaire and believe that the information supplied is accurate and correct.

Signed		

Name _____

Position	
----------	--

Date _____

UKPSF Accreditation Status (internal use only)

Approved by			
Name			
Dated			
Review Date			
Accreditation No			
Copy of report sent to the site.			
Accreditation number			

Request for inspection made