

## **Home Office guidance on the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985**

The Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985 sets out provisions to deal with

- public order issues involving alcohol and designated sporting events (Home Office lead)
- licensing the consumption of alcohol at sports grounds (Department for Culture, Media and Sport policy lead)

The public order provisions of the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985 prevent: -

- the consumption of alcohol within view of the playing area (not within the ground)
- a person who is drunk entering a football ground whilst a designated football match is taking place
- the consumption of alcohol on certain coaches, trains and motor vehicles travelling to a designated football match
- the possession of fireworks, flares or similar

Later this year the Licensing Act 2003 will repeal the **alcohol licensing provisions only** of the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985. The **public order provisions** of the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985 **will remain extant**.

Existing licences can be converted, carrying over conditions correspondent to those in the licensing sections of the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985. Alternatively application can be made to the licensing authority to vary the licence.

Any enquiries relating to the Licensing Act 2003 or licensing provisions of the Sporting Events (Control of Alcohol etc.) Act 1985 should be directed to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.