

**SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS
(NORTHERN IRELAND) ORDER 2006**

S.I. 2006 No. 313 (N.I. 2)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

COMMENTARY ON ARTICLES

Part III – Safety Of Stands At Other Sports Grounds

Article 12 - Interpretation of Part III

19. [Article 12](#) defines some of the words used throughout Part III and gives the definition of a “stand” that this Order applies to.

Article 13 – Safety certificates for stands at sports grounds which are not designated under Part II

20. This Article specifies that a safety certificate is required for any stand (as defined in Article 12 of this Order) at a sports ground (ie as defined in Article 2 of this Order) which provides accommodation for more than 500 spectators. It also empowers the Department to change the figure of 500, after consultation with all interested parties, to a smaller number. Safety certificates issued using this Article will be similar to those issued under Article 4 for designated sports grounds (see paragraph’s 14 and 15).

Article 15 – Issue of certificates

21. [Article 15](#) sets out who a safety certificate for a regulated stand should be issued to and allows District Councils to determine whether someone is suitable to be issued with a certificate. The District Council will issue the certificate to someone who is likely to be in a position to prevent any contravention of the terms and conditions of a safety certificate but this does not necessarily have to be an individual; it can be the body corporate if the organisation applying for the certificate is an incorporated company.

Article 17 – Appeals

22. [Article 17](#) sets out the appeal procedures in relation to whether or not a stand is a regulated stand, whether or not the person applying for the certificate is suitable or against any of the terms and conditions included by a District Council in a safety certificate.

Article 18 – Offences

23. [Article 18](#) sets out the offences and penalties as they relate to Part III of this Order. Offences include admitting more spectators than is permitted by the safety certificate to a regulated stand or admitting spectators when a certificate has been surrendered or cancelled. Other offences include contravening the terms and conditions of a safety certificate or a prohibition notice.