



Equality Policy

Background:

As the governing body for football in Dorset, the Dorset County Football Association is responsible for setting standards and values that apply throughout the game at every level. Football belongs to, and should be enjoyed by, anyone who wants to participate in it.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with respect and that football is equally accessible to all. It has been compiled to reflect the requirements of the Equality Act 2010, and everyone who participates in football across the County should be aware of, and comply with the principles that underpin the policy.

Dorset County FA's commitment is to promote inclusion, to confront and eliminate discrimination whether by reason of age, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation, marital status or civil partnership, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or belief, ability or disability, pregnancy and maternity, and to encourage equal opportunities. This Policy is fully supported by the Board of Dorset County FA, and the Chief Executive and Board Equality Champion have overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy.

Key Principles:

Dorset County FA will ensure that it treats people fairly and with respect, and will provide access and opportunities for all members of the community to take part in, and enjoy, football activities. Dorset County FA will not tolerate harassment, including sexual harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of any participant, or any form of discrimination, whether physical or verbal.

Dorset County FA will work to ensure that any such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs. Dorset County FA commits itself to the immediate investigation of any allegation of harassment, bullying or discrimination, as soon as it is brought to their attention, and where such is found to be the case, applying relevant and proportionate sanctions

Dorset County FA is committed to inclusion and anti-discrimination and will raise awareness of these issues through education, campaigning, the achievement and maintenance of independently verified equality standards, widening diversity and representation and the promotion of diverse role models - all key actions to promote inclusion and eradicate discrimination within football.