



**FOR REFEREES**



# REFEREE PROGRESSION PACK

2022/23



## Referee Progression Pathway Overview

The Referee Progression Pathway will create more progression opportunities for more officials across the grassroots game (Level 5-7 & Level Y). The priorities of this change will focus on:

- Giving referees greater control over their own progression.
- Providing a route for expedited progression for those able to provide more commitment.
- Instilling a developmental philosophy into grassroots refereeing.
- Motivating and incentivising refereeing through structural change.
- Re-energising and diversifying the referee development workforce across the grassroots game.
- Removing some of the key barriers to progress.

### How?

The new methodology will replace the annual promotion process based on formal assessments with progression based on:

- Number of appointments.
- Completion of free online referee development modules.
- Support and advice from a Match Day Coach.
- Successful completion of a Laws of the Game exam.
- Attendance at face-to-face training (Level 6-5 only).

### Expected Benefits

- Increased coverage – as quarterly promotions will be linked to the completion of appointments; referees will be incentivised to cover more games.

- Developmental culture – move from “fault-finding” to a collegiate model+ free online content.
- Increase number of promotion candidates - incentivise progression based on achievable and attainable routes with opportunities offered at several stages during the season.
- Refresh the referee development workforce – attract more people into supporting other referees.
- Referees with potential – increasing the numbers in the pathway increases access to a development to increase standards.
- Progression alongside other roles within football – the model will allow officials to progress at their own pace (e.g. academy players to progress alongside playing commitments) or attract those when finished playing.
- Club marks no longer required - this will remove a potential area of concern/ unfairness and significantly reduce an administrative burden for clubs, leagues and County FAs.

### Level Clarification

To be considered for the Referee Progression Pathway, referees will need to opt in, but this can be at any point during a season. There will be no further changes to female pathway at 4W however referees will still need to apply in order to be considered for the 4W-3W promotion. Finally, every youth referee will start as Y1.

	Level Y1-Y2	Level Y2 to L7	Level 7-6	Level 6-5	Notes
<b>Games as a referee</b>	20 (U14 and below)	All games contribute towards youth requirement for Level 7-6	25 (Youth/Adult) *minimum 10 games in adult football	25 (Youth/Adult) *minimum 15 games in adult football	
<b>Games as an assistant referee</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	5	
<b>Observations</b>	0	0	0	0	
<b>Match Day Coaching Reports</b>	2	2	2	2	All games at Level 7-5 must be 9v9 or 11v11 football with offside in operation
<b>Online Development modules</b>	2	0	2	4 (specifically for L6 officials)	
<b>Face to Face IST</b>	0	0	0	1	
<b>Fitness Test</b>	0	0	0	0	
<b>Laws of the Game Test</b>	1	1	1	1	



“The Referee Progression Pathway will create more progression opportunities for more officials across the grassroots game”

#### Match Day Coaches

Match Day Coaches will be used to support Referees on the Progression Pathway and will replace observations. Match Day Coaches are separate to Developers, Mentors and Observers. Those who express an interest in becoming a Match Day Coach must complete the training. Standardised forms will be provided by The FA via the Progression Pathway Packs in order to support with the streamlining of standardisation. For safeguarding purposes, Match Day Coaches will be included in the compliance reports, however they must be logged as coaches on CRM by the RDO. Finally, RDO's will be responsible for selecting Match Day Coaches and ALL must have completed the Match Day Coaching training prior to operating in the role.

#### Promotions

Promotions up to Level 5 to be processed on a quarterly basis (31 October, 31 December, 28 February, 30 April) by the relevant County FA once an individual has met all the minimum requirements for progression. In order to support with tracking and monitoring of the Referee Progression Pathway, a Referee Match Forms and Promotion Trackers will be created by the Refereeing Department.

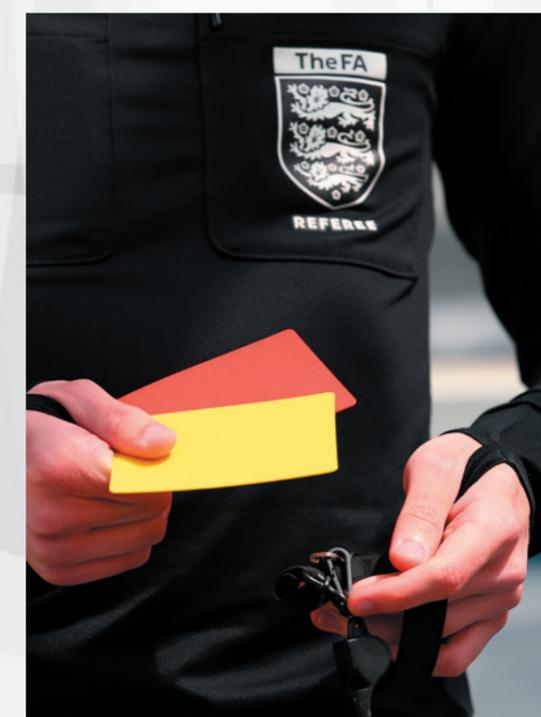


#### Governance

County FA's will be responsible for managing the promotion scheme for referees operating in their region in compliance with the criteria outlined. Match Day Coaches will be classified as "Coaches" within the FA Referee Regulations. All coaches will need to register and comply with the safeguarding and DBS requirements applicable for grassroots referee developers.

#### Quarterly Reviews

Reviews of the Referee Progression Pathway will be scheduled every quarter in order to monitor the progress of the pathway.





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