

Football Futures Blog – Autumn 2016



Harvey Newstead - Football Futures Leader

So recently I have just reached over 1,125 hours of volunteering in football which is an achievement I am extremely proud of!

I reached this landmark by continuously working with the Norfolk FA Skills team every Wednesday, where I supported the coaching of sessions and also delivered a few mini sessions myself with the help of Spencer and Pawel (FA Skills Coaches).

At school I also help run the Year 7 football team, where I coach them every week and help on match days. I have also been refereeing all the other school games at Thorpe, which has been a good experience for me to referee on week days.

On 19 September Andy, Tom and I presented to the Norwich Referees Association (RA) about our experience of the weekend at the RA Conference, which was great opportunity to share and learn from other referees.

I'm delighted to now be a part of the Norfolk FA CORE Program where we are appointed to games at Colney the NCFC training ground (picture below), where we are mentored for every game which is fantastic for our development as referees. My highlight game this season was at Colney between Norwich City U14's vs Ipswich U14's. This was because I got to work with fellow Football Futures members Andy Moncur and Tom Rampling, who were my assistants for the game which was great. Also another highlight for me at Colney was during pre-season in August when I was observed by FIFA Assistant referee Lee Betts where I received some great feedback.



Lastly at the end of last season I was invited to join the Horsford FC committee and I am now an ambassador and Vice Chairman for Horsford Community Sports. The role will see me work with players at the club to support them in their various coaching or refereeing roles and to also help them book onto courses with the FA in order to start their journey.

Ben Woodruff - Football Futures Leader

Since starting college in September, I have been volunteering with Community Sports Foundation at multiple PDC events and match day fan zones (picture below) that enabled me to work with the Foundation's disability football programme.



On top of this, I also go in to my old High School every Wednesday morning to volunteer my time to support the PE department deliver lessons for 3 hours. I then travel in the afternoon to go and help with more PE lessons at my Primary School with reception and year ones.

Lately I have been at Tasburgh United FC working with the U7 team and the coaches there giving them a boost by sharing some of my practices and showing them how to adapt them for the younger children. My experience with younger age groups has helped some of the coaches learn things from me allowing them to improve their sessions. I am also mentoring 3 younger coaches who have just started there, which is a rewarding way of sharing my experience plus it will help the club by providing more volunteers for the sessions.

Finally, I am still coaching weekly with the U13 team as well at Tasburgh which is great experience for me as I look to continue my development!

[Click here to find more information about our FA Football Futures Programme!](#)