

The FA Charter Standard League Programme

League Development Plan Template - Example



Name of League	Everyday League. NB This document consists of a series of examples to prompt and advise County FA teams in developing the plan with leagues. It is not a plan for just one league.
League Secretary (name and contact details)	A Hailwood 25 Soho Square London W1A 4FA
Charter Standard League Coordinator (name and contact details)	T Hailwood 25 Soho Square London W1A 4FA
League Welfare Officer (name and contact details)	H Hailwood 25 Soho Square London W1A 4FA
Seasons covered by plan	2008-2009 2009-2010 2010-2011 2011-2012

GROWTH AND RETENTION Increasing and sustaining participation	This section identifies how the league plans to retain and grow provision and develop flexible league formats that will support existing players, and introduce new male, female and players with a disability and from diverse communities into football.		
	Number of teams (divisions) currently	Target number of teams (divisions) for the period of the plan	Overall change in numbers of teams +/-
Mini-soccer teams	60 (6)	70 (7)	17%
Youth Male small sided (including 9-a-side)	0	20 (2)	+10
Youth Male 11-a-side teams	140 (14)	150 (15)	7%
Youth Female small sided (including 9-a-side)	18 (3)	24 (3)	+10
Youth Female 11-a-side teams	0	8 (1)	+6
Adult Male small sided teams	0	80 (8)	+80
Adult Male 11-a-side teams	144 (8)	168 (12)	17%
Adult Female small sided teams	0	10 (1)	+24
Adult Female 11-a-side teams	12 (1)	24 (2)	100%
Male Disability (Youth & Adults)	18 (3)	36 (6)	+12
Female Disability (Youth & Adults)	0	6 (1)	+18
Total number	392	596	+204

GROWTH AND RETENTION - How will we get there?				
We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Finish	Cost
Mini Soccer 1) We will open up new divisions for village teams at Under 10 and Under 11, relaxing the rule of fielding 2 teams from each club, and allowing the rural divisions to be made up of village clubs with 1 team each. We will then encourage villages in close proximity to join together in order to produce 9 and 11 a side teams for the higher age group divisions. NB We will replicate this model for girl's football, should mixed mini soccer fail to involve girls at a sufficient level (i.e. 30% of participants).	Led by the CSL coordinator in partnership with the rural clubs. Will look for support from CFA re Club – School links in the rural areas to boost numbers for teams.	2008-2009	2012	£750 through County Plan Club Links.
Youth Male Small Sided. 1) We will introduce 9 v 9 at under 12 in 2008/2009, and at under 13 in 2009/2010. Not only is this in line with LTPD, it also means that many of our larger clubs will be able to field 2 and possibly 3 teams, involving more players than before. e.g. at 11-a-side a club fielded 1 team with an 18 boy squad, but at 9 a side it field 2 teams with 12 boy squads, involving 24 boys fed through from mini soccer. We will use transition festivals at the end of year 6 to introduce boys to 9 a side. 2) We will introduce 9-11 a side transition festivals at the end of the Under13 season.	Led by the CSL Coordinator, working with the mini soccer managers of the clubs. Support from CFA, re explaining the benefits of 9v9. RCDM involved in advocating/demonstrating the value of 9v9. Transition festivals organised and delivered in partnership with the CFA and Clubs.	2008-2009	2012	Changes to pitches and purchase of goals.
Youth Male 11-a side. 1) We will take an active role with all our clubs to ensure a smooth transition from 7 to 11 a side (where 9 a side is not being introduced). This will include a transition festival for Years 6's from all clubs to participate in the 11 a side form of the game. Additionally, we will work with all our clubs to ensure that children who have come through the mini soccer system but haven't made it into their clubs 11 a side squads, get a chance to be involved with clubs who are a few players short of fielding a team. Similarly we will work with rural based clubs to amalgamate their teams where they need greater numbers.	Transition festivals led by the leagues in partnership with the CFA's. CSL Coordinator to facilitate discussions between clubs re amalgamation and player recruitment.	2008-2009	2012	Delivery of transition festivals covered by CFA and Club fees.

How representative is the league of your local community? (e.g women, disabled people, ethnic minorities, emerging communities etc?)

What challenges do you face in maintaining the number of teams in your league and what can you do to address these?

What potential do you have to expand and grow the league and what would need to happen for you to do this?

How could you attract people from under-represented groups into your league? (e.g women, disabled people, ethnic minorities, emerging communities etc?)

What links do you have with other Charter Standard leagues in your area to enable quality progression routes for players and how could you improve these?

What partnerships do you need to establish to increase participation and how will you develop these?

We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
Youth Female Small Sided. 1) We will establish, support and administer a new rural 5 a side league in the most remote part of the county, serving girls across 10-16 age group who could not otherwise access competitive opportunities. 2) We will adopt and affiliate the new female youth small sided league developed by the NDC Hat Trick officer in the heart of the inner city.	CSL Coordinator will work with the CFA, specifically the W&G FDO and the rural clubs to build these teams through Club links work. CSL working with Hat Trick officer to affiliate.	2008-2009	£750 through Club links County Plan
Youth Female 11-a side. The county currently has no 11 a side football leagues. We will work with our existing girls teams/clubs to develop an Under 16 11 a side league. We will do this by encouraging Under 14's teams to amalgamate where they have too few players and in return we will administer and support the league.	CSL coordinator will work with the clubs and the W&G FDO to build the numbers to enable the delivery of an 11 a side league	2009-2010	None
Adult Male Small sided. 1) We will work with the CFA to ensure that we have a robust disciplinary process which minimises poor behaviour and ensures that players are retained in the game. 2) We will also seek to create positive links with our Men's 11- a- side league, ensuring minimal fixture clashes and the sharing of CPD around treatment of injuries, the development of referees and coaches. 3) We will work with CFA to deliver a new small sided league using Futsal as the base game.	CSL Coordinator will work with the CFA and other male leagues to deliver on improved discipline, CPD and Futsal.	2009-2010	Based on CPD and Futsal costs
Adult Male 11 a side. 1) We will strengthen our links with the local Youth League, establishing joint liaison meetings. The focus of these will be the establishment of Under 19 and Under 21 leagues, in order to provide a stepping stone from youth to senior football. Our improved connection with the junior league will also ensure that we are more familiar with the standards that young players are used to and the innovations we may need to make to retain them. 2) We will work with our neighbouring University and College to connect in their inter mural leagues, supporting them with administration and negotiating entry into the leagues for local 11 a side teams which are better suited through circumstance to play in these leagues. 3) We will establish a new vets league for the over 35's which will take place mid week on the local STP, ensuring parents/coaches involved in junior football at a weekend have access to the 11 a side game.	CSL Coordinator will establish strong links with the Junior League. May require support from the CFA in establishing the U19/21 leagues. Partnership working with the College/Uni, brokered by the CFA.	2009-2010	None

We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
Adult Female Small Sided. 1) We (The Girl's League) will establish a new Futsal league for women. This will serve as an alternative for those girls who don't wish to move from the girls' game to the senior women's game plus those women dropping out of the senior game, plus new entrants to the game.	CSL Coordinator from the women's league working with the WAG and the local leisure centre to establish a league.	2009-2010	Cost of sports hall.
Adult Female 11 a side. 1) We will establish stronger links with the girl's league to facilitate smoother transition for players into the senior game. We will facilitate links between senior clubs and junior clubs where these don't already exist to ensure players have clear exit routes to senior football. 2) We will work with the local college /uni to establish Women's Inter mural football, which will have crossover into the women's county league at weekends.	CSL Coordinator works with the WAG to link senior and junior clubs. Partnership with the FESCOs in the Colleges.	2008-2009	None
Male Disability Youth and Adult. 1) We will establish a new pan disability league which will complement and feed the Adult Pan disability league. It will cover an age range of 12-16, being played on a central venue basis.	CSL Coordinator working closely with the CFA Development team to grow new teams to play in the league.	2008-2009	Funding support from Disability National Manager.
Female Disability Youth and adult. 1) We will establish a new 6 team female disability adult league, managed by the existing disability league structure and playing on the same central venue basis.	CSL Coordinator working closely with the CFA Development team to grow new teams to play in the league.	2009-2010	Funding support from Disability National manager

RAISING STANDARDS AND ADDRESSING BEHAVIOUR creating a safe and positive environment	This section identifies ways in which the league can create a fun and s the league will raise standards of behaviour and ensure a safe and pos	afe environment for everyone involved in its structure. This includes how itive environment for children and vulnerable adults.
Charter Standard League Criteria	Current position	Target for the period of the plan
Percentage of teams with Charter Standard	40%	100%
The league actively promotes the Respect Programme through implementation of: The Respect Codes of Conduct Designated Spectator Area for games Captains taking more responsibility for the behaviour of the players Referee managing the game	Not implemented, although there is a league rule re coning off pitches 1m from the touchline	To implement all aspects of Respect across the league
Equality and Safeguarding Children policies and procedures	Not in place for the league	Adopt FA's policies for Equality and Safeguarding. Also will implement a new rule – All teams within the league will have a volunteer qualified to a minimum FA Treatment of Injuries, thus enhancing safety at matches.
Youth League Welfare Officer	Not in place for league	Appoint qualified Youth League Welfare Officer with CRB, Safeguarding and WOW qualifications. This person will create an active network of Welfare Officers across the league

We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
 100% Charter Standard. 1) We will develop a support network to all the clubs in our league who need to achieve the award. This will include support from the CSL Coordinator, buddying up with clubs that have achieved the award, plus close liaison with the CFA team to ensure that clubs have access to Level 1's, Safeguarding courses etc. (through workshops, bespoke courses) that are key requirements for the award. 2) We will maintain a register of all our club coach and volunteer qualifications/dates, ensuring that we are able to offer regular league sponsored courses in First Aid/Safeguarding/WOW refreshers when these are due for renewal. 	CSL Coordinator/Youth League Welfare Officer, with support from the CFA team in terms of delivering key courses to meet CS requirements.	2008-2009	Bourne by the clubs, although potential to access funding as leagues from FF on behalf of clubs
Respect 1) We will fully implement the Respect programme across all our divisions within our league. We will deliver a briefing evening to all the clubs in partnership with the CFA. Flagging up the key initiatives that all clubs will need to implement for Respect to be successful in our league. 2) We will apply to the FF for funding towards the new barriers and ask that all clubs through their league subscriptions bear 50% of the cost. 3) We will run a workshop for Club Welfare officers/Secretaries to adapt their existing codes of conduct or write new ones, which have clear sanctions and procedures for dealing with poor behaviour. 4) We will deliver a workshop with the County Referees Manager to all our managers so that they are clear on the Captain's taking more responsibility for players initiative for the season. We will also use this session to brief managers on rule changes. 5) We will implement a formal rule change for the league ensuring that Respect initiatives are mandatory, with suitable sanctions for those who transgress.	The CSL and Youth League Welfare officer will work closely with the CFA Team- Welfare/Referees DO's to implement the Respect campaign	2009-2010	Cost of barriers borne by raised subs and league bid to the FF

Raising Standards - Development questions to consider when producing your action plan:

How are you engaging young people in developing their own codes of conduct?

How do you deal with complaints and what could you do to improve in this area?

How do you deal with allegations of abuse and discrimination and what could you do to improve in this area?

What links does your League Welfare Officer have with participating team Club Welfare Officers to share best practice and ensure adherence to codes of conduct?

What can the league do to improve standards of discipline and behaviour in the league?

We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
Equality and Safeguarding Policies and Procedures- 1) We will adopt the FA's recommended policies, and we will play an active role as stated above in supporting our clubs to adopt the highest standards with regard to equality and safeguarding through advocacy and sponsorship of CPD. 2) We will implement a new rule in our league which will serve to raise the standard of medical care for our players (applicable to mini/youth/adult). From 2009/10, all teams competing in the league will need to have a volunteer who has the FA Treatment of Injuries qualification. In partnership with the CFA we will ensure that there is a league sponsored and subsidised Treatment of Injuries Course delivered annually so that clubs can comply with this requirement.	Welfare Officer will undertake this work re policies. The CSL Coordinator will work with CFA to organise and ensure delivery of the Treatment of Injuries course.	2008-9	Funded through league sponsorship/CFA subsidy
Youth League Welfare Officer. 1) We will appoint a fully qualified Welfare Officer and ensure that he/she is a full member of the league committee, with Welfare being a compulsory agenda item at League Meetings The YLWO will be the lead for the Respect programme in the league. He/she will also develop a network amongst the CWO's ensuring there is sharing of good practise re dealing with behaviour, adherence to codes of conduct etc. In addition he/she will work with the County WO to deliver appropriate training to Club WO's. The YLWO will be key in ensuring that complaints re behaviour are dealt with professionally and in line with procedures.	CSL will appoint the Youth League Welfare Officer. It is important that this individual develops a good working partnership with the County WO, for support advice and guidance.	2008-2009	None

BETTER PLAYERS developing better players with a focus on the 5-11 age group	This section outlines how the league will support every player to reach his/her potential – and in particular support the development of skills at a younger age. The 5-11 year old age group is absolutely crucial to embedding basic skills, enhancing enjoyment of the game, developing healthy lifestyles and creating a new generation of talented players.		
Charter Standard League Criteria	Current position	Target for the period of the plan	
Youth leagues			
Use of small-sided football formats	No Small sided formats	Will move to 9 a side for u12 and u13. Introduced in 2008-9. Plus 7v7 sponsored festivals introduced 2009-10.	
Size of divisions not to exceed 12 teams (from 09/10 season)	Some divisions at 12 teams, most at 10	Will ensure not over 10 teams from 09/10	
No league tables at U7,U8 age groups	No league Tables produced Under 7 and Under 8 Friendlies only	Maintained position	
Encouraging the provision' of flexible format festivals	Not at present	Will implement transition festivals for 7-9 a side in 2008-9	
Youth leagues and Adult Leagues			
Coach education programme	No innovations at present	Will implement rule that lead managers/coaches in the top division of the men's senior league must have a minimum level 2. Will implement a coach education programme sponsored by the youth league, for all coaches.	

Have you considered the structure, timing and rules of your league; do these contribute to the development of players?

BETTER PLAYERS - How will we get there?				
We will (actions)	Responsibility (Who will lead?) (Consider what support you would like from the CFA)	Start	Cost	
Use of small-sided football formats. 1) We will introduce 9v9 from 08-09 for U12 teams, with the u13's the year after. 2) Additionally we will introduce 7v7 festivals 2x per year across all age groups 12-17's to refresh coaches about the benefits of small sided to skill development.	Led by the CSL coordinator. Festivals to be delivered by major community clubs at their home venues.	2008-9	None	
Size of divisions not to exceed 10 teams (from 09/10 season). 1) We will maintain our commitment to divisions of 10 or less teams, which has worked well except for where we have 21-23 teams where we have leagues of 7 which give only 12 games a season. We will look to resolve this by introducing greater innovations of teams forming mini leagues within leagues at the end of the season to give them additional matches- up to 16/18.	CSL Coordinator to resolve with divisional secretaries	2009-2010	None	
No league tables at U7, U8 age groups. 1) We will maintain our commitment to this rule.	CSL Coordinator	2008/9	None	

We will (actions)	Responsibility (Who will lead?) (Consider what support you would like from the CFA)	Start	Cost
Provision of flexible format festivals. 1) We will introduce transition festivals in April/May each year to give boys making the move from 7 to 9 a side an experience of the wider format of the game.	CSL Coordinator in partnership with the clubs.	2008-9	Fees for participation by the clubs
Coach education programme. 1) We will deliver a coach education programme which enhances the CPD opportunities of coaches within our league. With the support of the CFA we will organise the 1 day Intro to age appropriate module and the FA Youth Module 1, accessible to all league coaches. Additionally we will sponsor 1 Level 1 course per year for clubs to send new coaches on in order to maintain CS status. We will ensure that each year there are 3 in service days built into the playing programme, so that there will be no fixtures the weekend of the technical in service days. We will work with the CFA Coaches Association to deliver the In service. 2) The Male Senior League will be implementing a rule change from 2010 that no team can play in the top 2 divisions of the league unless they have a qualified Level 2 Coach. The League will sponsor an annual level 2 course to support this requirement. Additionally there will be an in service technical programme 3 times per year, to include the FA Coaching Adults module, which will be dovetailed with the fixture programme as above.	CSL Coordinator in close partnership with the CFA Coach Education Officer and the County Coaches Association	2008/9 2010/11 for the Level 2 rule change	Fees for courses subsidised through the league and through club support

RUNNING THE GAME Leading and governing the game efficiently	This section focuses on the identification of ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of how the league is run.	
Charter Standard League Criteria	Current position	Target for the period of the plan
League is sanctioned by the FA/CFA	Already sanctioned	Maintain sanction
League is signed up to The FA Standard Code of Rules	Already signed up, but committed to checking that we are in line with the regulations.	Annual review of rules
Charter Standard League agenda item at league meetings	Not currently	This will become a permanent agenda item.
Youth League Welfare Officer and League Coordinator sit on the league committee	Not currently	The league will be reconstituted to include these 2 key posts on the league committee.
League uses a web based administration system for results, tables and fixtures	Currently uses a web based administration system- not Full-Time'	We will change from our existing system to Full-Time and dovetail our existing web site with Full-Time'

How representative of the local community are the people involved in running the league? (e.g women, disabled people, ethnic minorities, emerging communities etc?

RUNNING THE GAME - How will we get there?			
We will (actions)	Responsibility (Who will lead?) (Consider what support you would like from the CFA)	Start	Cost
League is sanctioned to the CFA / FA. 1) The League will work with the CFA/FA annually to review its' sanction.	League Secretary	2008-9	None
League is signed up to the FA Standard Code of Rules. 1) We will annually review our rules with the County Sec and CFA sanctions committee to ensure that we continue to comply with the FA rules.	League Secretary in liaison with the CFA	2008-9	None
Charter Standard League agenda item at league meetings. 1). We will ensure that CSL is a permanent agenda item at league meetings, with performance against our development plan being the key focus.	CSL Coordinator.		
Youth League Welfare Officer and League Coordinator sit on the league committee 1). We will agree changes to our constitution, so that these new posts will become permanent members of the league committee.	League secretary	2008-9	None
League uses a web based administration system to manage results tables and fixtures's 1). We will utilise the full time system, ensuring that all members of the committee plus 1 member of each league club receives Full Time training. 2) We will amalgamate our exiting website with Full Time.	League Secretary/Fixtures secretary/Refs appointment secretary and CSL Coordinator	2008-9	None

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT recruiting and supporting a skilled and diverse football workforce	This section looks at how the league will recruit, train and develop the workforce that will support the administration, development and promotion of the league.		
Charter Standard League Criteria	Current position	Target for the period of the plan	
Volunteer Charter Standard League Coordinator	No CSL Coordinator	Appoint CSL coordinator	
League provides a minimum of 3 CPD opportunities per season'	No records kept of coaches qualifications and their ongoing CPD. No League led CPD for coaches, referees, administrators.	Establish coaching records of clubs. Establish league led courses for referees, administrators, coaches. 2 x Referees basic course per year. 1 x Level 1 course per year. 1x Level 2 taster.	

How can you raise standards in officiating, coaching and administration by making rule changes which force clubs to comply?

We will (actions)	Responsibility (Who will lead?) (Consider what support you would like from the CFA)	Start	Cost
Volunteer Charter Standard League Coordinator 1). We will appoint a CSL Coordinator who's key task will be to ensure that the league delivers on its' development plan.	League Committee to appoint CSL Coordinator	2008-9	None
Continuous professional development opportunities for volunteers and teams. 1) We will establish a clear database of club qualifications in partnership with the CFA, in order to develop our programme of CPD/coaching/referee/admin courses. 2) We will sponsor a Level 1 course each year, for the league clubs to ensure that they are able to maintain the CS requirement of a 1 level coach per team. 3). As a Senior Step 7 men's league we are keen to raise the coaching standard within our league, thus we will implement a rule from 2009-10 that all teams competing in the league must have a minimum Level 2 coach. To support this we will work with the County FA to deliver a league sponsored and subsidised level 2 coaching course. 4) We will introduce a new rule within our Boys youth league that from 2009-2010 no team can compete unless they have a qualified Level 7 referee attached to them (NB this can be a parent of a participant who is qualified). We will work with the County RDO to deliver 2x the 2 day referees course during the close season, to ensure that teams can comply with this rule. 5) The league will deliver annual CPD for the club secretaries/administrators, focusing on compliance with league rules and feedback on the fixture and registration processes.	The CSL Coordinator will work with the clubs to ascertain their key coaching requirements for the year, then partner with the CFA to tailor coach ed courses to the club needs. Similarly the CSL Co will partner with the County RDO to deliver on the referees initiative, following agreement on the rule change through committee	2009-10	Funded through club contributions, and a league bid to the small grant fund.

FACILITY DEVELOPMENT improving the quality and access to facilities	This section identifies the facilities required by the league to sustain and increase participation.		
How will we get there?			
We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
We will work with the local authority to prepare a significant bid to the Football Foundation for the development of the major playing fields site in our district, on which 12 of our 20 clubs compete.	Local Authority supported by the League committee.	2010	£1 million through LA and FF
We will work with the Local Authority to develop a stock of appropriately sized pitches and goals e.g. in order that boys and girls at 11 years old are not playing on full sized pitches with 24x 8 goals or that 9 a side isn't played on 11 a side pitches. We will support them to bid for FF funds via the Goal Post Safety Scheme to deliver on this re-organisation of pitches.	Local Authority with support and advice from the league and CFA	2010	Bid through the FF Goal Post Safety Scheme
Local Authority with support and advice from the League and the County FA'			

How can you ensure that the dimensions of pitches and the sizes of goalposts across the facilities that your league utilises, are appropriate to the age and format of football that your teams are playing?

PROMOTION	This section identifies the facilities required by the league to sustain and increase participation.			
How will we get there?				
We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost	
We will develop our own website compatible with the FA's Full Time system, which will act as a key tool in communicating initiatives being undertaken by the league as well as results and fixtures	CSL Coordinator	2010	Self financing through sponsorship/advertising	

How can you make greater use of the Charter Standard logo to promote the league? (e.g website / printed materials)

What opportunities do you have to promote the league's Charter Standard status in the local community? (e.g local papers / open evenings)

How are you using the Charter Standard certificate and crystal award to promote the status of the league?

COUNTY FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION SUPPORT

The following table identifies the support package that has been agreed between the (insert league) and (insert CFA) based on delivering the identified aims, objectives and targets of the league and the County Football Association.

Development Plan Area	We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
Growth and Retention	Work with the league to develop their ideas for growth and retention, resource them where appropriate e,g through Club Links, use experience of delivering festivals to support and advise	CDM/FD0	2008-9	Club Links money
Raising Standards and Addressing Behaviour	Respect lead at the county will work with the league to ensure understanding and compliance with the programme. Support to access resources, and develop codes etc. FDO/CDM will work with the league to achieve the 100% CS Club requirement. Targeting those clubs that need support to achieve the award.	Respect Lead officer/Welfare Officer FDO/CDM working with league. W&GFDO if a girls league etc.		
Better Players	CFA staff supported by Regional Coach Development Managers to work through how best the leagues can comply with LTPD and support them to deliver this. Coach education CPD will be administered and staffed by the county tutors, ensuring it meets the required quality standards	CFA staff + RCDM Coach Education lead from CFA		
Running the Game	'Overseen by the CFA CEO and governance team ensuring the league is in line with the FA Standard Code of Rules etc. Advice and support given through football administration workshops'	CEO/Governance	2008-9	None

Development Plan Area	We will (actions)	Responsibility	Start	Cost
Workforce Development	The CFA Coach Ed team will support the leagues to develop and deliver appropriate courses for member clubs. The Referee Development Officer will support the league to develop and deliver referees courses. The CEO and governance team will support the leagues to develop appropriate training for club administrators.	Coach ed, RDO, WDO, CEO, and team to support the leagues in line with ther development plans.	2008-9	Costs covered through FF league workforce grant
Facilities	CDM to involve leagues where appropriate in the development of local authority facilities	CDM	2008-9	2012
Promotion	CFA Admin/Marketing to support Leagues in the development of a league website	CFA Marketing/Admin	2009-10	2012

Signed (league representative)

Date

Signed (CFA representative)

Date