

U18 REFEREE ARMBAND



SCHEME LAUNCHED



A new Respect initiative for young referees has now been launched.

Referees under the age of 18 will now wear yellow armbands to signify their age, making managers, Coaches, players and spectators aware that they are still subject to the children's safeguarding legislation.



U18 Referee

- Yellow armbands provided for referees under the age of 18 from the 2019/20 season
- The armbands will help identify younger referees & ensure they are supported
- The armbands will remind everyone that these referees are subject to the children's safeguarding legislation, encouraging everyone to think twice before making abusive comments towards the young referees
- All NRCFA U18 referees will receive their armband before the start of the 2019/20 season, and it should be worn at all times whilst officiating

Ross Joyce, NRCFA Referee Development Manager, said: "Nearly 45% of our current registered referees in North Riding are under the age of 18. Referees make mistakes just like young players do, and I ask that everyone respects this. If anyone has an issue with a young referee, they should contact the County FA direct and not take issue with the referee directly. We have a Referee Development Support Policy in place alongside our 24-hour support hotline. At NRCFA we take the well-being of our young referees extremely seriously."

Steven Wade, NRCFA Chief Executive Officer, added: "NRCFA is fully committed to The FA's Respect programme and the 'We Only Do Positive' key message. It is important that Respect is embedded across all levels of football."