

WHERE TO REPORT POOR BEHAVIOUR OR WELFARE CONCERNS

There may come a time when you witness poor behaviour or have concerns about the welfare of players or others involved in the game and may feel as though you need to formally raise them. You can report any poor behaviour you witness or any welfare concerns you become aware of to the following authorities so appropriate action can be taken to investigate and deal with anything that is raised.

Matchdays: To the Match or League Officials



If you witness any poor behaviour or risks to welfare taking place during a game and you are a coach, you can alert the Match Official at the best opportunity. If you are a spectator, you can make your coach aware so they can in-turn make the Match Official aware. The Match Official will monitor the situation, take whatever action they can based on what they witness and should ensure that the matter (including the fact that concerns were brought to their attention) is noted in any written report to the County FA after the match

You can also notify any League Officials who should in-turn and at the earliest opportunity notify the County FA of anything that was reported to them so that the County FA can investigate further.



To your Team Coach and/or Club Secretary or Welfare Officer



If you are part of a Club, away from any match you can report any matter of poor behaviour you may have witnessed or any welfare concerns you may have to Officials within your Club. You can raise a matter in the first instance with your Team Coach who should notify the Club's Secretary or Welfare Officer.

The Club Secretary or Welfare Officer may conduct an internal investigation which may involve gathering statements from anyone who may have witnessed anything. If the matter pertains to the behaviour or welfare of individuals within the Club the Club may look to implement internal measures. If it concerns the behaviour or welfare of anyone outside the Club, or if it is a serious matter, the Club may refer the matter to the County FA.

To the County Football Association



If you wished to escalate a matter of misconduct or refer a potential Safeguarding matter, you can get in touch with the County Football Association. As the governing body of grassroots football, the County FA may seek further evidence from any Club, complainant

or referrer in order to establish whether the matter is a Discipline or Safeguarding matter so an investigation can take place and formal action in line with FA Rules and Regulations can be taken if the County FA can substantiate such action.



Northumberland FA's Designated Safeguarding Officer is Gill Upperton. The Discipline Officer is Adam Williamson. Gill will investigate any welfare concerns whilst Adam will address misconduct.



Discipline@NorthumberlandFA.com
Safeguarding@NorthumberlandFA.com

Office Line: 0191 270 0700