



**with Jonathan Hall,
FA Director of Governance**

Rules and Regulations relating to financial matters at clubs, The FA has taken appropriate action, including sanctioning such clubs and, where appropriate, club officials via its disciplinary process.

What is The FA doing to deal with player transfer irregularities in England?

The FA and the leagues monitor player transfers closely. Players are registered with clubs where the applicable league and FA Rules and Regulations have been complied with in line with FIFA's requirements on transfers. Wherever any irregularity arises, The FA's Compliance Department investigates the matter thoroughly to establish the facts. Where there is evidence of a breach of the domestic rules and regulations, the matter is dealt with through The FA's disciplinary process.

How does The FA regulate the activity of player agents?

For the first time, in January 2006, The FA introduced domestic regulations governing the activity of agents under its jurisdiction.

During the year, The FA has considered further issues regarding the activity of agents under its jurisdiction and has recently approved some key enhancements to the January 2006 regulations.

Amongst other things, these enhancements provide absolute clarity that an agent may only act for one party in a player transfer (i.e. no dual representation).

They also aim to ensure that current exempt individuals (such as close family and lawyers) and overseas licensed agents come within football's jurisdiction thereby creating a level playing field for all those acting as agents.



How is The FA tackling the problem of financial maladministration at clubs?

The financial administration at the large majority of clubs is in good shape. Over the course of the last five years, The FA, through its Financial Advisory Unit (FAU), has concluded review visits at almost all professional and semi-professional clubs and offered guidance and advice to those clubs that have required or requested assistance with their financial administration.

On the very few occasions where there has been clear evidence of a breach of The FA's

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

DATE	VENUE	EVENT
January 22-23	Malaysia	AFC-FA Tutor Training Workshop
January 24-28	Malaysia	AFC-FA Goalkeeper Coaching Course
January 25-26	Germany	UEFA Congress
February 7	Manchester	Senior Friendly International: England v Spain
February 9-11	Sudan	CAF Congress
Feb 23 - 1 Mar	Soloman Islands	FA Tutor Training Workshop
March 2-4	Manchester	International Football Association Board
March 24	Israel	Euro 2008 Qualifier: Israel v England
March 28	Spain	Euro 2008 Qualifier: Andorra v England

FA supports Project Brazil



The FA supports the Bobby Moore Fund's Project Brazil as part of The FA's 2006 Charity Partnership with Cancer Research UK.



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COMMUNIQUÉ



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OFC partnership sealed

TheFA.com

The FA has entered into three new co-operation agreements with the Oceania Football Confederation and two of its member associations, Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

- Focusing on football administration in Malawi
- Enhancing OFC referee development
- Reaching out to disadvantaged youths in Bolivia
- Growing girls' and women's football in Botswana
- Improving fitness levels in the CONCACAF region
- Q&A with Jonathan Hall, FA Director of Governance



CAF

Strategic planning and information technology focus for Malawi



Eamonn Farrell and Peter Kay (front row) pictured with the course delegates

The Football Association of Malawi (FAM) has turned to The FA for help in developing the grassroots game in the country.

FA National Investment Manager Peter Kay, Facilities Manager Eamonn Farrell and IT Support Analyst Andrew Ellington held workshops for a group of 30 club, league and FAM administrators from all over Malawi in November.

The focus of the three-day course was placed firmly on how best to use strategic planning and information technology to assist the development of football at all levels in the African nation.

The participants worked in groups to assess the problems facing football in Malawi and, through a series of presentations, provided some workable solutions.

Other areas covered in the workshop included the development of facilities and football programmes; human resources; finance; marketing and sponsorship; and communications.

Peter Kay said: "The team has been impressed with the level of enthusiasm and commitment shown by the delegates, some of whom have travelled long distances to attend.

"The seminar was very successful and we hope that we have been able to put into place some sustainable measures that will help those responsible for the development of the game in Malawi."

Following the successful debate generated by the subjects on the agenda, a forum has now been put in place to allow football representatives from the northern, central

and southern regions to exchange ideas and keep the channels of communication open.



FA delivers referee development course in South Africa



The South African Football Association (SAFA) has called on The FA to help it formulate a four-year strategy for the development of referees ahead of hosting the FIFA 2010 World Cup™.

The FA sent a five-strong team of instructors from its Referees Department to Pretoria in

July to deliver a week-long course to 60 of their South African counterparts.

The aim was to provide a trained qualified instructor for each province in South Africa by introducing new teaching techniques and learning styles to the participants for them to adopt in their referee training.

FA Regional Referees Manager Janie Frampton said: "It is most rewarding to know that we have helped and supported the SAFA Referees Department to take a giant step forward in building their foundations for referee instruction ahead of the 2010 World Cup.

"There is no doubt that with the clear enthusiasm, passion and commitment from key personnel, referee development will continue to grow, which proves that the education The FA offers makes a huge difference."



The delegation with SAFA Head of Referees Carlos Henriques

CONCACAF

Fitness on the up in the CONCACAF region



FA Sports Scientist Gary Phillips put 28 coaches from the CONCACAF region through a three-day fitness course aimed at improving training preparation ahead of major international tournaments.

Phillips, who was assisted by Exercise Scientist Ryland Morgans from the Football Association of Wales and FA fitness consultant Neil Lewis, covered a series of topics during the workshop which was held in Trinidad & Tobago in November.

The course instructors focused on speed development, monitoring and testing,

strength and power, as well as developing training strategies for the FIFA 2010 World Cup™ in South Africa.

FIFA Instructor Lincoln Phillips also led some goalkeeping sessions for the coaches who had come from 19 CONCACAF member associations.

Donald Chin Loy, Head Trainer for the St Kitts-Nevis Football Association, said: "It is not the talent that is lacking in the Caribbean but the scientific and thorough approach to preparing players for international tournaments."



Gary Phillips explains a drill to attendees of the fitness course in Trinidad & Tobago in November



Changing Lives, Saving Lives in Botswana



The willingness and enthusiasm of the Batswana girls taking part in this training session is clear to see

The Football Association continued its drive to develop the game at all levels around the world with the delivery of two workshops in Botswana in October.

Botswana is one of The FA's partners under the UEFA-CAF Meridian Project, which brings together European national football associations with their counterparts in Africa to assist the development of the game throughout the continent.

The FA's Rachel Pavlou and Heather Cowan challenged an enthusiastic selection of coaches, referees, administrators and volunteers to develop a strategy to ignite the growth of girls' and women's football in the country, from grassroots to a national team.

Running alongside the women's workshop was the 'Changing Lives, Saving Lives' International Football Development Project, which was led by Nick Levett, John Heathcote, Donna McIvor and FA young leaders Marcus

Strudwick, Lauren O'Sullivan, Kirsty Dunleavy and Chris Rees.

Twenty-five young Africans were trained to become Junior Football Organiser leaders and were also encouraged to integrate HIV/AIDS education games into their programmes.

The FA team's hard work culminated in two highly successful football festivals, where more than 100 school girls were given their first taste of playing the game.

"Having experienced the struggle for recognition that girls' and women's football has sometimes had to endure in England, I was genuinely moved by the dedication and enthusiasm of the course participants in Botswana," said Pavlou, the FA's newly-appointed National Football Development Manager for Women and Girls.

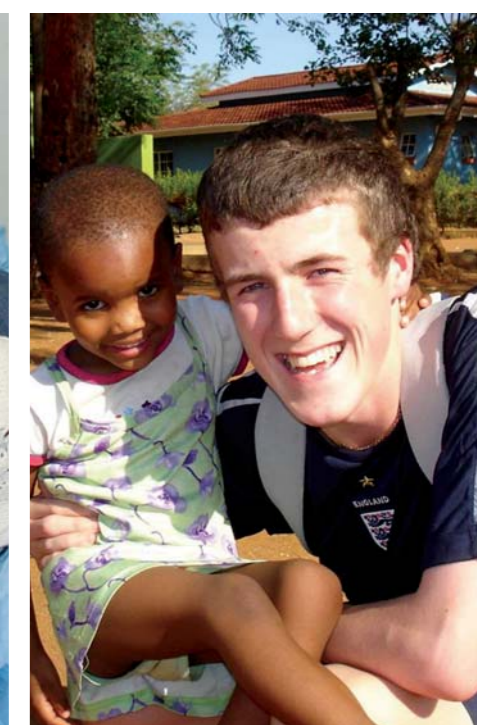
"Women's football in Botswana is very much still in its embryonic stage, but we have no doubt that it will eventually flourish.

"This is because there is a clear commitment, both from the Botswana Football Association and the individuals on the course, to develop the game in the country."

The young leaders' project was supported by Commonwealth Games Canada which hopes to keep young coaches involved in providing both football and HIV/AIDS education.



FA young leader Kirsty Dunleavy holds a group discussion as part of the 'Changing Lives, Saving Lives' project



Marcus Strudwick takes time out with a Batswana child



OFC

OFC and The FA sign Co-operation Agreements



FA Chairman Geoff Thompson, accompanied by Head of International Relations Jane Bateman, represented The Football Association at the OFC's Extraordinary Congress and 40th anniversary celebration in Tahiti in November.

The Oceania Football Confederation comprises 11 member countries, the largest of which - since Australia joined Asia earlier this year - is New Zealand.

The FA signed three co-operation agreements to play a role in assisting the development of football in the region: with the Oceania confederation itself - where The FA has already produced a draft blueprint for referee development - and with the islands of Fiji and the Solomon Islands, ranked 2nd and 3rd respectively in Oceania.



FA Chairman Geoff Thompson and OFC President Reynald Temarii sign the FA-OFC Co-operation Agreement

Baker devises pilot scheme for OFC referees

The FA's former Head of Referees and a current FIFA Instructor, John Baker, has produced a blueprint for referee development for the Oceania Football Confederation following a period of research and consultation with the OFC and its member associations.

As part of The FA's new co-operation agreement with the OFC, Baker worked



Geoff Thompson receives a commemorative gift from Solomon Islands Football Federation (SIFF) President Martin Alufurai

Chairman Thompson said: "The signing of these agreements means that our Development Programme is now worldwide. It gives The FA the opportunity to share its expertise with countries in other parts of the world, complementing the initiatives of FIFA and other partners to develop the game of football."

OFC General Secretary Tai Nicholas welcomed the agreement, which fits with "the OFC vision". He said: "Getting good results on the football pitch is important but so is looking after the community that comprises the OFC football family. This agreement with The FA was made in the spirit of that ideal and we are confident it will be a success."

alongside Technical Director Jim Selby, who is currently revising the technical development programme for the confederation as a whole.

Having produced drafts of four new courses, Baker has brought in England's FA Learning teaching methods ensuring that the learning process for new and existing referees will be interactive and practical.

CONMEBOL



Coaching for Hope project arrives in Bolivia

The FA sent coaches Alan Gillett and Stephen Rutter out to Bolivia in November with the UK-based charity International Service to work on the 'Coaching for Hope' project.

Over 25 local coaches were put through a week-long workshop specifically designed for them to obtain an FA Youth Coaches Award. And 100 youngsters, including marginalised migrants and disabled children, were given the chance to take part in football and art workshops that promote confidence, team-building and self-esteem.



All the children and coaches involved received football strips donated by several clubs in the UK and were given training equipment including balls, bibs and cones by The FA.

"The feedback from all the local coaches involved has been really positive," said Coaching for Hope project manager Tom Pitchon. "Many of the local coaches are determined to carry on the work that has begun and I have heard reports that many of the children involved have started waking up early to train and stay fit since taking part in the Coaching for Hope school."

Coaching for Hope is currently running in Burkina Faso, Mali and Bolivia and is set to expand into South Africa in 2007.

FA NEWS

Unbeaten England women qualify for 2007 World Cup



England's players celebrate World Cup qualification following their 1-1 draw with France in Rennes

The England women's team have qualified for the FIFA 2007 Women's World Cup™ in China after drawing 1-1 with France in their final match to finish top of Group Five.

The result back in September marked the end of a triumphant and unbeaten qualifying campaign for England women's coach Hope Powell and her players.

England's women's team last featured in the World Cup in 1995, making their qualification this time round all the more special.

Powell said: "This year has been brilliant, the players have grown and grown in stature. To draw with France away from home is just fantastic and now we have so much to look forward to.

"I think the girls were magnificent. Over the whole course of the qualifiers, we deserved it. I'm absolutely delighted."

Striker Eniola Aluko was equally thrilled to be going to China and added: "It is very hard to describe just how happy I am to have qualified for the World Cup."

U21s qualify for 2007 European Championship



Theo Walcott nets against Germany

England Under-21s qualified for the UEFA Under-21 European Championship in Holland next summer thanks to two late goals by substitute Theo Walcott against Germany in October.

Walcott came off the substitutes' bench to score twice in the final 10 minutes of the second leg play-off to win 3-0 on aggregate. England will face Serbia and Italy in Group B,

FA's new charity partner unveiled

The Football Association has chosen International Service and their 'Coaching for Hope' project as its International Charity Partner for 2007.



The FA has already backed Coaching for Hope, providing FA coaches for workshops in Mali in 2005 and Bolivia in 2006.

The charity aims to give disadvantaged children access to quality coaching through the training and development of local educators.

It also focuses on the power of football as an effective tool for social change and disseminating vital health messages.

along with the Czech Republic whom they meet in their first game.

England Under-21 coach Peter Taylor was delighted with his team of Young Lions and singled out Walcott for special praise. "Those were two absolutely fantastic goals," he said. "I'm absolutely delighted for him and delighted for the team. I think they have done it in style so I'm very proud."