

INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAIRMAN

I am very pleased to welcome you to The Football Association Handbook, the essential guide to the rules and regulations of football.

The Handbook has been published every year since 1895, excluding the war years, and should again prove an invaluable companion to people involved in football at all levels.

The FA has the privilege and responsibility to oversee football in England as a whole and in all its aspects. We do so in partnership with a powerful professional game – and a national game administered locally by dedicated people and played in facilities all over the country. We are grateful for the privilege and determined to meet in full the responsibility. Football is 'one game' and we approach it with one set of values.

Football has rules to protect those who take part in it and I hope that every recipient of the 2012-2013 Handbook, whatever his or her involvement in the game, will find it a helpful reference book during the season.

DAVID BERNSTEIN – CHAIRMAN, THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION