

Devon FA Council Member – The Application and its Role

Application Process

Thank you very much for showing an interest in becoming a Devon FA Council Member

I have listed below the next steps following your enquiry and what you must do to be considered a Council Member.

1. First, the application window is open from 1st April until 30th April and during this time you must carry out the following and send to me.
2. Submit a picture of yourself (head and shoulders selfie)
3. Two Adult clubs must propose and second your request to be a Council Member, this can be done via email.
4. Finally, you must write in no more than 100 words a brief history of your football experience, I have enclosed sample below as a guide.

After 30th April we shall know how many applicants have applied for the Council Member seats, we have available, should we have too many then we shall hold an area election.

In the meantime, if you do apply to be a Council Member then my suggestion would be for you to seek support from any Adult Clubs that will vote for you, if required.

SAMPLE - Born in Devon, lived here all my life. Started football with Dog Rovers FC aged 16 in the County League. Played over 150 Peninsula League games with Rochdale, and Newton Abbot during the 1990/2000s before serious injury aged 31. Currently Club Volunteer with the County League. I help with the local Cup Finals held in my area when I can. Spent 10 years as Fund Raiser and Kit Man for my daughter's football team and refereed a little. I can think of many ideas to help the County and would dearly love the opportunity of doing this as a Council Member.

What is Expected of the Role?

The most important role of a Council Member is to represent the football family in their area, be this Adult, Youth or Disability types of football.

The Devon FA will have many important updates of football changes and by sharing these with our Council Members means our message from ourselves or the Football Association are being shared.

We meet four times a year as a collective Council, this is currently three times via ZOOM and one meeting in person at Coach Road.

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss football matters, approve football decisions or simply debate football issues that can affect or improve the game in Devon.

In addition to attending Council Meeting you will also be requested to join in and help some of the Standing Committees that we have. Council Members are asked to select at least two Committees to be members of and join in healthy debate or just to attend and support.

We are moving into a strange world of doing things differently to how we do them now. Meetings via ZOOM is good example, the days of wearing a blazer have greatly reduced and that we ALL now must comply with any FA Safeguarding requirements.

Why would I want to be a Council Member?

If you are passionate about local football, then you should want to have the desire to be a Council Member and try and make a difference for the Devon FA.

In return you will be one of a few that can be our voice and enjoy some of the key benefits

One of only 35 people in the whole of the County from around nearly 30,000 participants to make a difference and be the voice of so many.

The opportunities of attending many Devon FA County Cup Finals

The chance to cheer on the County representative side when they play

A chance to purchase tickets for the many games played at Wembley Stadium including the FA Cup Final.

Be a support for teams and Leagues in your area, giving them confidence that their frustrations or success are being heard and shared.

Being a Council Member is a voluntary role, however, we shall pay travel expenses for any meetings or events where your selected to represent the County FA.

Kit from NIKE to wear when you attend events on behalf of the County.

Network meetings with colleagues to check and challenge what we are doing as a County for grassroots football.

Below I have listed several Devon FA Committees that already exist, together with some of the duties that they are responsible for. This might help you if you were asked to pick two.

DEVON FA STANDING COMMITTEES

REFEREES COMMITTEE

- Referees Development Officer in conjunction with the Football Association to deal with matters arising out of the 'Regulations for the Registration and Control of Referees.
- To be responsible for the appointment of match officials to County Cup Finals.
- To administer & confirm the promotion of Referees.
- To work in close liaison with the Devon County Referees Association, its Branches & Members.
- To implement any Referee amendments to the 'Laws of Association Football' & 'Referees Guide for Players and Referees'

COUNTY COMPETITIONS

- To control and administer the County Cups in accordance with agreed Cup Rules.
- To consider and propose rule changes effecting County Cup football for consideration by the Rules & Revision Committee.
- To be responsible for the staging of County Cup competitions.

DISCIPLINARY

- To deal with all cases of misconduct with the playing of matches throughout Devon in accordance with the Procedure and Punishments as set out in the 'Memorandum of Procedures' approved and from time to time as amended by the Football Association, and such other disciplinary matters as may be referred to them. The Committee is responsible for the Disciplinary Secretary, in conjunction with the Football Association to operate within the Guidelines associated with the 'Memorandum of Procedures'.
- To compile, annually, an approved list of Disciplinary Chairman and members who must have previously achieved a pass on a Football Association Disciplinary Course.
- In the event of an Appeal against a decision of Disciplinary Commission the Chairman of the Commission will be required to represent the Association at a Football Association Hearing.

REPRESENTATIVE FOOTBALL

- To be responsible for the control and support of sides that represents Devon County FA.
- To appoint the Team Managers and control the teams on behalf of the Council.
- To enter and participate in the appropriate Football Association and South West Counties Competitions.
- To issue on behalf of the County FA mementos for games played for the Representative side.
- To be responsible for the staging of all Home representative games.

RULES AND SANCTIONS

- To have the power to consider and sanction rules of Leagues and Competitions in accordance with the Football Association's 'Code of Standard Rules' approved and from time to time as amended.
- To revise and recommend alterations to the Association's Rules and Regulations.
- To revise and approve League's Competitions in accordance with the Football Association's 'Code of Standard Rules'.
- To appoint Boards of Appeal Members to adjudicate on League, Cups and Club decisions.

Appeal Board Commissions will consist of 3 Committee members of which one must have passed the FA's course of Chairman Training.

DISABILITY & EQUALITY COMMITTEE (DISABILITY STEERING GROUP)

- Establishing Leagues according to the FA regulations on categories & control of the running of such Leagues.
- Consider & propose rule changes effecting disability football for consideration by the Rules & Revision Committee.
- Maintain recruitment of players & clubs
- Support, advice & promote all aspects of disabled football
- To formulate & apply DCFA's Equality Policy in accordance with FA regulations.

CHARTER STANDARD COMMITTEE

- Assist Clubs on the application process, confirmation and implementation of Charter Standard award.
- Monitor & support Clubs/Leagues after the granting of Charter Standard award.
- Consider & propose rule changes effecting Charter Standard Clubs or Leagues for consideration by the Rules & Revision Committee
- Confer an obligation to present Charter Standard awards & to assist in the selection of Annual Awards.

FACILITIES COMMITTEE

- Implementation of the minimum Ground standards as defined by the FA & Cups Committee and to identify funding options.
- Assist in the formulation of grant aid improvements & building of new facilities.
- Monitoring and evaluation of completed projects.
- Help in protecting the loss of & retention of playing fields.
- Promotion of the 'FA Groundsman of the Year' award.

LEAGUES COMMITTEE

- Identify & work with local Leagues to develop playing & coaching opportunities and encourage the raising of standards in 'grass roots' football.
- Encourage Leagues to share information and good practices to reduce the number of Clubs & Players leaving the game.
- Help & support Officers of Clubs or Leagues
- Consider & propose rule changes effecting Leagues for consideration by the Rules & Revision Committee.

Possible New Committee INCLUSION ADVISORY GROUP COMMITTEE

- Terms of Reference and Responsibilities to follow

Possible New Committee SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE

- Terms of Reference and Responsibilities to follow

For more information, please feel free to ring me on my direct office number – 01626 325912 and I will be happy to clarify any issues you may have.

Many Thanks

Paul

