

Essex County Football Association Annual Report (2017/18)





Chief Executive's Report

2017/18 was a successful one for Essex grassroots football, with many notable achievements, but was also one where further steps of change took place for the Essex County FA.

During the season, the focus was to continue to develop and support the local grassroots game, along with continuing to deliver the Essex County FA Business Plan 2015-19. Some of the key successes during the season are detailed through this report, but a few highlights include:

- the female game continued to grow, both in the number of affiliated teams but also through the SSE Wildcats Programme which has had a positive impact on girls' wider recreational participation and the Essex County FA Female Regional Talent Club continued to provide an elite level development pathway for girls
- our coach education continued to deliver high levels of training, with more than 2,500 learners undertaking education courses with the Essex County FA, along with more than 600 coaches undertaking ongoing learning through CPD (Continuing Professional Development)
- more than 1,300 referees supporting grassroots football
- more than 4,000 teams playing football in Essex, from mini-soccer through to Walking Football

Safeguarding continued to play an important role. The process of 'Safeguarding Visits' at club training venues continued and more than 256 teams visited and 310 coaches and more than 464 parents/spectators spoken to as part of those visits in Essex. This continued to embed and ensure strong safeguards are in place for all young and vulnerable people involved in the game.

The FA National Game Strategy (NGS) was also refreshed and extended to 2021, setting a new strategic direction for the grassroots game, covering the following areas:

- High-Quality Introduction to Football
- Embrace All Formats, Engage All Participants
- Develop Clubs and Leagues
- Recruit, Develop and Support the Football Workforce

This formed the basis of reviewing the existing County FA Business Plan to refresh and update it in-line with the NGS. This led to the development of the 'Moving Forward' Strategy 2018-2021 which is our setting the strategic direction up to 2021. This sets the overall vision for the Essex County FA: "Creating a united grassroots football environment which delivers football opportunity for all".

2017/18 also saw a change from a 'calendar' to a 'season' company year. This first season impact of this can be seen in the finance and accounts section of the report. The value of this will be seen over time but, importantly, now the company year runs in tandem with the football season, we will be able to build more accurate insight into company performance.

It was also agreed to begin a process to appoint our first Independent Director, which began in June 2018. This will be concluded in the early part of the 2018/19 season and it represents an exciting change for us, as well as an opportunity to bring new insight and experience to support the organisation.

The 2017/18 campaign has been a season of successes and change but, underpinning all of this activity, and the ongoing success of grassroots football in Essex, is the volunteers who support their respective leagues, clubs and teams to ensure thousands of people get to play football on a weekly basis.

Thanks to each and every one of you. We look forward to working as part of your team for 2018/19.

Brendan Walshe
Chief Executive and Company Secretary

Council

Wayne Deller continued as Chairman of the Council. There were a number of elections held on Council and the Essex County FA also said goodbye to long-serving Council Members Duncan Charlick, Michael Wilmore, Chris Singh, Alan Dare and Chris Lee.

Duncan Charlick was first appointed to Council in 2002 as Youth Representative for Group 2, Michael Wilmore in 2009 (Open-Age), Chris Singh in 2010 (initially as Women & Girls Rep and then latterly as Open-Age Rep for Group 2), Alan Dare in 2013 (Open-Age) and Chris Lee (Essex Referees Association), also in 2013.

We would like to place on record our thanks for the service provided and wish everyone success in their future roles within football. The Council also undertook change to its structure during the 2017/18 season which would see a reduction In Open-Age Representatives in each Group Area from three to two being phased in.

In-line with this, the following individuals were re-elected onto Council: Dave Threadgold (Group 1 Open-Age), Roger Crane (Group 1 Open-Age), Alec Berry (Group 3 Open-Age). Graham Hall also continued to serve as the Essex County Schools FA Representative.

The volunteer Council Members again undertook their regulatory and management role and they were involved in many Council, disciplinary, refereeing, competitions and rules meetings throughout the 2017/18 season.

2017/18 Council Members: Morris Jeffers, Gordon Snell, John Bays, Richard Brooks, Michael Hemsted, Edward Rhymes, Michael Game, Keith Miller, Jeffrey Saxton, Alec Berry, David Threadgold, Duncan Charlick, Sheryl Macrae, David Emerton, Wayne Deller, Roger Crane, Michael Wilmore, Christopher Singh, Barry Fitzgerald, Kevin Curran, Mark Holmes, Chris Lee, Alan Dare, Graham Hall, Andy Chaplin, Martin Berry, Kim Farmer, Danny Coyle.



The Board

We saw one change take place in June, with David Threadgold retiring from his position on the Board due to serving for twelve years.

In conjunction with Council, it was agreed to not directly replace David with an existing Council Member but to recruit an Independent Director through an open application process which would take place during the summer of 2018.

Wayne Deller remained as Chairman and David Threadgold, Barry Fitzgerald and Andrew Chaplin continued as Directors of the Essex County FA. The Board continued to oversee all matters of company operations.

Staffing

By the end of June 2018, the County FA employed 24 members of staff - 20 full time and four part time. In addition, we continue to have around 70 casual employees who carry out coaching, tutoring and physiotherapy roles.

There was a period of reorganisation within the staff team during the 2017/18 season which saw Sam Robinson and Kevin Watts depart to take up posts within the education and local authority sports development sectors. Maryanne Dennis also departed following maternity leave.

There were a number of new recruits, with Lukas Wood as Referee Development Officer, Jennifer King as Office Coordinator and PA, Jake Stephenson as Football Development Officer and James Ellis, also as Football Development Officer, all recruited to the Essex County FA.

2017/18 Staff: Brendan Walshe, Greg Hart, Fran Smith, Mark Wallis, Robert Craven, Anna Eborall, Chris Evans, Nick Emery, Lana Gillard, Emma Burden, Sean Harris, Andrew Cowl, James Lisher, Helen Hever, Sue Hammond, Maryanne Dennis, Cindi Chatha, Kevin Watts, Sam Robinson, Rhys Elmer, Danielle Warnes, Nicola Cowl, Lawrence Gower, Joanna Miles, Lukas Wood, Jennifer King, Jake Stephenson, James Ellis.



Directors' Report

For the Year Ended 30th June 2018

The directors present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2018.

Principal activities: The principal activity of the company continued to be that of administration of football in the county of Essex.

Directors: The directors who held office during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were as follows: DA Threadgold (Resigned, 7th June 2018), WA Deller, BJ Fitzgerald, A Chaplin, DJ Emerton.

Directors' Insurance: The company maintains insurance policies on behalf of all the directors against liability arising from negligence, breach of duty and breach of trust in relation to the company.

Auditor: In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Rickard Luckin Limited be reappointed as auditor of the company will be put at a General Meeting.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities: The directors are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year.

Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the surplus or deficit of the company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Statement of Disclosure to Auditor: So far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's auditor is unaware.

Additionally, the directors individually have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as directors in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditor is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

On behalf of the board,

WA Deller

Director

11th September 2018

Independent Auditors' Report

Opinion: We have audited the financial statements of Essex County Football Association Limited (the 'company') for the year ended 30th June 2018 which comprise the income and expenditure account, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30th June 2018 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis For Opinion: We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs [UK]) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions Relating To Going Concern: We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the directors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other Information: The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions On Other Matters Prescribed By The Companies Act 2006: In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters On Which We Are Required To Report By Exception: In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the directors were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the Directors' Report and take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities Of Directors: As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities For The Audit Of The Financial Statements: Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use Of Our Report: This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Terri Smith (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Rickard Luckin Limited (Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor), Aquila House, Waterloo Lane, Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1BN. 28th September 2018

Income and Expenditure Account

For the Period Ended 30th June 2018

	Year ended 30 June 2018 £	6 Month Period ended 30 June 2017 £
Income	868,818	420,749
Cost of income	(564,849)	(313,698)
Gross Surplus	303,969	107,051
Administrative expenses	(926,912)	(440,420)
Other operating income	646,412	293,489
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	23,469	(39,880)
Interest receivable and similar income	23,480	5,202
Amounts written back to investments measured at fair value	27,864	24,045
Surplus/(Deficit) Before Taxation	74,813	(10,633)
Tax on surplus/(deficit)	(1,548)	2,407
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Financial Year	73,265	(8,226)



Schedule of Administrative Expenses

As At 30th June 2018

	Notes	2018 £	2017 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	3	673,326	678,616
Investments	4	1,140,807	1,098,459
Current Assets	5	1,814,133	1,777,075
Debtors		66,224	44,232
Cash at bank and in hand		970,501	1,100,051
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	6	1,036,725 (268,469)	1,144,283 (407,548)
Net Current Assets		768,256	736,735
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		2,582,389	2,513,810
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	7	(136,252)	(136,252)
Provisions for Liabilities		(40,491)	(45,177)
Net Assets		2,405,646	2,332,381
Reserves			
Other reserves	9	60,577	60,577
Income and expenditure account	9	2,345,069	2,271,80
Members' Funds		2,405,646	2,332,381

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Under Section 454 of the Companies Act, on a voluntary basis, the directors can amend these financial statements if they are subsequently proved to be defective.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 11th September 2018 and are signed on its behalf by:

WA Deller
Director

A Chaplin
Director

Company Registration No. 03843186



Hertfordshire 0-7 Essex Women

Governance

Association Membership Figures

At the end of the 2017/18 season, the membership figures were as follows:

Affiliated Clubs	2017/18	Teams
Senior	43	44
Step 7	24	25
Junior	698	970
Youth	278	2,814
Women	36	47
Girls	63	165
Totals	1,144	4,065

Discipline

Discipline	2017/18	2016/17
Cautions	16,457	16,961
Misconducts	1,198	1,530
Standard	1,750	1,912
Youth	19,405	20,403



Regulations and Sanctions

Appeals

Season 2017/18 saw 13 appeals against league decisions being lodged with the Essex County FA, compared to 14 in 2016/17. As in previous years, members of the Executive Council presided over the appeals. The decisions were: 5 Upheld, 8 Dismissed.

Player Registration

17 leagues utilised the Player Registration through FA Full-Time during season 2017/18, with 42,089 registrations created. There were some issues going through the registration process, which eased as the season progressed. Discussions were being had with more leagues to implement the process during season 2018/19.



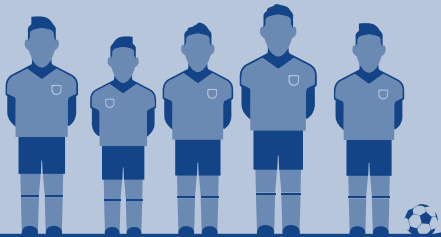
Governance Strategy

To lead the administration of football in Essex and create a fair and inclusive environment for all



In 2017/18...

**1,144
CLUBS**



£16,648

PROVIDED TO
CLUBS FOR PUBLIC
LIABILITY
INSURANCE



36
LEAGUES



4,065
TEAMS



£56,156

PROVIDED TO CLUBS FOR
PERSONAL ACCIDENT
INSURANCE



20
COUNTY CUPS
AND COMPETITIONS
DELIVERED



20,403

DISCIPLINE CASES
ADMINISTERED



Referees

FA Referee Courses

This year we recruited and trained 339 trainee referees (formerly known as Level 9s) from across Essex, who all successfully qualified over the 17 FA Referee Courses held.

Detailed below is a short review of the total number of basic candidates we trained from July 2017 to June 2018.

Promotion

Following the conclusion of the promotion season for 2017/18, the following referees were promoted to their new respective levels for season 2018/19:

Promoted to National League Assistant Referees Panel

Aaron Farmer (Colchester), David Harrison (Basildon), Karl Sear (Chelmsford)

Level 4 to Level 3

Rhys Battye (Thurrock), Brett Grant (Castle Point), Farai Hallam (Redbridge), Jamie Pope (Rochford), Craig Pullen (Havering), Jack Willmore (Tendring), Joe Wrigley (Halstead)

Level 5 to Level 4

Joe Burgess (Castle Point), Leo Del Rosso (Brentwood), Thomas Johnson (Harlow), Nathan Oakes (Colchester), Paul Sturton (Chelmsford), Sam Wigington (Thurrock)

Level 6 to Level 5 (County Referee to Senior County Referee)

Adekola Adeyemi (Basildon), Ayesemuate Agho (Harlow), Joe Alborough (Leigh-on-Sea), Leigh Ballinger (Basildon), Paul Bursey (Billericay), Connor Cranfield (Harlow), Callum Dorling (Harlow), Toby Enstone (Tiptree), Matthew Friend (Dagenham), Gemma Gardiner (Clacton-on-Sea), Cristiana Hattersley (Westcliff-on-Sea), Michael Iddenden-Smith (Purfleet), Paul Killoran (Upminster), Paul Lingard Snr (Benfleet), Simon Lyons (Halstead), Alan Moore (Billericay), Jack Ridge (Witham), Charlie Roberts (Romford), Errol Souter (Colchester), Neil Strachan (Witham), Adrian Summerfield (Basildon), James Tape (Basildon), Matthew Webb (Braintree)

Level 7 to Level 6 (Junior Referee to County Referee)

Mariusz Burchan (Braintree), David Cavanagh (Brentwood), Paul Clarke (Waltham Abbey), Rhys Collins (Clacton-on-Sea), Richard Fox (Leigh-on-Sea), Adam Gordon (Shoeburyness), Conner Hodgkins (Clacton-on-Sea), Lee Jarvis (Grays), Nathan Kitteridge (Harlow), Ivo Komsiyski (Woodford Green), Howard Mackler (Southminster), Charlie Nicholls (Billericay), Richard Ramjane (Chelmsford), Robert Reddy (Brentwood), Charlie Roberts (Romford), Luke Scottow (Southend-on-Sea), Robert Steptoe (Brentwood), Neil Troubridge (Hornchurch), Robert Watson (Dunmow), Greig Williamson (Harlow)



Senior Cup Final



Pelly Under 18s Cup Final



Under 14s Girls Cup Final

Cup Final Officials

Congratulations to all the match officials who were nominated to receive a County FA Cup Final based on their on-field performances for season 2017/18:

	Referee	Assistant Referee	Assistant Referee	Fourth Official
Senior Cup	Dean Skipper	Gary Jerden	Aaron Farmer	Rick Bloy
Under 18s Girls Cup	Christopher Noble	Harry Arnot	Oliver Walker	Alfie Debono
Saturday Junior Trophy	Nathan Oakes	Andrew French	Neil Strachan	Kevin Nicholson
Sunday Veterans Cup	Brett Grant	Matthew Davis	Adrian Rogers	Kevin Curran
Cordell Under 13s Cup	Stephen Davies	Jake Elvis	Louis Ambrose	Abdul Wahid
Women's Cup	Stacey Ford	Anthony Abbs	Leigh Ballinger	Harry Dunnett
Sunday Junior Trophy	Joe Burgess	Sven Wood	Matthew Webb	Martin Weavers
Sunday Junior Cup	James Parks	Nathan Kitteridge	Simon Lyons	Sam Wigington
Women's Trophy	Cristiana Hattersley	Michael Iddenden-Smith	Connor Cranfield	Mariusz Burchan
Under 12s Cup	Callum Townsend	Alfie Treacher	Leon Randall	Amy Purser
Under 14s Girls Cup	Xanthe Davis	Emilia Dingwall	Harriet Kemp	Amy Purser
Saturday Junior Cup	Thomas Whay	Joe Aldborough	Matthew Friend	Adam Humphreys
Rosser Under 15s Cup	Christopher Fountain	Rhys Collins	Andrew Jenkins	Matthew Jarvis
Andrews Under 14s Cup	Ryan Whitehead	Adam Palmer	Andy Palmer	John Whitehead
Pelly Under 18s Cup	Farai Hallam	Leo Del Rosso	Charlie Roberts	Jamie Pope
Saturday Veterans Cup	David Parker	Jonathan Wing	Andrew Gilham	Brian Taylor
Sunday Premier Cup	Craig Pullen	Paul Sturton	Errol Souter	Ayrton Hursey
Under 16s Girls Cup	Zak Johnson	Jack Racey	Edward Smith	Lewis Cobden
Cassells Under 16s Cup	Asemateo Agho	Gavin Bailey	Stuart Henderson	Max Di Lieto
Saturday Premier Cup	Lewis Farthing	Harry Arnot	Jack Ridge	Ryan Smith

League Referee Coverage Report

With the Referees Department Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) switching from the number of referees registered in a season to referee coverage, as part of The FA's National Game Strategy, we were asked to collate the leagues' referee coverage statistics.

Therefore, detailed below is the 2017/18 referee coverage information, which has been collated into their respective categories from the responses received from our affiliated leagues:

% Coverage Baseline Calculator	Tier 1	Leagues Utilising Full-Time	Baseline 82%
	Tier 2	Leagues With Other Appointing Systems	
	Tier 3	Leagues With No Formal Appointing System	



Female Referee Development Group



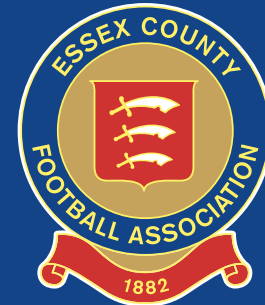
Referee Cup Final Seminar

League Name	Tier	GP	GC	Coverage	Difference
Essex & Suffolk Border League	1	736	736	100.00%	0
Chelmsford & District Churches League	2	41	41	100.00%	0
Colchester & East Essex League	1	220	220	100.00%	0
Essex Alliance League	2	768	768	100.00%	0
Essex Senior League (Reserve Division)	1	155	155	100.00%	0
Greene King Essex Veterans League	1	1,003	999	99.60%	-4
North Essex Veterans League	1	79	78	98.73%	-1
Southend Borough & District Football Combination	1	453	427	94.26%	-26
County Motor Works Vauxhall Mid-Essex League	1	760	760	100.00%	0
ProKit UK Essex Olympian League	1	1,050	1,050	100.00%	0
Basildon & District Sunday League	1	149	144	96.64%	-5
Braintree & North Essex Sunday League	1	331	331	100.00%	0
Brentwood Sunday League	1	464	454	97.84%	-10
Chelmsford Invitation League	1	217	209	96.31%	-8
Colchester & District Sunday League	2	448	448	100.00%	0
Dagenham & District Sunday League	1	100	98	98.00%	-2
Essex Sunday Corinthian League	1	507	507	100.00%	0
Essex Sunday Football Combination	1	401	394	98.25	-7
Harlow & District Sunday League	1	419	419	100.00%	0
Pope & Smith Chelmsford Sunday League	1	495	472	95.35%	-23
Romford & District Churches League	1	71	67	94.37%	-4
Sceptre Sunday League	1	689	508	73.73%	-181
Southend Borough Combination Veterans League	1	537	532	99.07%	-5
Southend Sunday League	1	328	304	92.68%	-24
South Essex Sunday League	1	80	80	100.00%	0
Thurrock Association Sunday League	1	363	338	93.11%	-25
Blackwater & Dengie Youth League	2	1,931	1,390	71.98%	-541
Chelmsford Youth League	1	2,057	524	25.47%	-1,533
Colchester & District Youth League	2	1,985	1,735	87.41%	-250
Echo Junior League	2	1,991	1,444	72.53%	-547
Southend & District Junior Sunday League	1	2,563	2,139	83.46%	-424
Eastern Region Women's League (Essex-Based)	1	75	75	100.00%	0
Essex County Women's League	1	239	227	94.98%	-12
Essex County Girls' League	1	910	480	94.98%	-430
Overall Total		22,615	18,553	82.04%	-4,062

Key: GP = Games Played, GC = Games Covered by Qualified Referee

Refereeing Strategy

To recruit, retain, and develop a high-quality and diverse referee workforce to support football across Essex



In 2017/18...

1,331*

REFEREES

* PLUS
'TRAINEE
REFEREES'



82%

OF ALL 9v9 AND
11v11 GAMES
APPOINTED WITH
A QUALIFIED
MATCH OFFICIAL

18,553

REFEREE
APPOINTMENTS



10

FA REFEREE
TUTORS



166

REFEREE
DEVELOPERS
(OBSERVERS &
MENTORS)



20

INDIVIDUAL
COURSES



12

OFFICIALS REPRESENTING
ESSEX WITHIN FA CENTRE OF
REFEREEING EXCELLENCE (CORE)



64

REFEREE
PROMOTIONS



339

CANDIDATES
ON REFEREES
COURSES

Representative Squads 2017/18

Key: SECYC - South East Counties Youth Championship,
FACYC - FA County Youth Cup, SCC - Southern Counties Cup

Under 18s

Manager: Graham Hall

Suffolk (Home, Friendly) **Won 2-1**

Tuesday 26th September at Stanway Rovers FC, 7:30pm

Bedfordshire (Home, FACYC R2) **Won 5-1**

Sunday 22nd October at Aveley FC, 3:00pm

Kent (Away, SECYC) **Won 4-2**

Thursday 23rd November at Corinthian FC, 7:30pm

Durham (Home, FACYC R3) **Lost 0-4**

Saturday 9th December at Maldon & Tiptree FC, 12:00pm

London (Away, SECYC) **Won 4-1**

Sunday 18th February at AFC Croydon Athletic, 1:00pm

Middlesex (Home, SECYC) **Won 2-1**

Sunday 11th March at Aveley FC, 2:00pm

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Essex	3	3	0	0	10	4	+6	9
Kent	3	2	0	1	7	5	+2	6
Middlesex	3	1	0	2	10	4	+6	3

Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Sussex	4	3	1	0	12	5	+7	10
Amateur Football Alliance	3	0	2	1	5	9	-5	2
Hertfordshire	3	0	1	2	5	8	-2	1

Winners of Groups A and B play-off for title

Sussex (Neutral, SECYC Play-Off) **Lost 2-3 (after extra time)**

Sunday 6th May at Sheppey United FC, 2:00pm



Under 16s

Managers: Carl Papworth and Liam Saxton

Kent (Home, SECYC) **Drew 2-2**
Thursday 26th October at Redbridge FC, 7:00pm

Amateur Football Alliance (Away, SECYC) **Won 3-1**
Thursday 9th November at Waltham Forest FC, 7:30pm

Middlesex (Away, SECYC) **Lost 0-2**
Sunday 28th January at Uxbridge FC, 1:00pm

Sussex (Home, SECYC) **Lost 1-5**
Sunday 11th February at Aveley FC, 2:00pm

London (Home, SEC) **Lost 2-3**
Sunday 25th February at Aveley FC, 2:00pm

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Amateur Football Alliance	5	4	0	1	9	7	+2	12
London	5	3	1	1	10	7	+3	10
Sussex	5	2	2	1	11	6	+5	8
Middlesex	5	1	1	3	3	6	-3	4
Essex	5	1	1	3	8	13	-5	4
Kent	5	0	3	2	7	9	-2	3

Women

Manager: Kim Coster

Royal Navy (Home, SCC) **Drew 2-2**
Wednesday 4th October at Aveley FC, 7:45pm

Sussex (Away, SCC) **Drew 3-3**
Wednesday 15th November at Lancing FC, 7:30pm

Hertfordshire (Away, SCC) **Won 7-0**
Wednesday 11th January at Hertfordshire County Ground, 7:45pm

Kent (Home, SCC) **Lost 0-2**
Wednesday 7th February at Aveley FC, 7:45pm

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Kent	4	4	0	0	13	4	+9	12
Middlesex	4	3	1	0	17	6	+11	10
Army	4	2	0	2	7	7	0	6
Essex	4	1	2	1	12	7	+5	5
Royal Navy	4	0	3	1	10	11	-1	2*
Sussex	4	0	2	2	8	15	-7	2
Hertfordshire	4	0	0	4	1	18	-17	0

* Adjustment made



County Cup Finals 2017/18

BBC Essex Senior Cup

Billericay Town 2-1 Chelmsford City

Tuesday 20th March 2018, 7:45pm at Colchester United FC

BBC Essex Saturday Premier Cup

Buckhurst Hill 2-0 Catholic United

Monday 7th May 2018, 3:00pm at Thurrock FC

Saturday Junior Cup

**Chingford Athletic 3-5 Oracle Components
(after extra time)**

Wednesday 18th April 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Saturday Junior Trophy

**Corinthians Under 21s 4-4 Sandon Royals
(after extra time, Corinthians won 3-2 on pens)**

Friday 21st March 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Saturday Veterans Cup

Hutton Old Boys 3-2 Paringdon

Thursday 26th April 2018, 7:45pm at Concord Rangers FC

Sunday Premier Cup

Manor House 0-1 Priory Sports

Sunday 29th April 2018, 10:30am at Concord Rangers FC

Sunday Junior Cup

Marquis 4-1 Palmers

Sunday 8th April 2018, 10:30am at Saffron Walden Town FC

Sunday Junior Trophy

Rochford Sports & Social 1-3 Upshire

Friday 6th April 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Sunday Veterans Cup

Vincitori 1-3 Waltham Forest

Sunday 25th March 2018, 3:00pm
at Great Waking Rovers FC

BBC Essex Women's Cup

Billericay Town 2-3 C & K Basildon (after extra time)

Thursday 13th April 2018, 7:30pm at AFC Hornchurch

Women's Trophy

Hutton 2-1 Silver End United

Sunday 8th April 2018, 3:00pm at Saffron Walden Town FC

Pelly Under 18s Cup

Canvey Island 0-2 Concord Rangers

Wednesday 25th April 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Cassels Under 16s Cup

AFC Hornchurch 2-5 Maldon & Tiptree

Friday 4th May 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Rosser Under 15s Cup

AFC Hornchurch 1-0 Concord Rangers

Sunday 22nd April 2018, 3:00pm at Concord Rangers FC

Andrews Under 14s Cup

Billericay Town 4-2 Great Waking Rovers

Sunday 22nd April 2018, 11:00am at Concord Rangers FC

Cordell Under 13s Cup

Billericay Town 2-3 Concord Rangers

Sunday 25th March 2018, 11:00am
at Great Waking Rovers FC

Under 12s Cup

Barkingside (Blues) 3-0 Great Danes (Lions)

Sunday 15th April 2018, 11:00am at Burnham Ramblers FC

Under 18s Girls Cup

Barking Abbey (Reds) 4-1 Great Danes (Lions)

Wednesday 21st March 2018, 7:45pm at Aveley FC

Under 16s Girls Cup

C & K Basildon Girls (Under 15s) 3-2 West Ham United

Sunday 29th April 2018, 10:30am at Concord Rangers FC

Under 14s Girls Cup

**Leigh Ramblers Girls (Blues) 0-1 West Ham United
(after extra time)**

Sunday 15th April 2018, 2:30pm at Burnham Ramblers FC

Tolleshunt D'Arcy Memorial Cup

Brightlingsea Regent 1-0 FC Clacton

Tuesday 24th April 2018, 7:45pm
at Brightlingsea Regent FC

Essex Clubs in National Competitions 2017/18

Southend United completed the Sky Bet Football League One season in tenth position, eight points away from a place in the play-offs. Essex's other EFL representatives, Colchester United, finished in 13th place in League Two, with Dagenham & Redbridge's attempts to secure an expanded Vanarama National League play-off spot falling short by five points.

Braintree Town made an immediate return to the top tier of non-league football as manager Bradley Quinton superbly steered them through the play-offs, defeating Hemel Hempstead Town, Dartford and Hampton & Richmond Borough, all away from home. **Chelmsford City** were defeated by Hampton at the semi-final stage, with **East Thurrock United** (15th) and **Concord Rangers** (17th) safe from relegation.

Billericay Town were crowned champions of the Bostik Isthmian League Premier Division, scoring over 100 goals in the process of holding off the challenge of Dulwich Hamlet. **Brightlingsea Regent** ended their inaugural campaign at Step 3 in 20th, just ahead of **Harlow Town**, but **Thurrock** resigned from senior football after completing 33 years at that level.

AFC Hornchurch won 32 of their 46 league matches as they claimed the Isthmian League North Division title, but **Bowers & Pitsea**, Heybridge Swifts and **Canvey Island** all failed to join them in the Premier Division via the play-offs. At the other end of the table, **Romford** avoided relegation in sensational fashion by winning their final two fixtures to survive by a single point.

In the Essex Senior League, **Great Waking Rovers** pipped **Basildon United** to the title as both clubs earned promotion back to the Isthmian League. **Burnham Ramblers** were one of two sides demoted to the new Step 6 Eastern Senior League. In the Thurlow Nunn Eastern Counties League Premier Division, **Coggeshall Town** won promotion by amassing 115 points, but **Wivenhoe Town** headed down to Step 6.

Billericay Town also had an excellent season in the Emirates FA Cup, featuring on BT Sport as they lost in the First Round Proper in a replay to Leatherhead. That ended Essex representation in the competition, although Isthmian League North Division club **Heybridge Swifts** also enjoyed a fine run to the First Round, losing 3-1 at League Two Exeter City. **Chelmsford City** were defeated 2-0 away to National League Premier club Gateshead at the same stage.

It was a similar story in the FA Buildbase Trophy as Glenn Tamplin's **Billericay Town** extended their interest in the competition to the Quarter-Finals stage, eventually losing 5-2 at home to National League South side Wealdstone. In the preceding round, **East Thurrock United** took National League North outfit Spennymoor Town to a replay before losing 5-2 at Rookery Hill.

In the FA Youth Cup, **Colchester United** matched their best-ever run in the competition as they reached the Quarter-Finals before losing 5-1 to Arsenal, whilst **Dagenham & Redbridge** progressed from the Second Qualifying Round to the Fourth Round before being edged out, 2-1, by Ipswich Town at Portman Road.

Hullbridge Sports made it to the Fourth Round Proper of the FA Buildbase Vase before losing 5-1 to Tring Athletic, with **Great Waking Rovers** falling one round previously. **C & K Basildon Ladies** were again knocked out of the FA Women's Cup at the Second Round stage, where they had been joined by **Harlow Town** of the Eastern Region Women's Football League Division One.



Coaches

Now two seasons in, the updated FA Coach Education Pathway has continued to gather momentum and popularity amongst learners nationwide.

The consistent messages being shared across various disciplines have been well-received by our extensive volunteer workforce, who commit their valuable time to supporting players of all ages and abilities across Essex.

Throughout the 2017/18 season, we once again reviewed the way in which courses were delivered to allow flexibility for learners and to meet the ever-growing demand in volume. Feedback was positive from learners, with particular emphasis upon course content, delivery and organisation.

This season saw two new courses added to our programme - the FA Level 3 (UEFA 'B') and the FA Level 2 in Coaching Futsal. Following an application process, 24 learners were shortlisted to be part of the Level 3 course, held at Aveley FC's new facility.

The course ran in-line with the football season and learners were required to complete a season-long project alongside nine study days, split into four blocks of learning. Each coach also benefitted from three 'in-situ' visits from their course tutor, providing specific feedback and support. A register of interest will be open each season for those interested in applying.

The Futsal Level 2 course saw 23 learners attending two blocks of learning at the Thomas Lord Audley School in Colchester. Coaches were introduced to further detail relating to 'In Possession', 'Out of Possession' and 'Transition' within this exciting format of the game.

Learners Attending Courses July 2017 to June 2018

	Learners
FA Level 1 in Coaching Football	768
FA Level 2 in Coaching Football (Block 1): How We Coach	135
FA Level 2 in Coaching Football (Block 2): How We Support & The Future Player	109
FA Level 2 in Coaching Football (Block 3): How We Play	51
FA Level 3 (UEFA 'B') in Coaching Football (New for 2017/18 season)	24
FA Level 1 in Coaching Futsal	175
FA Level 2 in Coaching Futsal (New for 2017/18 season)	22
FA Level 1 in Coaching Goalkeepers	18
FA Level 2 in Coaching Goalkeepers	11
FA Level 1 Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAiF)	660
FA Level 2 Emergency First Aid in Football (EFAiF)	24
FA Safeguarding Children Workshop	526
FA Mentoring Adults	24
Total	2,547



Coaching Workshops and Resources

We continue to signpost coaches towards the FA Licensed Coaches' Club (FALCC). This gives coaches access to a variety of free resources and guidance to support their coaching journey.

There are also a variety of free valuable resources which coaches can access to extend the learning and support their coaching journey:

- FA Coaching Community - Hive Learning: www.hivelearning.com/thefa
- England DNA Foundation Phase Resource (found within the above)
- Online Continuing Professional Development (CPD)/Masterclass Sessions: www.learning.thefa.com

As well as a series of FALCC events run throughout the season, we also offer workshops for new coaches entering the game. These workshops are delivered with the support of our youth leagues and Football Development Officers across the county and offer coaching insight, support and guidance.

The 2017/18 season saw a series of 'showcase' coaching events held across Essex, aimed at engaging and supporting a wider audience. They linked closely to the 'England DNA' and the ethos being promoted throughout the new coaching pathway.

Guests included **Pete Sturgess** (FA Technical Lead - Foundation Phase), **Ian Bateman** (FA Youth Coach Educator - Futsal) and **Ben Bartlett** (Senior Youth Coach Educator).

FA Coach Mentor Programme

Now in its sixth season, the programme continues to support a wide range of coaches and clubs across Essex and complements the more formal support and education offered via our formal qualifications. There are twelve mentors operating across the county.

Feedback from both coaches and clubs has been very positive, and lasting relationships have been built between individuals and their mentors. The 2017/18 season saw a number of changes which allowed greater flexibility in terms of how mentors supported across the county.

Mentors were linked to Group Areas, allowing a more joined-up approach with Football Development Officers and creating stronger local relationships. We have also introduced 'project leads' allocated to specific areas of the game such as women and girls, inclusion and post-course support.

Coach Education Feedback

"It was a great experience; not only watching Pete, but also my boys being put through their paces. I must admit that night has been one of the proudest of my life as the feedback from the other coaches there about the boys has been amazing! I am still getting E-Mails about it today! Pete also shook my hand and said I had given the boys a great start."

Mark Gordon (FC Redwing Under 9s Team supporting the Pete Sturgess event)

"I thoroughly enjoyed the evening and hope it helped in raising the profile of the great work being done in the Foundation Phase. Keep the momentum going on social media and please spread the word via your workforce. Thanks for such great support on the evening."

Pete Sturgess (FA Technical Lead 5-12)

"The tutor's enthusiasm on the course and knowledge made it thoroughly enjoyable and I learnt a huge amount, for which I am really grateful. I certainly believe it will help me to be a better coach and, more importantly, encourage the boys and retain their interest in playing football for the long term. As with the other guys, one of my biggest challenges during the last couple of years has been issues regarding the parents. Certainly the ideas on Sunday have helped me formulate a strategy for next season which will make it more enjoyable for me and allow more time to coach the children."

FA Level 1 Learner

"I would like to thank you for your support, encouragement, patience and professionalism. It's been a real pleasure spending time on the course and an experience I have thoroughly enjoyed."

FA Level 2 Learner

"I really enjoyed last night! It was the first one I'd attended, but I will definitely be coming to more in the future. Please pass on my thanks to all the team and, of course, Danielle and Steve too. An insightful evening!"

Female Coaching Network Event with the Girls Regional Talent Club

"The course was excellent and I'm using the learning in every session. The tutor helped me to become a better coach and has helped me to step back a bit more. It made me realise just how important the role of coach is to kids' lives. I've included ideas from the course and increased team and individual challenges within my philosophy of development in a safe environment and not trying to win the World Cup with the Under 10s!"

FA Level 1 Learner

"The course was better than expected. The tutor was very knowledgeable and informative on every part of Futsal, which has made me more confident in coaching the game. I used some of the Futsal content within the first week of coaching following the course, and have also booked a court to enable coaching for the girls' section at the club."

Futsal Level 1 Learner

"Just a quick message to say a special thank you for your continuous support! It's been great working with you all and I hope we can partner-up again soon."

Yashmin Harun (Chair and Founder of Muslimah Sports Association)

"The FA Level 1 Course has not only helped me become a better football coach, it's helped me become a better all-round teacher and leader. The tutors were friendly and engaging and I was inspired by the focus on positive encouragement, helping players think and learn for themselves and game-based exercises."

FA Level 1 Learner

"Thank you for arranging and hosting last night. It was a fantastic event and, from the attendance, this was clearly evident. I believe CPDs help to re-ground you and remind you of why you do things and continue to instil those best practices. It's also great to catch-up with those other coaches you meet on the courses and see how they are all getting on."

Senior Cup Final CPD Attendee

"I've been surprised how much focus there is on educational theories and how we learn on the different FA courses I've been on. The session on behaviour would also be very beneficial to those who don't have experience or training which, for example, a teacher might have. I have found the whole process really good and wish I'd done my badges when I was a lot younger. On the whole, it was a really good experience. Thank you for your efforts... I learnt a lot!"

FA Level 2 Learner



Pete Sturgess Coaching Event

Adult

The landscape of adult football participation has continued in its trend, with the decline in the adult 11v11 game showing a 75-team decrease this season. Many factors have been acknowledged to play a part in this, including social to economic elements.

Over the past year we have initiated discussions to create a large-scale review of adult football leagues before organising league meetings in each Group Area to outline the current trends of data analysis amongst each league.

Each adult league review has targeted the understanding of club affiliation, member clubs, projected forecast trends, finance, fines and tariffs, discipline, referee coverage and marketing, resulting in a compiled 'SWOT' analysis and recommendations.

League recommendations are a product of the overall analysis and review - with bespoke targets which are currently in-line with the Essex County FA 'Moving Forward' Strategy for 2018-21 which will be implemented in partnership with each league over the course of the 2018/19 season and beyond.

Alongside this, additional funding has been allocated to reward sustainable adult clubs with two or more teams through the Football Foundation's 'Retain the Game' funding scheme. Moreover, each grant constituted £750 being provided across two seasons to aid facility, equipment or course costs.

In addition, the Essex County FA have hosted an 11v11 matchday analysis coaching workshop to aid adult coaches within grassroots football.

Alongside this, over the past year, we have attempted to work closer with youth and adult leagues to support the transition of teams and players into adult football. The Essex County FA have initiated a 9v9 'Flexible Football' offer whereby fortnightly fixtures will be catering for both under 16-21s and open-age players to participate, with a view to signposting these players into adult football.

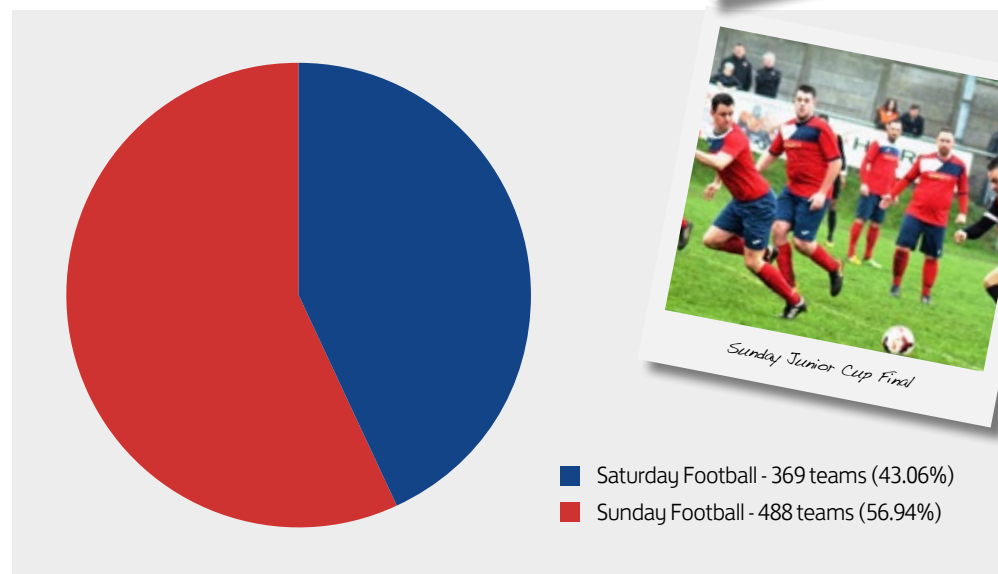
- £22,500 invested into 31 adult male clubs through the Retain the Game funding targeting sustained adult clubs with two or more male teams

- Adult 11v11 Coaches CPD (Continuing Professional Development) Workshop was held at Beauchamps School in Wickford discussing matchday analysis. The event focused on delivering adult coaching support and differing match analysis techniques for coaches to utilise within the adult game

Adult Male 11v11 (Under 19s to Open-Age, including Veterans)

Group 1	230
Group 2	297
Group 3	335
Group 4	240
Total	1,102

Saturday and Sunday Adult Team Coverage (Under 19s to Open-Age Football excluding Veterans)



Clubs

The FA Charter Standard Youth percentage increased from 81.72% to 82.61%, with the Charter Standard Adult percentage increasing from 29.54% to 30.75%. Some clubs who joined the accreditation scheme were Frenford Youth, Oyster and Tiptree Heath Youth.

One big change clubs noticed during the season with the Charter Standard Awards was the end of the McDonald's Kit Scheme, for which they were previously eligible upon completion of the Annual Health Check process.

Clubs, however, still continued to ensure they were adhering to the criteria and that all teams within the club had an FA Level 1 Coach associated to them, ensuring our children were in a safe, fun and inclusive environment while learning the game.

The demand from clubs for specific Annual Health Check Workshops reduced over the course of the season, which was seen positively that The FA's online Whole Game System was a user-friendly administrative tool and that volunteers were becoming more familiar with the process.

The early part of the 2017/18 season saw collaborative work with our County Sports Partnership, Active Essex, to support clubs with the following topics:

- Funding
- Easyfundraising
- Annual Health Check
- Disability Awareness
- Club Player Council

The workshops were slight, with joint working between Groups 1 and 2 (held at Braintree Town FC) and Groups 3 and 4 (at May & Baker Eastbrook Community FC). From the two events, 18 Charter Standard clubs attended, which further heightened their knowledge to support the growth and sustainability of their clubs.

The Charter Standard Club criteria remain, and there have been no changes for the season. All coach education qualifications and the Annual Health Check now fall in-line with one another and Charter Standard clubs were still eligible for a bursary to reduce the price of coaching courses.

One change which has been seen positively by volunteers is the removal of the requirements for Level 1 and 2 coaches to complete CPD hours to gain their licence for the following season. Coaches who are Level 3 (UEFA 'B') and beyond, however, are still required to complete CPD hours to regain their FA Licenced Coaches Club status.

Charter Standard League numbers increased this season, with the Essex Senior League being the second adult league to gain the status. The other leagues with Charter Standard continued to put the accreditation at the forefront of their work and drive the core elements of the programme into the grassroots environment here in Essex.

The Charter Standard Newsletter came to a stop for two reasons. Firstly, the FA reintroduced their own newsletter which duplicated content. Secondly, the Press & Publicity internal strategy looked at streamlining all information customers receive into one central information point.

Two Community Football Day events were organised, as opposed to the usual one, to ensure the whole of Essex had the opportunity to be involved. Over 1,300 players enjoyed the events during July, with £950 also raised for the Bobby Moore Fund for Cancer Research UK.

One took place at the Forest Row Centre in Collier Row, Romford, with another at Plume High School in Maldon. This year the focus of the occasion was changed for 5-11-year-olds to incorporate specific elements which supported their development.



Community Football Days



Community Football Days



Essex County FA Community Football Day



- Walking Football Tournaments
- Disability Tournaments
- Female 6v6 Competition
- Adult 9v9 Tournament
- Open Access 'Just Play'

Book your place ASAP at
<http://bit.ly/CommunityDay17>

- ① Forest Row Centre, Lodge Lane, Romford, RM5 2LD
- ② Saturday 8th July
- ③ 3:30-6:00pm
- ④ Aged 16+
- ⑤ Plumtree High School, Farnbridge Road, Maldon, CM9 6AB
- ⑥ Saturday 15th July
- ⑦ 3:30-6:00pm
- ⑧ Aged 16+



www.essexfa.com



Raise **free funds** for
your club simply
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John Lewis
johnlewis.com

M&S
EST. 1845



Walking Football 'Festival for Bobby'



Charity Fundraiser for
the Bobby Moore Fund.

£5 entry per player, with all
proceeds going to the Bobby
Moore Fund for Cancer Research.

To enter, call Sam on
(01245) 393099 or E-Mail
sam.robinson@essexfa.com.

- ① Forest Row Centre, Lodge Lane, Romford, RM5 2LD
- ② Saturday 8th July
- ③ 3:30-6:00pm
- ④ 50+ Adults
- ⑤ Plumtree High School, Farnbridge Road, Maldon, CM9 6AB
- ⑥ Saturday 15th July
- ⑦ 3:30-6:00pm
- ⑧ 50+ Adults



Women and Girls

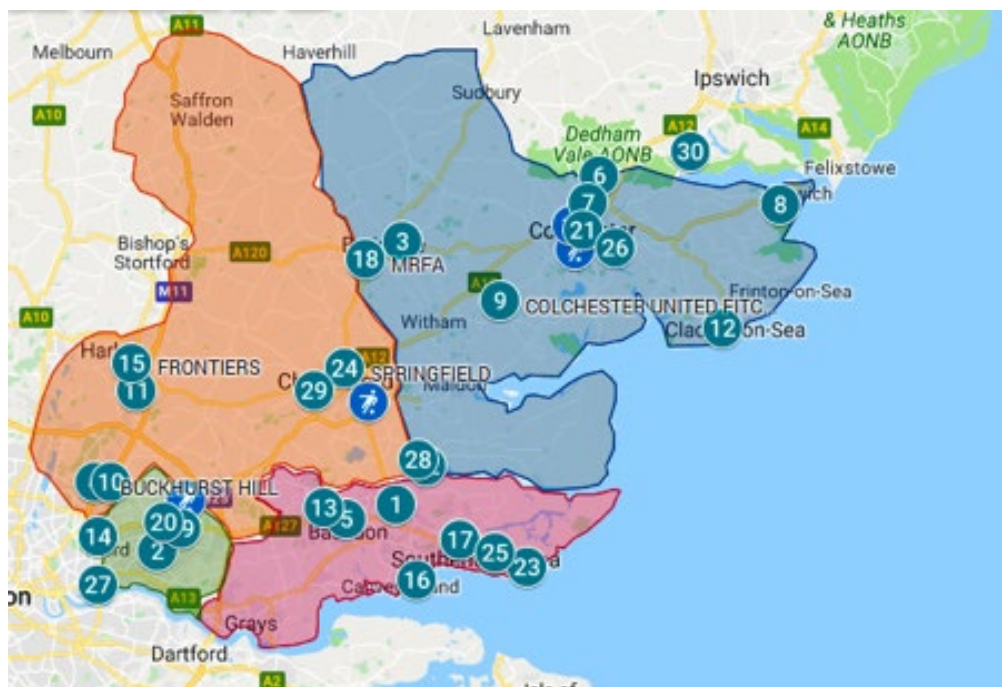
SSE Wildcats

Essex can now boast 33 SSE Wildcats Centres. There are 28 new centres and five Year 1 centres retained from the previous year. Credit must go to each programme for delivering a quality product for girls aged 5-11 for 16 weeks.

The affiliation figures for girls' mini-soccer have seen a 38% increase for the 2017/18 season. Numbers have grown from 34 to 54 teams and many of those teams have come from a club running an SSE Wildcats centre. We have seen particular growth in the Under 7s and 8s age groups.

Bi-monthly girls' football festivals took place at 23 sites across the county. We worked closely with our partners within education, club football and leagues and delivered 23 bi-monthly festivals.

FA Girls' Football Week in April was, once again, a massive success and launched many brand new SSE Wildcats Centres. In addition, our Silent Soccer Festival (in partnership with the Essex County Girls' League) was really well attended, with three age groups getting involved: Under 8s, 9s and 10s.



Player Development Centre

The Essex County FA Girls' Player Development Centre (PDC) was led by She Can Play this season, and it demonstrated great partnership work. The PDC trials took place at Noak Hill in Romford and attracted 195 girls across four age groups: Under 10, 12s, 14s and 16s.

The Girls' PDC is now in its eighth season. The technical programme runs sessions once a week over 20 weeks at Noak Hill. The programme attracts nearly 200 girls who attend the trial process, with 80 players being successful in obtaining a place.



Regional Talent Club

Essex's Regional Talent Club (RTC) remains as a Tier 2 Licence of the Elite Female Player Pathway. RTC centres nationally still remain at 34 clubs, across three tiers.

The programme will be in its fifth year at the start of the 2017/18 season and, prior to the start of the season, the trials saw 153 females attending. During the course of the season, we welcomed back Kevin Baker to the coaching team and said farewell to Kelly Walker and Ian Bent.

Our female coaching network grew, with Susan Dorrell, Paige Wakefield and Georgia Maxwell-Jones all supporting the development and heightening their development within the game.

Throughout the season the centre had England Under 16s call-ups for Blue Wilson, Eloise King, Paige Peake and Maria Boswell, with two players from our Under 14s, Maddie Biggs and Sara Smith Walter, being called-up for England Under 15s camps and tournaments.

Under 10s (Andy Gibbons [Head Coach] and Georgia Maxwell-Jones [Assistant Coach]): Maddie Dennis, Violet Gray, Demi Hetherington, Olivia Fenemer, Joy Hughes, Omotara Junaid, Darcy Marks, Alicia Russell, Daisy Warren, Annabelle Webb.

Under 12s (Simon King [Head Coach] and Paige Wakefield [Assistant Coach]): Darcy Drewitt, Tatiana Flores, Lucy Lyon, Megan McAniskey, Katie McClean, Grace McEwen, Kelsey Morgan, Ellie Moore, Amy Taylor, Erin Williams, Libby Cooper, Jasmine Deacon.

Under 14s (Kevin Baker [Head Coach] and Daniel Parker [Assistant Coach]): Rebecca Alderton, Brogan Caverer, Mia Filipiak, Sophie Farrow, Alicia Garwood, Freya Godfrey, Keanne Jervier, Andie Boo Mills, Cloe O'Brien, Ruby Sealey, Ella Skidmore, Sara Smith Walter, Millie Stacey, Leonie Telford, Learna Daniels, Emily Howe.

Under 16s (Joe Sheehan [Head Coach] and Nikita Runnacles and Adam Firman [Assistant Coach]): Maddie Biggs, Olivia Bilson, Maria Boswell, Lucy Egan, Silvana Flores, Abbie Jackson, Eloise King, Ellie Mitchell, Paige Peake, Rosie Richards, Sophie Peskett, Emma Wallis, Blue Wilson, Claudia Zahui, Hope Smith.



Essex County Schools FA Representative Football

The Essex County Schools' Under 16s Girls Squad made it to the English Schools FA's National Final, which took place at Stoke City FC. Despite a physically-impressive performance, the girls missed out, losing to a strong Lancashire side, 1-0.

Fortunately, the girls were able to play within the South-East England Schools Football Association (SEESFA) Competition Under 16s Final and they came away as winners, beating Surrey convincingly to win the competition for a record eleventh time.

The Under 14s Girls were also successful in reaching the final of their SEESFA competition, facing Sussex. However, they lost out after a nail-biting extra time period and penalties at Aveley FC's impressive Parkside Stadium.



Disability

Disability football continues to grow within Essex, with 60 teams affiliated around the county. The Soccability League also continues grow, with five adult and two youth divisions.

Currently there are 60 sides affiliated to the County FA. 30 of these participate in our countywide competition. The latest Soccability League has become independent, and now takes place at PlayFootball in Colchester, with adults and youths both playing on the same day.

The youth festivals have six teams in each age category (Under 12s to 16s). Five teams are Essex-affiliated and one is a Hertfordshire team. The Youth Forum are looking at moving the Youth League to two venues at PlayFootball Colchester and Southend.

The Adult League has 18 teams across four divisions (Premiership, Championship, League 1 and League 2). Members of the Essex Soccability League entered the 11v11 Regional Disability Cup, where Healthy4Life reached the semi-finals. A Refereeing Disability Workshop was also delivered to equip referees with the knowledge of refereeing in the disability game.

With safeguarding processes impacting on school affiliations, we no longer affiliate our Schools Soccability Festivals. Therefore, our disability affiliation numbers have decreased, although we are continuing to deliver the Schools Festival in a revised format of four festivals per Group Area.

We have piloted a partnership with one of the Special Educational Needs (SEN) schools and a local FA Charter Standard club to increase the youth participation within disability and allow the club to cater for the wider community. The club has taken on all administrative duties, including applying for Football Foundation 'Grow the Game' funding, while the school is responsible for practical elements.

The county now offers a wide range of disability opportunities through a club network. Football opportunities are available for PAN Disability, Cerebral Palsy, visually impaired, hearing impaired and frame football.

A new wellbeing session has also launched in Colchester with Futures in Mind, Disability4Sport and North-East Mind. Mapping has been developed of all our disability sessions, which is now accessible on the County FA website.

We additionally hosted the FA Disability People's Cup. 26 sides entered the competition on 24th February 2018 at PlayFootball Southend. There were four categories: Premiership, Championship, League 1 and Youth Under 16s. Basildon Soccability successfully qualified for the National Finals, but lost on penalties. Westcliff United went on to win the Premiership category.

Talent Identification Day was delivered in March, which progressed onto a Talent Hub delivered by Disability4Sport. The hub has been very successful, with a number of players attending. Two young girls who play within mainstream football have now progressed to the regional emerging programme.

"Thank you for the [Soccability] event today. The students really enjoyed having the chance to play at a different school and with different teams. I will be entering the school into the college events. With the buzz around the event today, I was able to recruit two girls in our Year 10 group to come to the next under 16s event."

Simon Best, Lancaster School





FA People's Cup

**SOCCABILITY
YOUTH
FESTIVAL**



If you're in the Under 12s or 16s age groups and have a disability or impairment, join us in Southend for a kickabout!

For more information, contact Cindi Chatha on (01245) 393090 or E-Mail cindi.chatha@essexfa.com

PLAYFOOTBALL.

- 📍 PlayFootball Southend, Prittlewell Chase, Southend-on-Sea, S50 0RT
- 📅 Saturday 25th November
- 🕒 11:00am-1:00pm
- 👥 Under 7s and 8s Girls



🐦 @EssexCountyFA 📌 EssexFootball



Soccability Festival

Football Futures and Youth Forum

The 2017/18 season saw the Essex County FA Youth Forum continue to evolve, with Ciaran Whatley of Hawkwell Athletic FC becoming Chairperson.

Ciaran represented the Essex County FA at the FA's National Leadership Academy in July 2017 and then implemented a number of ideas within the Youth Forum. Gemma Stubbles was then selected as the Youth Forum representative to attend the 2018 camp.

The Football Futures Programme, which is overseen by The FA, was under review. Our Youth Forum assessed our current programme and used insight from existing members across the county to shape it for the season. The Youth Forum delivered some key football development projects during 2017/18.

The group continued to coordinate and deliver the current Football Futures Programme model of signing-up and logging hours online as well as spending time planning and supporting County FA events such as the Grassroots Football Festival, Futsal tournaments and Wildcats sessions. Football Futures had 47 members who had logged 1,265 volunteering hours.



Football Development Strategy

To provide a safe, engaging and progressive football environment for all



In 2017/18...

2,547

LEARNERS ACROSS
ALL COACH
EDUCATION
COURSES



600+

COACHES THROUGH
CPD (CONTINUING
PROFESSIONAL
DEVELOPMENT)
WORKSHOPS

DELIVERED FEMALE
REGIONAL TALENT
CLUB AND PLAYER
DEVELOPMENT
CENTRE FOR

134
PLAYERS



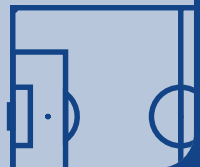
DEVELOPED

7 ENGLAND
FEMALE YOUTH
INTERNATIONALS



39

3G PITCHES ON
THE FA REGISTER
IN ESSEX



14

FA PITCH
IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAMME
VISITS TO
50 PITCHES



57

TEAMS ENGAGED IN
TWO COMMUNITY
DAY EVENTS



£11,000+

PROVIDED BY ESSEX COUNTY FA
TO GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL
THROUGH SMALL GRANTS SCHEME



SECURED

£97,500

OF FOOTBALL
FOUNDATION 'GROW
THE GAME'
FUNDING INTO
ESSEX



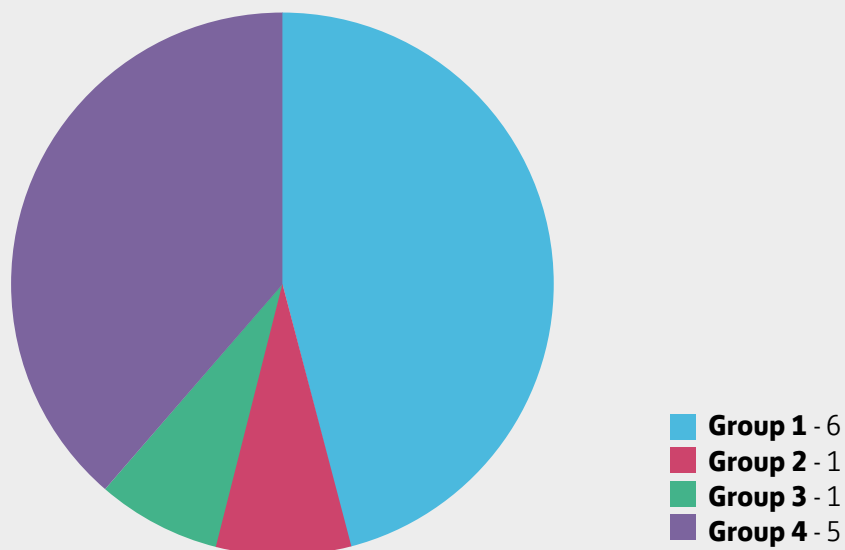
Recreational

In 2017/18, the Essex County FA implemented The FA's Recreational Strategy to deliver a wide range of football opportunities across the county. These ranged from Walking Football sessions to Just Play centres running countywide, in partnership with Mars Just Play.

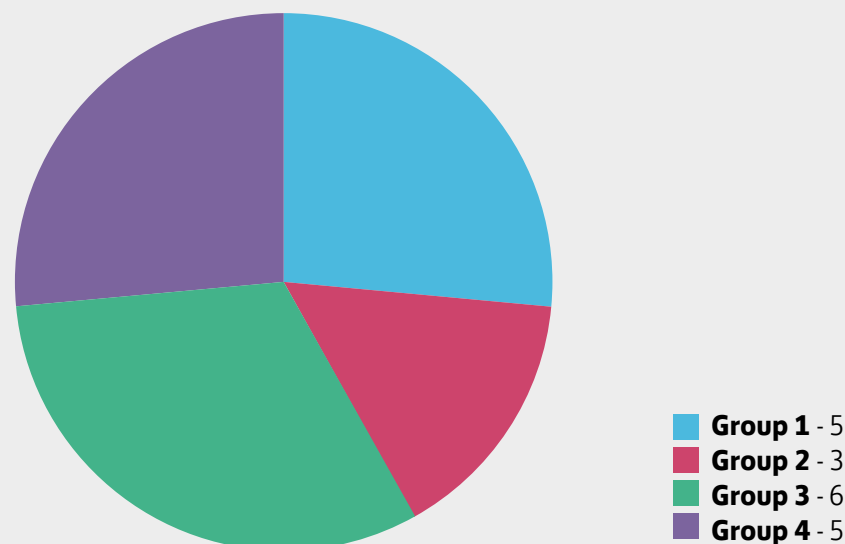
Throughout the season there were 19 Walking Football Centres and 13 Just Play Centres, 32 in total. In addition, the Walking Football Centres have aided the development of the Essex Walking Football League (EWFL).

As part of our partnership with the EWFL, we have looked to further develop participation by signposting players from the centres into competitive matches across three divisions: Over 50s, Over 60s and Over 65s. This highlights the development of the league, moving from two to three divisions within a season, from 22 to 29 teams.

Just Play Centres



Walking Football Centres



Friday Night Football!

9v9 Flexi-Football League

FOOTBALL THE WAY YOU WANT IT

Looking for new teams, businesses or existing teams looking for an edge for pre-season

- no continuous commitment
- no lengthy affiliation processes
- £30 team entry per evening

Please contact Danielle via (01245) 393094 or danielle.warner@essexfa.com for details, or E-Mail Andy Chapman at andy@essexfa.com

County Motor Works
Vauxhall Mid Essex League

Walden High School, 16 PMV, Romford, Essex, RM3 7PL
16th June to 21st August
7:00 - 9:00pm

MNF
MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Six-a-Side Open-Age Summer League with 40-Minute Matches and Pre-Arranged Fixture List for Men Aged 16+

Monday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th and 31st July and 7th August

Noak Hill Sports Complex, Noak Hill Road, Romford, RM3 7PL

£20 per game

To register, visit www.essexallianceleague.com/summerleague

Essex Alliance League

- Brand New 3G Facility
- Ideal for Pre-Season Training
- Fully-Qualified Referees Provided
- Trophies and Awards for Winners

Small-Sided

Small-sided football has remained steady in the 2017/18 season, with a number of commercial providers operating across the county and new 3G pitches hosting leagues during off-peak periods.

Work has continued to make sure all our small-sided football providers are affiliating their competitions, and our Referee Development Officers have ensured registered referees are aware of unaffiliated providers and the consequences of officiating in their leagues.



Youth Leagues

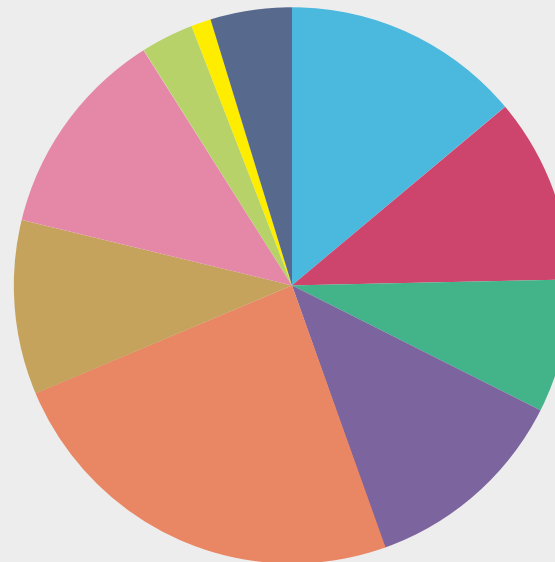
Partnerships with youth leagues have developed and grown throughout the 2017/18 season. Six of our youth leagues in Essex have FA Charter Standard status, which means they're committed to continuing to raise the standards of football for young people across the county.

The youth leagues within Essex facilitate nearly 40,000 participants, and we've seen growth within five of our age groups: Under 10s, 11s, 13s, 16s and 17s.

Moving into the 2018/19 season, we will see the introduction of the Junior Premier League, following on from a consultation period throughout 2017/18. We will also be meeting with all our youth leagues to present our league participation reports which have been worked on during the past year, providing statistical insight and analysis.

As we enter into the 2018/19 season, we will be holding a Youth League Forum for our leagues to share best practice, feedback and ideas. With the landscape of youth football continuing to change, innovative ideas and formats will be explored as we continue to see it develop.

Total Number of Teams across Essex
(Sunday Youth Football)



- Blackwater & Dengie Youth League - 404
- Chelmsford Youth League - 315
- Brentwood Community Alliance Youth League - 232
- Colchester & District Youth League - 353
- Echo Junior League - 711
- South-East Essex Primary Mini Soccer League - 356
- Southend & District Junior League - 85
- Thundermite Youth League - 30
- West Essex & East Herts Youth League - 143
- Essex County Girls' League - 143



Andrews Under 14s Cup Final



Rosser Under 15s Cup Final



Under 14s Girls Cup Final



Under 12s Cup Final



Under 18s Girls Cup Final

Futsal

The 2017/18 season saw our three affiliated clubs - London City Futsal, Braintree Futsal and Newham Sports - remain within the National League structure. London competed in the National Super League, with Braintree and Newham participating in the Division 2 South League.

The season identified a slight reduction in affiliated Futsal clubs, from 20 to 17. Out of the 17 teams affiliated, ten were identified as open-age teams, with the remainder focusing on youth. Within those 17, four were identified as female-specific.

Educational teams were also included with the University of Essex, Anglia Ruskin University and Writtle University College, offering Futsal as either a part of their educational programme or part of their sports participation programme. Despite a slight reduction, the internal drive from clubs to deliver Futsal as a development tool and/or winter training option is ever-evolving.

The Southend & District Junior League continued to offer Futsal opportunities as an alternative to football during the month of January for the Under 11s age group. The Brentwood Community Football Alliance offered bespoke Futsal coaches to upskill their grassroots coaches and managers as well as providing matchday opportunities for teams from Under 7s through to Under 10s.

There were rights for County FAs to run the Futsal Level 2 coaching qualification, with 23 learners attending our first course and a further 175 obtaining their Futsal Level 1 course over the season.

County Futsal Winners

Our County Futsal Competition for Under 10s through to 16s was open to schools and grassroots clubs this year. Each Group Area held specific qualification rounds before progressing to our finals held at the Copper Box in East London and the University of Essex's new sports arena in Colchester.

	Females	Males
Under 10s (Clubs)	Springfield Girls	Great Danes
Under 12s (Clubs)	Colchester Town Girls	Great Danes
Under 14s (Schools)	Eastwood Academy	Beauchamps School
Under 16s (Schools)	Notley High School	Notley High School

Age Group	Number of Clubs or Schools Worked With (Boys)	Number of Clubs or Schools Worked With (Girls)
Under 10s	22	4
Under 12s	31	4
Under 14s	34	32
Under 16s	32	18
Total	119*	58*

** collective and not exclusive of the same school/club entering the different age categories*

Average number of players the competitions affected (based on average of ten players - approximately taken from the FA National Game Strategy: 1,770

The FA have been working behind the scenes during the season to devise a Futsal strategy which will sit alongside the new FA National Game Strategy. This will look to be released and implemented into the county strategies for the 2018/19 season.



Facilities and Funding

During 2017/18, The FA commissioned sports consultants Kavanagh, Knight & Page (KKP) to produce Local Football Facility Plans (LFFP) for every local authority (LA) in England by 2020. Essex was selected in the first tranche of the roll-out following the completion of pilot plans in Birmingham.

Our County Development Manager and Football Foundation Engagement Manager began the process alongside KKP in March 2018. A series of meetings were held with LAs across the county to establish the needs of grassroots football across four investment pillars: 3G Pitch Provision, Changing Rooms/Pavilions, Grass Pitch Improvement and Small-Sided Football.

The plans are likely to be finalised in the 2018/19 season and will act as an investment portfolio for each LA, reflecting the National Football Facilities Strategy requirement to develop a sustainable network of quality facilities to drive participation across all parts of the game.

Alongside the LFFP process, work continued to support LAs through their individual Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) assessments. These are important strategic documents aiming to identify the future needs for football facilities within each LA by assessing the qualitative and quantitative impact of their football pitches.

They assess current participation rates, future population and housing growth, as well as future team generation rates. This process also includes assessments on the current and future need of 3G Artificial Grass Pitches for training and match play purposes.

Each PPS carries out a consultation process with grassroots clubs and leagues to ensure feedback is received from key football stakeholders. During 2017/18, the County FA supported PPSs for Brentwood, South Essex (Basildon, Castle Point, Rochford and Southend) and Epping Forest.

Alongside the PPSs, facility development work continued to progress. Whilst the 2017/18 season was very much a campaign of transition and strategic planning, a number of projects were under development during the season, with three submitted for review for the first Football Foundation panel meeting of 2018/19.

Football Stadia Improvement Fund

Over the course of the 2017/18 season, three Essex senior status clubs received funding through the Football Stadia Improvement Fund.

This fund is there to support clubs playing within the FA National League System to meet their ground grading requirements. The table below outlines the clubs who received investment:

Applicant	Foundation Funded	Total Project Cost
Holland FC	£93,242	£144,403
White Ensign FC	£3,000	£4,350
Brightlingsea Regent FC	£14,013	£28,359
Total	£110,255	£177,112

FA 3G Pitch Register

There has been a growth in the number of 3G pitches listed within Essex on the FA 3G Pitch Register during the 2017/18 season. It requires that all 3G Football Turf Pitches used for affiliated match play should meet the standards set in The FA 3G Pitch Performance Test.

This ensures there is a high-quality standard across all 3G pitches. There are now 39 pitches (of varying sizes) within Essex listed on the register (up from 30 during 2015). This has ensured that football matches continue to get played in adverse weather conditions.

Protection of Football Facilities

Protection of existing football facilities is a key priority for football. Housing growth is playing a significant factor in the development of future facilities.

Disused football facilities can be at risk of being lost or reallocated for other purposes as part of LA Local Plans to identify key sites for housing growth, with submission to the Government for approval. PPSs are an important assessment tool in the process.

A lot of time and effort is invested into protecting football sites, and we work closely with Sport England to comment on, and provide evidence in regard to, any sites which could be lost to football to ensure they are not lost or to ensure replacement facilities are developed to offset any potential loss of pitch stock.

FA Pitch Improvement Programme

Pitch maintenance continued to be a challenge to the development of the grassroots game in the 2017/18 season. Local authorities are under increasing budget pressures and constraints, which is beginning to filter into the quality of pitches at the grassroots level.

Subsidies are being cut and pitch maintenance programmes are being reduced in cost-cutting measures, impacting on the price of pitches, as well as their quality. The FA Pitch Improvement Programme (PIP) has had a positive affect within Essex.

The programme is a partnership with the Institute of Groundsmanship to provide specific advice and guidance to football clubs on pitch maintenance and improvement. The Regional Pitch Advisor visited 14 new sites (50 new pitches), producing a detailed report for the operator.



FA 'Parklife' Programme

The London Borough of Barking & Dagenham (LBBD) submitted an Expression of Interest to be involved in hosting an FA 'Parklife' Hub. They were successful in this stage, and work has begun to develop this project at Parsloes Park.

The current plan for the site is to develop three 3G pitches (one of which will be a stadia development) and an eight-team changing ancillary build, which will also include a gym and a studio. The project has currently secured the following funding pots:

Organisation	Total
LBBD	£600,000
LBBD (Community Infrastructure Levy Funding)	£400,000
London Marathon Charitable Trust	£500,000

Funding is still to be confirmed from the LBBD Section 106 pot for funding of £350,000. A funding application to the Football Foundation is to be submitted at the end of July for £5,023,000, with a decision expected in December 2018.

The next stage for the programme is to achieve planning permission, with a pre-planning meeting with the Greater London Authority scheduled for August 2018 and a submission to the Local Authority planning committee in late 2018.

Essex County FA Small Grants Scheme

The Small Grants Scheme was launched in January 2016. It is designed to provide funding support to organisations who are having difficulty securing funding for capital projects.

More than £11,000 was reinvested back into grassroots football during the 2017/18 season, as set out below:

Stanway Villa FC - Defibrillator
Rayleigh Youth FC - Changing Room Improvements
Boxted Lodgers FC - Line-Marking Machine
Great Waking Rovers FC - Clubhouse Improvements
Southend Manor FC - Pavilion Improvements
Nazeing Youth FC - Portable Floodlights
Ilford FC - Lawnmower
Witham Town FC - Respect Fencing

Football Foundation 'Grow the Game' Funding

We identified, and supported, the allocation of funding through the Football Foundation's 'Grow the Game' Scheme, which provides money towards new football activity, with funding being used towards kit, equipment, facility hire, coaching qualifications and affiliation fees.

The Football Foundation (FF) changed their criteria for 2018, with a greater emphasis on the direct support of the creation of new women's, girls' and disability teams.

FF criteria in previous years also looked to aid the creation of new adult male teams. However, a new funding stream called 'Retain the Game' now has a greater emphasis on supporting existing teams, rather than the creation of teams.

A £1,500 grant per new team was awarded to each of the following clubs during 2018. This secured a total investment into Essex of £172,500 for the development of new teams and participation.

Group Area	Year 1	Year 2
Clubs in Group 1 (four applied, including three FA Charter Standard)	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 5; Disability Male & Female Youth = 2	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 1; Disability Male & Female Youth = 1
Clubs in Group 2 (seven applied, including seven FA Charter Standard)	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 7; Disability Male & Female Youth = 2	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 6; Disability Male & Female Youth = 2
Clubs in Group 3 (nine applied, including nine FA Charter Standard)	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 10; Adult Female = 1; Disability Male & Female Youth = 1; Disability Male & Female Adult = 1	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 8; Adult Female = 1; Disability Male & Female Youth = 2; Disability Male & Female Adult = 1
Clubs in Group 4 (five applied, including no FA Charter Standard)	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 3; Adult Female = 1; Disability Male & Female Youth = 2; Disability Male & Female Adult = 1	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 4; Disability Male & Female Youth = 3
Total Teams	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 25; Adult Female = 2; Disability Male & Female Youth = 7; Disability Male & Female Adult = 2	Mini-Soccer/Youth Female = 19; Adult Female = 1; Disability Male & Female Youth = 8; Disability Male & Female Adult = 1
Total Funding	£54,000	£43,500
		£97,500



Brightlingsea Regent FC



Hawkwell Athletic FC



Little Oakley FC





Education

Association of Colleges Sport Funding: English Colleges FA College Football Hubs

There are three tiers to this model:

Tier One: to deliver across all four English Colleges FA (ECFA) pillars. Engaging 250 players in the college and local community through 30 leaders (including two football activators and an apprentice)

Tier Two: to deliver across three ECFA pillars. Engaging 125 players in the college and local community through ten leaders (including two football activators)

Tier Three: to deliver across two ECFA pillars. Engaging 50 players through a male and female football activator

All college football hubs will be expected to engage 20% female, 10% disability and 10% Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) participants. The ECFA pillars are: Participation, Competition, Workforce, Community. Colleges funded include: Palmer's College (Tier 3), South Essex College (Tier 3), Seevic College (Tier 2), Chelmsford College (Tier 3), Colchester Sixth Form College (Tier 2).

Colleges Disability League

This event now engages over 100 participants and has strong links with clubs for each of the colleges. Students signed-up to the Football Futures Programme are used as volunteers for the event.

The Colleges League is in its third year of running in partnership with the London FA and is coordinated by the Group 4 Football Development Officer. The league is run from Goals Dagenham across five events a year.

This season the Colleges League has supported: Barking & Dagenham, Seevic College, Newvic College, Chelmsford College, Havering College, South Essex College, Colchester Institute, Redbridge College, Tower Hamlets, Hackney College, Waltham Forest, St Charles, Westking and Newham College.

University of Essex

The University of Essex (UoE) continued to grow their partnership with The FA, through the investment into higher education Tier 2 status, and the Essex County FA.

The strengthened partnership has resulted in a number of new community engagement projects being developed. Girls' football has been at the forefront of the success, with the university applying to run an SSE Wildcats Centre, which operates on Saturday mornings, staffed by FA-qualified students based on campus.

The Essex County FA hosted a Community Wildcats Futsal Festival, with over 30 girls attending, and a school year three and four event where six schools and 80 girls took part, in partnership with the FA Lidl Skills Programme.

With the opening of a new state-of-the-art sports arena, the Essex County FA have found a fantastic hub site for Futsal at the UoE, with our Under 10s and 12s Futsal Club Qualifiers held there in February and the County Girls Qualifier being successfully hosted at the centre too.

The first FA Level 1 Course was delivered, with twelve students on the Sports Coaching & Performance Degree, plus an FA Primary Teachers Award.

Positive developments and plans were submitted with the intention to move the UoE to a Tier 1 hub for the 2018/19 season, and also to broker a three-way partnership with the British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS), the County FA and the University of Essex to fund a full-time football development officer.



Equality and Inclusion

We continue to promote equality and inclusion throughout the organisation and the wider workforce.

We've promoted a number of religious occasions and international days through our social media accounts.

We built relationships with a number of partners. With the Muslimah Sports Association and London Sport, we delivered an inclusive FA Level 1 Course which was delivered in July 2017 at Al-Madina Mosque in Barking.

The course was tailored to Black, Asian and minority ethnic (BAME) females, ensuring they could successfully complete a course without compromising their cultural beliefs or values. The venue met their needs too, being enclosed, and a female tutor was sourced. The course was open to all females and all 15 successfully gained their coaching qualification.

October saw the re-launch of our Inclusion Advisory Group (IAG). A chair was sourced to ensure they possessed the skill sets required for this group and a number of members were approached to join who had the knowledge and understanding of the needs and barriers of the community.

The IAG has taken a different approach to the previous version, with a Group Area-specific focus, to ensure it has an impact on the wider community.

The decision was also taken to monitor our course participants to ensure we are reflective of our community and to gain an understanding of our demographics. Below is the course data for coaches and referees:

	BAME	Female	Disability	Total
Coaches	129	43	15	945
Referees	22	23	3	406



Little Oakley Walking Football

Inclusive Level 1 Course

Safeguarding and Welfare

2017/18 saw The FA introduce Safeguarding Operating Standards for all County FAs. The standard contains many elements in relation to safeguarding and requires the Essex County FA to evidence how these elements are met and measured.

As part of the standard, we conducted safeguarding visits to clubs, which gave us the opportunity to meet club officials, coaches and volunteers. It also enabled us to reassure parents and carers that the appropriate individuals were involved with their children and young people. In January 2018, we were assessed by an independent company who shared the following comments:

"In the opinion of the assessors, the Essex County FA has fully and systematically embedded safeguarding within its governance structures and operational practices. Therefore, we are able to categorise them as Green (pass). The drive and enthusiasm shown by the CEO, DSO [Designated Safeguarding Officer] and staff will help ensure Essex CFA is a safer place for children to play football."

A Safeguarding Training Workshop was held as part of our Senior Cup Final at Colchester United FC. The presentation was conducted by E-Safety Training on the risks associated with children and young people using social media. This was, again, very well-received by the delegates and we are looking to provide a further training session in March 2019.

The department now works towards delivering a strategy supporting the valued workforce of Welfare Officers, making sure all safeguarding compliances are met, conducting and supervising investigations and developing a positive environment.

New incentives and approaches are in the process of being developed in preparation for the 2018/19 season, which will include a new approach for fair play. Educational workshops, and the opportunity for clubs to request a parental matchday experience workshop, will also be made available.

A major aspect of the department is to manage both poor practice and abuse cases. During the 2017/18 season, the caseloads on the right were held and investigated.



Safeguarding & Welfare Strategy

Provide a safe and compliant football environment with a skilled and knowledgeable workforce



In 2017/18...

634

PLACES ON
SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN
COURSES



120

PLACES ON
WELFARE
OFFICER
WORKSHOPS



SAFEGUARDING
VISITS COMPLETED
WITH

48

TEAMS

ESSEX POLICE: "THROUGH THE SHARING OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE POLICE AND THE ESSEX COUNTY FA, WE WERE ABLE TO BUILD EVIDENCE THAT REALLY HIGHLIGHTS THE SUCCESS OF MULTI-AGENCY WORKING."

OVER THE PAST FEW YEARS, STRONG WORKING RELATIONSHIPS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED WITH OTHER AGENCIES OPERATING WITHIN SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION



FA Lidl Skills

During the 2017/2018 season, Essex's FA Lidl Skills Team changed dramatically. After five years of delivery of the programme in Essex, our Skills Team Leader, Lauren Phillips, progressed into an FA coaching role within the elite female development pathway.

Lauren's replacement, Ian Varley, continued to lead the programme up until the end of the season. Overall, the programme has been a great success here in Essex, as well as nationally, with eleven million coaching opportunities for children aged 5-11 provided as well as the development of thousands of school teachers in primary schools.

The philosophy and approach has gone on to influence our coach education courses, the development of the England DNA and many more programmes across The FA. However, the programme has since come to an end.

We would like to extend our thanks to those who delivered the programme here in Essex. Primary schools and grassroots clubs who would like similar support are encouraged to contact their local Football Development Officer to find out more information.



Press, Publicity and Marketing

Website

Our website at www.essexfa.com is the primary source of news and information for our stakeholders. It's the main hub for publishing details of our projects, helpful documents and links and descriptions of our core activities and schemes.

We use social media to direct people to specific areas of our website, which can sometimes be campaign-driven at seasonal times of the year. It's a facility for everyone which was rebuilt in 2016 and each page is under constant review to update and improve it, in conjunction with the respective Technical Leads for those subject areas.

The sheer size of the website presents challenges, though 144 news stories were produced in 2017/18, contributing to a total of 181,309 unique visitors during the course of the campaign. Ideas for new pages are also being constantly implemented to improve the website.



Twitter

Twitter is our main engagement tool to interact with stakeholders on a minute-by-minute basis, sharing information and useful links via our @EssexCountyFA account to areas of our website. It's also an efficient way of sharing 'user-generated content' and best practice.

'Timelines' move very quickly so this is a more instant form of messaging which is especially suited to clubs, leagues, organisations and other brands. With a significant shift away from desktop to mobile and device-based Internet use, the requirement for us to harness the power of social media is greater than ever, and increasing. It informs people on a previously unachievable scale.

6,345 tweets were dispatched during 2017/18, resulting in a huge 14,068,000 tweet impressions. Our activities attracted 3,105 new 'followers' (total 18,738+) and generated 247,500 'profile visits' when a piece of content has prompted a user to find out more about our organisation. Our account was 'mentioned' on a total of 15,590 occasions.

The platform enables us correct some of the misinformation which exists and helps us to educate a varied demographic about processes and the services and possibilities available to them. Extended efforts are planned for the future use of Twitter, with a goal of achieving 32,000 followers by the culmination of the 2018-21 Strategy period.

Facebook

Facebook offers us an additional dimension of interaction with our stakeholders as well as a broadcasting method for a slightly different audience. More personal and individual content works well on Facebook, such as posts relating to referees, representative squads, female football and other communities within the game.

Our page at 'EssexFootball' engages, informs and educates widely in a similar fashion to Twitter, though content tends to be in more detail and it lasts longer. Work is ongoing to grow the audience, with a 2018-21 Strategy target of 16,000 in mind. By the end of the 2017/18 season there were 8,196 page 'likes' and this will increase, accelerated by paid advertising.

Squad Booster

Squad Booster is our main facility to pair teams - who place adverts for new players - with individuals browsing the portal. Clubs submit an online form with details such as their training and match days and the position/s they require.

Batches of adverts are then published on our website each week, then individual tweets are scheduled during the following month for additional exposure. The service was re-launched in November with a more efficient process for clubs to submit adverts - down to around four minutes completion time per advert - and a regionalised layout on the web page.

This has been well-received, with a 100% form completion rate recorded and a total of 677 adverts submitted in 2017/18. Looking ahead, there is more which can be done to work on the social media functionality to create more personalised streams for age groups and locations, and ongoing adjustments are being made to the online form in accordance with user feedback.

Publications

As part of our overall Marketing & Communications Strategy, publications are produced each season in either hard or digital formats, or both. The most prominent of these is our County Handbook which contains reference information, rules and regulations each September. Concurrently, a smaller Essex County Schools FA Handbook is also published.

An Annual Report was created online to chart the business of the County FA for the purposes of sharing these details at the Annual General Meeting in June plus, during the 2017/18 season, a 'Moving Forward' 2018-21 Strategy brochure was designed. This highlighted the strategic vision for the organisation for the following three years.

Both the County and Schools Handbooks are published as hard copies in limited numbers, with a digital edition of each on our website.

County Handbooks are sold at cost price, with Schools

Handbooks produced for schools officers only. The ongoing viability of the production of both as hard copies is under constant review.



Other Projects

YouTube

Following a tender process, a local company was selected to help drive forward our video content and populate our YouTube channel at 'EssexFA' with quality content. Video has become considerably more popular and is a significant growth area in marketing, so it's essential for us to capitalise on it to promote grassroots football.

E-Mail Newsletters

Using the online E-Mail Marketing platform Mailchimp, we sent our first marketing message to a new GDPR-compliant subscription list on Friday 23rd February, and on the last Friday of every month thereafter. It contained links to prominent topical news stories across various subjects. This is a key area of growth for our marketing in a format which has been explicitly requested of us.

Branding

Publications, signage and promotional items, as well as online infographics, have a consistent and eye-catching appearance thanks to the excellent branding work of Jordan Blyth at JB Studio. Staff members are able to access Jordan's services during the season to produce professional-looking items to promote events, projects and courses.

BBC Essex

All BBC Essex Senior Cup Draws have been broadcast live from the station's Chelmsford studios, as well as the Quarter-Finals and Semi-Finals of the Saturday Premier and Women's Cups. Host Glenn Speller is a true friend of Essex football, supported by Producer Paul Joslin as well as many staff and special guests. The station also invite us on-air to talk about other related subjects.

Local Coverage

Many media organisations latch onto our news articles and provide coverage in print and online. The Romford Recorder (Lee Power), the Daily Gazette in Colchester (Matt Plummer) and the Yellow Advertiser in South Essex (Mick Ferris) have been particularly helpful in the newspaper sector, with The Game Magazine (Daren Cousins) also running a quarterly feature on our activities.

More Than Just a Match! BBC Essex Senior Cup Final



An evening of grassroots football activities, at the Weston Homes Community Stadium!

📍 Weston Homes Community Stadium, United Way, Colchester, Essex CO4 5UP

📅 Tuesday 20th March 2018

🕒 7:45pm

Coaches



- FA Licensed Coaches' Club CPD
- Explore Key England DNA Elements
- Live Match Observations
- Player/Match Analysis
- Interact, Observe, Reflect and Ask

Referees



- Hear from an FA Guest Speaker
- Find Out About Life as a Pro
- Preparing for Big Matches and Cup Finals
- Being an Assistant Referee
- Making an Effective Team

Welfare



- Welfare Officer CPD
- Police Officer Insights
- Young Peoples' Experiences Online



#EssexSeniorCup

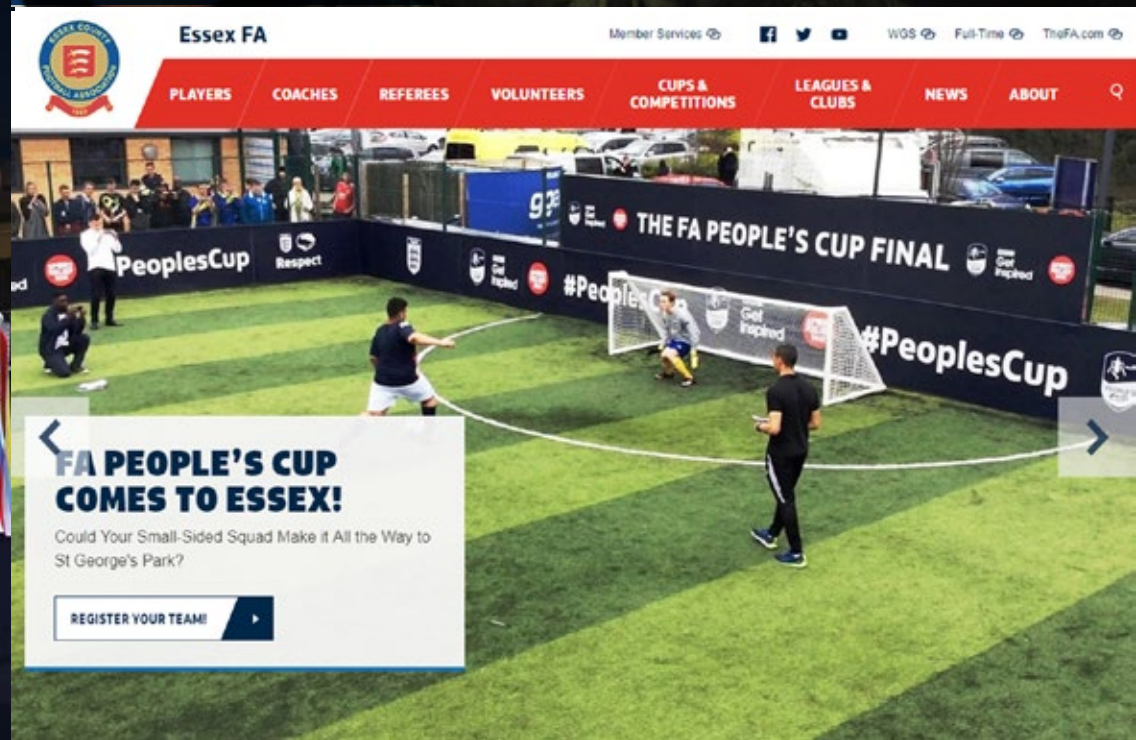
🐦 @EssexCountyFA

📺 EssexFootball

www.essexfa.com



Senior Cup Draw



Marketing & Communications Strategy

To communicate and engage effectively with every football stakeholder in Essex



In 2017/18...

BUILT NEW PAGES
ON THE COUNTY
WEBSITE



181,309
UNIQUE WEBSITE
VISITORS



INCREASING
SOCIAL MEDIA
ENGAGEMENT



EXCELLENT
RELATIONSHIP
WITH BBC ESSEX



401
NEW FACEBOOK
PAGE LIKES



NEWS, PUBLICATIONS
AND DOCUMENTS
SHARE INFORMATION
EACH SEASON



ENHANCED
E-MAIL MARKETING
CAPABILITIES TO
HIGHLIGHT LOCAL
ACTIVITIES



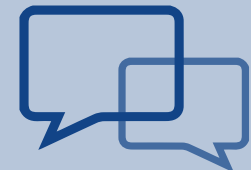
IMPROVED
VIDEO AND AUDIO
CONTENT



3,105
NEW TWITTER
FOLLOWERS



INTERACTION AND
FEEDBACK FROM
STAKEHOLDERS



Awards

FA Grassroots Football Awards presented by McDonald's

Coach of the Year: Jordan Stringer (Ivory United FC)

Community Project of the Year: Forest Crusaders Futsal Club

Charter Standard Club of the Year: Saffron Walden Community Youth FC

Charter Standard League of the Year: Essex Senior League

Supporter of the Year: Soledad Hall-Ballina (Island Girls FC)

Volunteer of the Year: Susana Delgado-Curtis (Basildon Boys & Girls Club FC)

Young Volunteer of the Year: Alfie Davidson (Frinton & Walton YFC)

Groundsman of the Year: David Atton (Lawford FC)

Fair Play

Open-Age Male

1st: Danbury & Bicknacre (Pope & Smith Chelmsford Sunday League)
2nd: Railway Academicals Reserve Team (Saturday) (Southend Borough & District Football Combination)
3rd: Dunmow Rhodes (Braintree & North Essex Sunday League)

Open-Age Female

1st: Beacon Hill Rovers (Essex County Women's League)
2nd: Alresford Colne Rangers (Essex County Women's League)

Disability

1st: Basildon Soccability (Essex Soccability League)

Youth Boys (Competitive)

1st: Basildon Boys Club Under 15s (Leopards) (Southend & District Junior League)
2nd: FC Clacton Under 12s (Blues) (Colchester & District Youth League)

Youth Boys (Non-Competitive)

1st: Wivenhoe Tempest Under 11s (Reds) (Colchester & District Youth League)

Youth Girls (Competitive)

1st: Leigh Ramblers Under 15s (Essex County Girls' League)
2nd: Hutton Under 18s (Essex County Girls' League)
3rd: C & K Basildon Under 15s (Essex County Girls' League)

Youth Girls (Non-Competitive)

1st: Frinton & Walton Under 11s (Hurricanes) (Essex County Girls' League)
2nd: Leigh Ramblers Under 10s (Essex County Girls' League)
3rd: Springfield Under 10s (Essex County Girls' League)

Long Service Certificate (10 Years)

Mark Rule (Referee)
Paul Brown (Wickford Town FC)
David Beckett (Writtle Minors YFC)
Darren Andrews (Prittlewell FC)
Lee Stevens (Bowers & Pitsea FC)
Barry Hubbard (Bowers & Pitsea FC)
David Wareham (Springfield FC)

John Meates (Springfield FC)
Mick Lee (Durham FC, Basildon & District Sunday League)
Alan Blanchett (Colchester & District Youth League)
Greg Coe (Essex County Girls' League)
Kevin Howard (Referee)
Dean Roberts (Essex Royals FC)

Exemplary Service (20 Years)

John Ledger (Southend Sunday League)
David Czyzewicz (Referee)
Rob Whitton (Southend Sunday League)
Janet Bushell (Trinity YFC)
Alan Friend (Referee, Essex Olympian League)
Dawn Barnard (Essex County Women's League, Essex County Girls' League)
John Farrant (Referee, Basildon Referees Society, Basildon & District Sunday League)
John Brooks (Hale End Athletic FC)
Kim Farmer (Colchester Town Girls FC, Colchester Town Ladies FC, Essex County Girls' League)
David Hill (Southend Sunday League)

Outstanding Service (30 Years)

Sue Stanfield (Echo Junior League)
Michael Thomas (Southend Sunday League)
Ronald Bright (Southend Sunday League)
Roger Bowman (Colchester & District Sunday League)
Paul Blackwell (Essex County Girls' League, Island Girls FC, Southfields FC)
Michael Fry (Woodham Radars FC)
Malcolm Shaw (Southminster Youth FC, Referee, Blackwater & Dengie Youth League)
Keith Handley (Heathwell United FC, Essex Senior League)
Dave Duffett (Referee)

Award of Merit (40 Years)

Lawrence Segal (Essex Senior League)
Norman French (Byron Red Star FC)
Michael Nunn (Debden Sports FC)
Dick Royce (Great Baddow FC)
Stuart Rose (Mid Essex League)
Ken Pearce (Mid Essex League)
Dave Medlock (Rayleigh Town FC)



FA 50-Year Award

Bob Brimacombe (Referee, Mid Essex League, Essex Veterans League)
Chris Baker (United Ockendon FC)
Dave Ambrose (Kelvedon Swifts YFC, Kelvedon & Feering United FC, Kelvedon Victoria FC)
Dennis Wyman (Upminster Park Rovers YFC)
Lawrence Segal (OK Jewish Youth Club FC, London Accountants' League, Essex County FA, Referee, Westhamians FC, Echo Junior League)
Len Llewellyn (Engine Plant Controllers FC, Ford Inter-Departmental League, Ford United FC, Ilford FC, Braintree Town FC, Isthmian League, Essex Senior League, Barkingside FC)
Lt Col Peter Andrews OBE (Colchester & District Youth League)
Mick Willmore (Thorpe Social FC, Thorpe Rangers FC, Clacton Monarchs FC, Holland Royals FC, Harlequins FC, Weeley Athletic FC, Blacksmith Arms FC, FC Clacton Town, Brightlingsea United FC, Essex & Suffolk Border League, Clacton Sunday League, Essex County FA)
Richard Myers (Parndon Royals FC, Harlow & District Sunday League, Arthurian Saturday League)
Terry King (Rainham Town FC, Aveley FC)

#CelebrateEssex Volunteer Awards

#CelebrateEssex is a new, monthly volunteer recognition scheme launched in March with Footie Mum via the Essex County FA's Twitter account.

It aims to promote inspirational personal examples and stories, encouraging new faces to get involved and grow the grassroots community. Once nominations close, a select group is chosen for a Twitter poll to identify the monthly winner, who receives a prize.

Footie Mum: Lisa Ursell
Supporter: Millie (Grays Athletic FC)
Treasurer: Jack Smith (Concord Rangers FC)
Footie Dad: Jason Plunkett
Chairperson: Keith Di Palma (Tigers JFC)





Awards (Awards Evening)

Schools and Colleges

It is again a great honour to be able to report on another eventful and successful season. The Essex County Schools FA would like to begin by thanking the entire voluntary workforce who give up so much of their time for the benefit of schools football.

It was a season that saw the sad loss of some extremely influential and long-serving individuals in schools football. Ray Carter, Terry Moore, Doug Insole and Reg Winters were individuals who, in their own way, contributed a huge amount to schools football and, as true gentlemen, will be sorely missed.

In national competitions, the Under 18s Boys were successful in retaining the English Schools FA Inter-County Trophy at Stoke City FC, 2-1 against Humberside. Congratulations, also, to Barking Abbey Girls on retaining their ESFA National Individual Girls Schools Trophy, 3-0 against Thomas Telford at Notts County FC.

Newham District were also successful in winning the ESFA Under 11s Danone District 7-a-Side Trophy at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry. Congratulations, and commiserations, to the county girls' Under 16s on losing their national final 1-0 against Lancashire at Stoke City FC.

Plus to Shenfield School Under 18s Boys as losing finalists in the Elite Schools and Colleges Trophy. Shenfield Under 12s Boys were additionally runners-up in the PlayStation 9-a-Side Competition.

In South-East England (SEESFA) competitions it does seem that they have increasingly taken a chaotic and, at times, unsavoury element. The Schools FA would like to thank Dave Playford (Hon Competition Secretary for the 14s-16s age groups) for his work over the last 20 years.

Dave has always organised the competitions in a firm, well-considered and fair manner and his experience will be missed as he stands down at the end of the season.

Congratulations to the Girls Under 16s in beating Surrey, 4-0, to win the SEESFA Trophy. Well done, and commiserations, to the Boys Under 18s and Under 14s sides, plus the Girls Under 14s, as losing finalists in their respective SEESFA competitions. The Schools FA would like to thank Andy Tickner for his organisation of SEESFA fixtures throughout the season.

The Essex County Schools FA's 15 individual competition finals were completed on time and to the standard they are striving to maintain, save for the odd hiccup. The hosting of three finals on one day was a success at the excellent Aveley FC facility.

We would like to thank Martin Rayner - stepping down at the end of the season - for the enormous amount of work that he has done with entries and affiliations, and as Girls Competition Secretary. The Schools FA would also like to thank Graham Farquhar for his work as Under 11s Competition Secretary.

Thanks, also, to Dave Agass as Competition Secretary for the District Competitions. Once again the Schools FA express gratitude to all County Managers for their time, and the expertise given, throughout the season.

One of the main factors in helping the ECSFA to maintain its success is the support of the staff at the Essex County FA, so the Schools FA would like to thank Brendan Walshe (Chief Executive), Chris Evans (Press & Publicity Officer), James Lisher and Lukas Wood (Referees Department), Mark Wallis (Competitions Officer), Emma Burden and Danielle Warnes (Development Officers) for their continued support.

A special thankyou to Rob Craven for his work in producing such informative and high-quality matchday programmes for the numerous county and individual schools finals during the season.

The Schools FA would also like to thank Phil Sammons for his support this season, on returning to the fold as Honorary Secretary after his 20-year sabbatical as Chief Executive of the County FA. Thanks, also, to the increasing number of retired General Purposes Committee officers for their invaluable support for schools football.

Thank you to the following for the use of their facilities for county matches and finals this season:

London Playing Fields, Fairlop, Aveley FC, Brentwood School, Canvey Island FC, Shenfield School, Len Forge Centre, Lakeside FC, Moulsham High School, Brampton Manor School, Kingsford Community School, Harlow Town and Melbourne Park.

Finally, the challenges that impact on schools football only seem to increase year by year. The influence and pressures of the professional game, financial pressures on the ESFA, child protection issues, transportation costs, teachers' time.

Volunteer support of schools football, the increasing involvement of coaches replacing trained physical educationalists, the growth of youth football.... the list goes on. It is the Schools FA's hope that the values and standards of schools football set by the ECSFA can be maintained going forward.



Schools Finals



Schools Finals



Schools Finals



Under 14s Schools Team

Schools Competitions 2017/18

District

LF Birmingham Cup Under 12s

Saturday 9th June, Noak Hill Sports Complex

Chelmsford & Mid Essex 1-1 Basildon (8-7 on pens)

HJ Welsh Under 13s

Saturday 19th May, Brampton Manor Academy

Havering 1-0 Thurrock

Jas T Clark Under 14s

Saturday 23rd June, Kingsford Community School

Newham 3-1 Redbridge

Robert Johnson Under 15s

Saturday 30th June, Aveley FC

Havering 3-1 Newham

FL Finch Shield Under 11s

Winners: **Barking & Dagenham**

Runners-up: Thurrock

FL Finch Cup Under 11s

Thursday 17th May, Noak Hill Sports Complex

Thurrock 4-3 Redbridge

Under 11s Girls' Seven-a-Side

Saturday 24th March, Barking Abbey School

Winners: **Barking & Dagenham**

Under 11s Boys' Seven-a-Side

Saturday 11th November, Shenfield High School

Winners: **Newham**

Individual Schools

Parish Under 11s Cup

Friday 4th May, Lakeside FC

George Carey 3-1 Grove Wood

Jim Smith Under 11s Seven-a-Side Memorial Cup

Tuesday 8th May, Shenfield High School

Lee Chapel 1-2 Shenfield St Mary's

Girls Under 11s Seven-a-Side

Thursday 19th October, Melbourne Park

Heycroft beat Plumberow

Under 11s Small Schools Seven-a-Side

Thursday 29th November 2017, Melbourne Park

Loyola Prep School beat Brentwood Prep

Ken Aston Under 12s Trophy

Tuesday 17th April, Len Forge Centre

Great Baddow 1-1 **Woodlands** (6-7 on penalties)

Chairman's Under 13s Trophy

Wednesday 25th April, Shenfield High School

Great Baddow 2-4 **St Bonaventure's**

Alf E Wood Under 14s Jubilee Cup

Wednesday 9th May, Aveley FC

Beauchamps 5-1 William Edwards

Robert Cook Under 15s Cup

Wednesday 9th May, Aveley FC

Hall Mead 1-1 Colne (abandoned, 76 minutes)

Alan Child Under 16s Trophy

Wednesday 2nd May, Aveley FC

Bromfords 7-3 St Thomas More

RH Pratt Under 19s Trophy for Schools

Wednesday 18th April 2018, Canvey Island FC

St Thomas More 0-0 **King John** (5-6 on penalties)

Bryon Coomer Under 19s Trophy for Colleges

Wednesday 2nd May, Aveley FC

Rushcroft 4-1 Barking Abbey

Under 19s 2nd Division Trophy

Wednesday 9th May, Aveley FC

Shoeburyness High 2-5 **Sir George Monoux**

Under 19s 3rd Division Trophy

Wednesday 2nd May, Aveley FC

Brampton Manor 5-4 Moulsham High

Under 19s Open Competition

Wednesday 23rd May, Lakeside FC

Shenfield HS 3-4 **Rushcroft** (after extra time)

John Edwards Under 13s Girls Trophy

Thursday 19th April, Moulsham High School

Philip Morant 0-11 **Shenfield High**

George Cash Under 14s Girls Trophy

Wednesday 18th April, Moulsham High School

Passmores 5-2 Eastwood

Reg Winters Under 16s Girls Trophy

Friday 27th April, Lakeside FC

William Edwards 5-2 Cornelius Vermuyden

Schools and Colleges Under 19s Leagues

Division 1a

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Havering College 1	13	9	2	2	33	29
Barking Abbey	15	7	3	5	2	24
SEEVIC	15	6	4	5	-6	22
Rushcroft 1	11	3	4	4	1	13
Palmers College 1	13	2	5	6	-22	11
Shenfield High	11	3	0	8	-8	9

Division 1b

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
St Thomas More	14	9	2	3	31	29
Plume 1	14	8	4	2	36	28
Southend High 1	13	7	2	4	6	23
Gable Hall 1	11	5	1	7	-4	16
King John	13	4	4	5	-16	16
Appleton	13	0	1	12	-53	1

Division 2 North

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Colchester Sixth Form 1	8	8	0	0	20	24
Colchester Institute 1	10	6	1	3	9	19
Colne	9	4	1	4	5	13
Chelmsford College 1	9	4	1	4	-3	13
Braintree Sixth Form	10	3	2	5	3	11
Clacton Coastal	11	3	1	7	-24	10
Palmers College 2	11	2	2	7	-10	8

Division 2 Southend

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Newham College 1	9	6	1	2	26	19
Westcliff 1	10	6	0	4	6	18
Southend Community 1	9	4	1	4	-4	13
Shoeburyness High	8	3	1	4	-19	10
Campion	6	3	0	3	9	9
Havering Sixth Form 1	8	1	1	6	-18	4

Division 2 London

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Sir George Monoux	9	6	1	2	14	19
Leyton	9	3	4	2	9	13
Rushcroft	6	3	1	2	7	10
Davenant	8	3	1	4	-4	10
St Bonaventure's 1	7	2	1	4	-11	7
Havering College 2	7	1	2	4	-15	5

Division 2 Play-Off Semi-Finals: Newham College W-L
Colchester Institute, Colchester Sixth Form College 0-4
Sir George Monoux

Division 2 Play-Off Final: Newham College 4-4 Sir George Monoux (4-3 on penalties)

Division 3 North

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Moulsham High	6	6	0	0	32	18
Colchester Sixth Form 2	6	2	0	4	-12	6
Chelmsford College 2	5	2	0	3	-13	6
Colchester Institute 2	5	1	0	4	-7	3

Division 3 Southend

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
South Essex College (Thurrock)	8	7	1	0	26	22
Chase High	7	3	0	4	4	9
Palmers College 3	7	2	2	3	-2	8
Sweyne Park	4	1	2	1	-4	5
Southend Community 2	6	0	1	5	-24	1

Division 3 London

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Brampton Manor	10	8	0	2	34	24
Roding Valley 2	10	7	1	2	19	22
Newham College 2	10	7	0	3	17	21
Havering College 3	8	3	0	5	-10	9
Ilford County High	7	1	0	6	-14	3
Redbridge College	9	0	1	8	-46	1

Division 3 Play-Off Semi-Finals: St Bonaventure's 3-3 Roding Valley (1-4 on penalties), Brampton Manor 3-0 South Essex College

Division 3 Play-Off Final: Roding Valley 3-3 Brampton Manor (4-1 on penalties)



County Schools Teams 2017/18

Under 14s Boys

Team Manager: Matt Double

Squad: Callum McEvoy (West Hatch), Rhian Fowler (Sanders School), Alfie Smith (Harris Academy Chafford Hundred), Tyreece Cyrus (Heathcote), Callum Glanville (West Hatch), Joseph Ling (Woodbridge), Dennis Rusevicius (All Saints), Damani Hunter (Chingford), Tobias Braney (Ormiston Rivers Academy), Charlie Tremayne (West Hatch), Kacy Parish (Shenfield), Rashaun Mathurin (Wanstead), Andre Anderson (Lammas), Kenny Coker (Beauchamps), Tommy Lawrence (Heathcote)

English Schools FA Cup

Round One: 4th November 2017, **Oxfordshire**, 4-0 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)
Round Two: 25 November 2017, **Surrey**, 0-6 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

18th November 2017, **Suffolk**, 4-3 (Haverhill)
2nd December 2017, **Bedfordshire**, 6-2 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)
24th February 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 4-3 (Kingsford School)
3rd March 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 4-3 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)
10th March 2018, **Norfolk**, 5-1 (City of Norwich School)
17th March 2018, **Inner London**, 6-1 (Brampton Manor Academy)

	W	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex	5	5	0	0	25	10	15
Hertfordshire	5	4	0	1	21	11	12
Suffolk	4	1	0	3	9	12	3
Bedfordshire	4	1	0	2	9	13	3
Inner London	3	1	0	2	5	10	3
Norfolk	5	1	0	4	3	16	3

Semi-Final: 28 April 2018, **Kent**, 4-1 (Kingsford School)
Final: 14 May 2018, **Surrey**, 1-2 (Harlow Town FC)

Under 15s Boys

Management Team: Dave Agass MBE, Keith Thwaites, Dave Croker

Squad: Ben Murphy (Trinity), Samuel Bayon (Brampton Manor Academy), Ted Penn (C) (Marshalls Park), Jack Glenister (Marshalls Park), Mason McCorkell (Heathcote), Matthew Adekoya (Warren), Prashante Paul (Brampton Manor Academy), Lukas Zabulionis (Anglo European), Michael Bareck (Woodlands), George Hatcher (Abbs Cross Academy), Mathew Newberry (Emerson Park Academy), Max Gnandi (Hall Mead), Kai Stephen (St Edward's Church of England), Ayo Shogbeni (Beal Academy), Luke May (Heathcote), Tom Stagg (Shenfield), Agostinho Sol Nanque (Newham)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

18th November 2017, **Suffolk**, 4-0 (Haverhill)
2nd December 2017, **Bedfordshire**, 2-0 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)
10th March 2018, **Norfolk**, 1-1 (City of Norwich School)

Inner London (Match Awarded)

	W	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex	4	3	1	0	7	1	10
Norfolk	4	2	2	0	12	2	8
Bedfordshire	4	2	1	1	17	8	7
Inner London	3	0	0	3	2	12	0
Suffolk	3	0	0	3	3	18	0

Semi-Final: 21st April 2018, **Kent**, 2-4 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)

Under 16s Boys

Team Managers: Carl Papworth, Liam Saxton

Squad: Kaya Ali (Roding Valley), Donnell Ofori (Palmer Catholic Academy), Deolindo (Rokeby), Jack Martin (Tabor Academy), Tayeeb Elegushi (St Edward's), Callum Owen (Brittons), Kakha Jojshelidza (William Edwards), Byron Humbles (Beauchamps), Toki Hassan (St John Payne), Josh Okpa (Kingsford), Jack Renwick (Plume), Tyler Caverner (Gateway Academy), Bailey Hossack (Brittons), James Lickford (Chelmer Valley), Freddy King (Notley), Reggie Hubbard (Debden), Miles Peterkin (Davenant Foundation), Charlie Page (Epping St John), Tom Duffy (William Edwards), Owen Young (Shoebury), Ted Cattini, (Harris Academy Chafford Hundred), Peter Mokunege (St Bonaventure's), Jack Hauser (King Edmund), Deolindo Liama (Rokeby)

English Schools FA Cup

Second Round: 25th November 2017, **Middlesex**, 3-1 (Brunel University)

Third Round: 13th January 2018, **Surrey**, 1-4 (Chigwell School)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

18th November 2017, **Suffolk**, 5-0 (Haverhill)

2nd December 2017, **Bedfordshire**, 8-3 (London Marathon Playing Fields, Fairlop)

24th February 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 1-1 (Brampton Manor Academy)

10th March 2018, **Norfolk**, 0-2

	W	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Hertfordshire	4	3	0	0	9	2	10
Norfolk	4	2	1	1	8	3	7
Essex	4	2	1	1	9	6	7
Inner London	4	0	2	2	2	4	2
Bedfordshire	4	0	3	3	6	19	1

Under 18s Boys

Managers: Graham Hall, Andy Tickner, Graham Penn, Jeff Saxton, Fred Saxton

Squad: James Scammell (Newham College), Ryan Knight (Barking Abbey), Jack McQueen (Barking Abbey), James Jolliffe (Shenfield), Sam Mvemba (Barking Abbey), Wyan Reid (Rushcroft Foundation), Misha Djemili (Barking Abbey), Tyler Richardson (Shenfield), Kieran Southgate (Newham College), Albert Keith (C) (Ockendon Academy), Afolabi Soyemi-Ololade (Palmer's College), Enock Soganile (Shenfield), Callum Fitzer (Chelmsford College), Connor Tyrell (Shenfield), Jamie Marsh (Havering College), Ibrahim Ugrader (Barking Abbey), Tajudeen Salawu (Barking Abbey).

Special Award (25 appearances): Tyler Richardson

Friendlies

5th November 2017, **South Independent Schools**, A Team 0-3, B Team 0-4, C Team 0-4 (Brentwood School)

English Schools FA Cup

Second Round: 1st December 2017, **Sussex**, 1-0 (Brentwood School)

Third Round: 27th January 2018, **Worcestershire**, 5-0 (Noak Hill Sports Centre)

Semi-Final: 23rd February 2018, **Kent**, 2-0 (Maidstone United FC)

Final: 12th May 2018, **Humberside**, 2-1 (Stoke City FC)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

13th October 2017, **Hampshire**, 0-0 (Lakeside, Thurrock)

26th March 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 4-1 (Berkhamsted Town FC)

23rd April 2018, **Sussex**, 2-3 (Steyning FC)

Under 14s Girls

Managers: Danielle Warnes, Georgina Maxwell-Jones

Squad: Lilly Hadrava (Marshalls Park), Francesca Whiting (Appleton), Keanne Jervier (Brentwood Ursuline), Leonie Telford (Philip Morant), Boo Mills (Shenfield), Ruby Sealey (Philip Morant), Jessica Wright (Sacred Heart of Mary), Rebecca Alderton (Tabor Academy), Millie Stacey (Brentwood School), Freya Godfrey (St Martin's), Megan Wearing (Chingford Foundation), Brooke Hunt (Eastwood Academy), Ruby Kilden (Manningtree), Melia La (Ockendon Academy), Lily Sokhi (Sandon), Phoebe Keys (Moulsham), Haneeka Thandi (Westcliff), Mia Filipiak (Coopers' Company and Coborn), Mia Lempriere (Gable Hall), Antonietta Green (Bower Park Academy), Macey Woolcock (FitzWimarc), Marni Harriman (FitzWimarc), Terri Olejnik (St John's School), Caitlin Holliday (Thurstable)

English Schools FA Cup

First Round: 23rd November 2017, **Berkshire**, 3-2 (Thatcham Town FC)

Second Round: 4th January 2018, **West Midlands**, 0-4 (Boldmere St Michael's FC)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

13th October 2017, **Hampshire**, 0-0 (Lakeside, Thurrock)

26th March 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 4-1 (Berkhamsted Town FC)

23rd April 2018, **Sussex**, 2-3 (Steyning FC)

20th December 2017, **Bedfordshire**, 2-0 (Flitwick Football Centre)

13th January 2018, **Suffolk**, 3-0 (Woodbridge Town FC)

16th February 2018, **Cambridgeshire**, 6-0 (Melbourne Park)

24th February 2018, **Hertfordshire**, 3-2 (Shenfield High School)

Semi-Final: 14th April 2018, **Kent**, 2-1 (Moulsham High School)

Final: 17th May 2018, **Sussex**, 2-2 (after extra time) (Aveley FC)

	W	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex	4	4	0	0	14	2	12
Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	18	11	6
Suffolk	4	2	0	2	14	6	6
Bedfordshire	3	1	0	3	5	9	3
Cambridgeshire	3	0	0	3	5	15	0

Under 16s Girls

Managers: Jo Sibley, Sasha McDonald, Georgia Maxwell-Jones, Emma Burden

Squad: Evie Anderson (16 appearances) (Eastwood Academy), Olivia Billson (29) (C) (Chelmer Valley), Poppy Binding (8) (Abbs Cross), Jessie Burke (13) (Trinity Catholic), Bethany Chambers (6) (Chingford Foundation), Emilia Dingwall (4) (Shoeburyness), Lucy Edmeades (20) (Shenfield), Holly Foley (25) (Harris Academy Chafford Hundred), Lauren Hart (13) (Gable Hall), Suzy Hayes (25) (Highams Park), Abbie Jackson (15) (FitzWimarc), Ellie Nicholls (23) (Shoeburyness), Emilia Parsons (10) (Bancroft), Hannah Smith (19) (Plume Academy), Maisy Wyer (9) (Hall Mead), Robyn Moody (8) (Gaynes), Freya Fuller (8) (Billericay), Maddie Biggs (8) (Frances Bardsley)

English Schools FA Cup

Qualifier: 9th December 2017, **Hertfordshire**, 5-3 (Moulsham School)

Quarter-Finals: 10th February 2018, **Wiltshire**, 5-3 (after extra time) (Melbourne Park)

Semi-Finals: 7th March 2018, **Sussex**, 2-0 (Aveley FC)

Final: 12th May 2018, **Lancashire**, 0-1 (Stoke City FC)

South-East England Schools FA Competition (SEESFA)

9th December 2017, **Hertfordshire**, 5-3 (Moulsham High School)

20th December 2017, **Bedfordshire**, 9-1 (Flitwick Football Centre)

13th January 2018, **Suffolk**, 3-1 (Woodbridge Town FC)

16th February 2018, **Cambridgeshire**, 10-0 (Melbourne Park)

	W	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
Essex	4	4	0	0	27	5	12
Bedfordshire	4	3	0	1	24	14	9
Hertfordshire	4	2	0	2	13	18	6
Suffolk	4	2	0	2	11	16	6
Cambridgeshire	4	0	0	4	8	30	0

Semi-Finals: 7th March 2018, **Sussex**, 2-0 (Aveley FC)

Final: 25th May 2018, **Surrey**, 4-0 (Walton Casuals FC)

In Conclusion

Within this report we've had the privilege to highlight the extent that the grassroots football family is having a positive impact on the game we all know and love. Quite simply, without the efforts and commitment of our volunteer workforce in the football-rich county of Essex, thousands of people wouldn't be able to enjoy participating.

Thank you, all. We also express our sincere gratitude to those whose outstanding work continues to make the game an enjoyable experience. Also, during the course of the season, a number of members of our community who had served football well have been sadly lost and will be hugely missed by us all. We pay tribute, and send our condolences to their families.

Brendan Walshe

Chief Executive and Company Secretary





Essex County Football Association

The County Office,
Springfield Lyons Approach,
Chelmsford, Essex,
CM2 5LB.

www.essexfa.com

Incorporated in Cardiff. No. 3843186

