



A **21** **GRASSROOTS** **FOOTBALL** **WARDS**

Gloucestershire FA Grassroots Football **Awards 2021** **Event Programme**



ENGLAND
FOOTBALL



GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARDS

**We only 😊
do positive.**



A foreword from Gloucestershire FA CEO, David Neale

“Welcome to the Gloucestershire FA Grassroots Football Awards 2021. This year’s awards evening is the first to be held online as we celebrate the fantastic work being delivered by the football community.

As you all know, the past 18 months have been a very challenging period for football and for society. The coronavirus pandemic has presented us with hardships and sadly, some personal losses. Our thoughts are with all those that have been affected during these difficult and unprecedented times.

However, the response from the football community in adapting and overcoming the challenges faced in returning to football has been incredible.

The FA & McDonald’s Grassroots Football Awards is our opportunity to celebrate and thank you all. I would like to congratulate all those nominated, together with the award winners and the countless numbers of grassroots volunteers across our community. Your continued contribution to our game is greatly valued and it is down to you that grassroots football in Gloucestershire has come through the pandemic and will flourish in the season ahead.

Please enjoy the virtual event and I wish you every success in the season ahead.”



FOR ALL



Building society with mutual respect

The FA and McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards are for people who make a positive difference.

It's our way to celebrate the fantastic individuals who put their heart and soul into the grassroots game across Gloucestershire and say a huge thank you to the incredible volunteers who inspire us all.

It is always special to take the opportunity to recognise and reward the fantastic work, time and effort that individuals put into the grassroots game, week in week out.

This season all of our Grassroots volunteers have adapted to the ever changing Coronavirus pandemic. You have responded quickly to make football happen when you could. And when you couldn't play you kept players and the wider community connected off the pitch.

You showed the true power of football, stuck together, helped each other across teams, across clubs and showed what the football community could do when faced with uncertainty and an unparalleled situation.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE FA GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARDS
2020 WINNERS

COACH OF THE YEAR FOR YOUTH: Nafaa Hammadi

COACH OF THE YEAR FOR ADULTS: Nicola Debonis

CLUB OF THE YEAR: Hucclecote Disability

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR: Ann Price

RISING STAR OF THE YEAR: Jamie Griffin

GROUNDS TEAM OF THE YEAR: Mark Faithfull - Wick FC

PROJECT OF THE YEAR: NHS Recovery Through Sport

MATCH OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR: Rob Randall

WE ONLY DO POSITIVE WINNER: Nicholas Birchall

LEAGUE OF THE YEAR: Bristol Premier Sunday Football League

COACH OF THE YEAR FOR YOUTH

Who inspires excellence and inclusivity in our younger players?

NOMINEES

Kate Holden

“Very supportive, inspirational and always positive. Kate goes the extra-mile to make sure everyone in her team feels included.

Kate has inspired the young players and introduced them to the FA Playmaker, Young Leaders and Young Referees.”

Ben Geracitano

“Ben shows love for the game and has awareness of each of his player’s ability and is not afraid to go the extra mile to offer support to each individual. Always enthusiastic, Ben always steps in whenever a player is struggling and makes time for both parents and players.”

COACH OF THE YEAR FOR ADULTS

Who is inclusive, encouraging and inspiring when it matters most?

NOMINEE

Ben Greenaway

“Ben has had a massive impact and brought together a group of friends to become a team. After taking to management due to

numerous injuries, Ben is getting the same enjoyment from management as playing and has helped the First, Reserves and the newly formed third team.”

CLUB OF THE YEAR

Which club sits at the heart of its community providing an opportunity for all to get involved?

NOMINEES

Stratton Youth

“Stratton recently set up a charity which raises money for local causes. The children and their parents who take part in events from litter picking to boot camp style fitness camps and local charities will benefit from monies raised by the club.”

Longwell Green Sports Disability

“A large FA Hub club who never stops moving forward already growing to 800 children. During lockdowns the club have excelled, using its social media to keep everyone connected, sharing skills to practice/videos/encouraging all to send in content to keep everyone connected, practicing and smiling.”

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Who gives up their own time to go above and beyond for your club?

NOMINEES

Derek Cummer

“Derek’s tireless work and over 20 years of commitment to grassroots football in Bristol makes him a great example of the type of volunteer that without, grassroots football simply wouldn’t exist.”

Keith Huggins

“20 years ago, Keith was inspired to start a youth football club, something that has grown to be a great success. He is so supportive of all of the children involved in playing for Ashleworth. His enthusiasm and hard work is an inspiration to all.”

RISING STAR OF THE YEAR

Who is dedicated to helping make grassroots football enjoyable for everyone?

NOMINEES

Ciaran Bromley

“Ciaran works tirelessly at his job. He encompasses a persona that encourages people to trust his word and that he is an activist and driver to enhance the opportunities and experiences that young women have within football”

Ben Carley-Macauly

“Ben is brilliant at making the children feel welcome, and ensuring that the team is all inclusive. The kids seem very happy to just have fun in the great environment that he has created.”

GROUNDS TEAM OF THE YEAR

Who keeps the pitch and facilities match-ready all year round? And helps keep the environment safe, week in, week out?

NOMINEE

Len Wright

“Len always makes time in his busy schedule to cut and mark out the pitches at Oldland. Len along with Ryan Wyatt ensure the pitches are in top condition for the children to play on. It might not be Wembley but when the children walk out on to a pitch with the lines in the grass they can showcase there football as if they were in front of 90000 fans.”

PROJECT OF THE YEAR

Which project made a positive impact through football in your local community?

NOMINEES

Longwell Green Sports Junior FC Disability Section

“The impact on the lives of the children who attend cannot be underestimated. The smiles on the children on arrival and on exit tell the story of just how much this group brings to so many lives.”

NHS Recovery Through Sport

“This project has helped team members feel less isolated and help deal with issues such as anxiety and depression. Team members are very supportive of each other and very inclusive. There’s a great atmosphere thanks to the people running the team.”



SPIRIT OF GRASSROOTS (NEW AWARD)

We’re looking for those special individuals, club, league or group who see grassroots football as a place to positively impact the well-being of all. It is the forefront of their thinking.

NOMINEES

Matt Cotton

“Matt organised a virtual tour of his teams favourite stadiums, they travelled over 1000 miles & raised almost £3,500 for charity. Having this focus made things more manageable & hopefully the money they raised will help make a real difference.”

Mohammed Patel

“Mo actively encouraged exercise and football participation across so many different levels during lockdown. He has had a positive impact in the growing numbers of interested youngsters, football for girls, disability and elderly football provision in the area.”



MATCH OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Who has the determination and drive to ensure everyone plays fair?

NOMINEE

Leon Westcott

“Leon always arrives to his game on time, well equipped and with a calm and mature attitude. During the games he addresses any negativity that becomes intense and is affecting the flow of the game from the sideline and is always happy to explain his decisions and reminding the spectators he is 17 and has only one set of eyes. The confidence, professionalism and strong will is amazing from a young lad doing a tough job on the pitch.”





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