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## LEAGUE UPDATE

### Step 1 - National League Premier

Discussions are ongoing as to whether the season will be completed in line with the professional game or the season will be ended. Updates will be provided in due course.

### Premier League 2/PL Cup/PL International Cup

The competition is operating in line with the professional game with the intention to complete the season when football restarts.

### Step 2 - National League North/South

Discussions are ongoing as to whether the season will be completed in line with the professional game or the season will be ended. Updates will be provided in due course

### Professional Development League

The competition is operating in line with the professional game with the intention to complete the season when football restarts

### Barclays Women's Super League

Discussions are ongoing as to whether the season will be completed in line with the men's professional game or the season will be ended. Updates will be provided in due course.

### The FA Women's Championship

Discussions are ongoing as to whether the season will be completed in line with the men's professional game or the season will be ended. Updates will be provided in due course

### Steps 3 & 4 – Northern Premier League, Southern Premier League & Isthmian League

The Leagues have agreed to officially cancel all remaining fixtures and the 19/20 season will be terminated. The season will be considered null and void, with no promotion or relegation of clubs. *The new Step 4 league, to be run by the Northern Premier League, will no longer be formed for season 20/21, but instead will come in to effect for season 21/22.*

### U18 Premier League/Central League

The competitions are operating in line with the professional game with the intention to complete the season when football restarts.

### Steps 5 & 6

The Leagues have agreed to officially cancel all remaining fixtures and the 19/20 season will be terminated. The season will be considered null and void, with no promotion or relegation of clubs.



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**FOR ALL**

### U18 Professional Development League

The competition is operating in line with the professional game with the intention to complete the season when football restarts

### Step 7

All competitions have cancelled all remaining fixtures and the 19/20 season will be terminated. The season will be considered null and void.

### Grassroots football (outside the National League System)

All Grassroots football will be officially cancelled, and the 19/20 season will be terminated. Leagues and County FAs will determine the constitution of their Divisions and Leagues for season 20/21.

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## REFEREEING UPDATE

The Refereeing structure is separate to the National League System (men's and women's) and it remains the intention for promotions and reclassifications to be implemented across the Refereeing pyramids. As I am sure you will all know, the footballing environment is very fluid at this moment with inconsistent season end dates across the variety of competitions, but we hope the synopsis below helps understand the current position.

We have also reviewed the impact of the revised League structure changes on the restructure of the refereeing pyramid for season 2020/21. Following discussions, we can also confirm that there remains significant benefit in continuing with the implementation of the agreed changes (with a few modifications). Consequently, the restructure will be implemented for 2020/21. Details of the modifications will be communicated separately in due course.

### Level 2A – Panel Select Referees and Assistant Referees

Once decisions have been made in respect of the constituent competitions for season 20/21, we will review its impact on the Panel Select match officials. Communication will follow in due course.

### Level 2B – Panel Referees and Assistant Referees

Once decisions have been made in respect of the constituent competitions for season 20/21, we will review its impact on the Panel 2B match official lists. Communication will follow in due course.

### Level 3 – Contributory League Referees & Level 4 – Supply League Referees

Following the decision for Step 3-6 Leagues to end the season now the marking season will finish as planned, as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. As football will not be played before this date, merit tables will now be compiled to enable the FA to make decisions regarding promotion and reclassification.

Communication to Supply Leagues regarding the process for submitting final merit table positions (Supply Leagues) will be sent in the coming days.



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**FOR ALL**

For those competitions who continue with the 19/20 season beyond 30 April, match officials will be required to officiate on these competitions, but they will not be included in the 2019/20 merit tables.

#### **Level 5 to 4 – Senior County Referee Promotion Candidates**

The marking season will finish as planned, as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. As football will not be played before this date documentation for promotion candidates can now be compiled. Communication to County FAs regarding the process for submitting the documentation will be sent in the coming days.

The FA Referees' Committee will take into account that some referees may not have met the requisite number of games or received the required number of observations due to the season finishing early. Their position will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

#### **Level 6 to 5 – County Referee Promotion Candidates**

The marking season will finish as planned, as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The County FAs will be expected to take into account that some referees may not have met the requisite number of games or received the required number of observations due to the season finishing early. Their position should be reviewed on a case by case basis. Further information will follow in due course.

#### **Level 7 to 6 – Junior Referee Promotion Candidates**

The marking season will finish as planned, as of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The County FAs will be expected to take into account that some referees may not have met the requisite number of games or received the required number of observations due to the season finishing early. Their position should be reviewed on a case by case basis. Further information will follow in due course.

#### **Women's Game Pathway Promotions**

The promotion process for those officials within the Women's game pathway remains applicable. Consideration will be given to those match officials who have not met the requirements for the necessary number of games or observations. This will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

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We understand that we are in unprecedented times and realise that there are more important matters than football and refereeing on people's minds at the moment. The FA Referees' Committee and FA Refereeing Department will keep match officials up-to-date as more becomes known on the completion of the 2019/20 season and start of the 2020/21 season.

Yours Sincerely

**Neale Barry**  
Head of Refereeing



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