



GREATER MANCHESTER FOOTBALL

OUR GAME IN MANCHESTER
>PLAY >VOLUNTEER >COACH >REFEREE

KEEPING FOOTBALL SAFE AND ENVIRONMENT

At Manchester FA we believe that every referee has the responsibility to ensure all participants we come into contact with have the same protection regardless of age, disability, gender, racial heritage, religious belief, sexual orientation or identity and should be able to participate within football in a safe and enjoyable environment.

Our collective role is to create a fun and safe experience for all children and other vulnerable people within football and where concerns come to light, whether they are about someone in football or the person's wider life, then to report these concerns to the appropriate authorities.

Training and Qualifications

All referees will undertake safeguarding training and possess an in-date and valid FA criminal records check. We work hard to make sure referees continue to promote the importance of safeguarding.

WHAT WE DO TO KEEP YOU SAFE

All referees, coaches, mentors, and volunteers who are in a role that involves direct contact with children or vulnerable people are subject to a criminal records check. Criminal records checks are completed every three years and failure to comply will lead to suspensions.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

Here at Manchester FA we put the safety and enjoyment of our referees at the forefront of everything we do. We want all of our referees to feel supported throughout their referee career.

Manchester FA, as part of your continuous support, will ensure you meet the highest of standards in terms of safeguarding and administration. This safeguarding policy will be outlined during every referee course and online for all referees on the Manchester FA website.

At Manchester FA we expect our referees to uphold the professional standards that have been set out on the referee course. This includes, but is not limited to; officiating impartially with unwavering commitment on our local leagues, County Cups and Academy games.

CONCERNED ABOUT SOMETHING YOU HAVE SEEN OR HEARD

You can report something you have witnessed or heard to the Designated Safeguarding Officer Lauren McCorry, Referee Duty of Care & Appointments Officer Conor Brown, Referee Development Officer Tom Elliott or externally to the NSPCC, The FA Safeguarding Team, ChildLine, Child Exploitation & Online Protection or The Police. Please see contact list at the foot of the document.

DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

At times during your refereeing career you may have to attend disciplinary hearings. Prior to this taking place you will receive a phone call from either Conor Brown or Tom Elliott. This phone call will offer you the opportunity to discuss any concerns or queries you have regarding the hearing.

It is important that all match day disciplinary matters are reported to Manchester FA within 48 hours of the game finishing. In most cases it is a simple and speedy procedure which can be completed online. However, should you need assistance when reporting your discipline, you can contact any Conor Brown or Tom Elliott from Manchester FA Referee Development Team.

FEEL THREATENED

In the unlikely event you ever feel threatened whilst refereeing; your own safety must be your first priority. Find a supportive adult and ensure you can leave the venue safely. Avoid doing or saying anything that may make the situation worse. At the first opportunity you must report these events to our Discipline and Referee departments. Our Referee Duty of Care Officer will contact you when he has been informed about the incident.

KEY CONTACTS





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Lauren McCorry

Designated Safeguarding Officer

Lauren.McCorry@manchesterfa.com

Conor Brown

Football Services Officer (Appointments & Compliance)

Conor.Brown@manchesterfa.com

Tom Elliott

Referee Development Officer

Tom.Elliott@manchesterfa.com

NSPCC

www.nspcc.org.uk

0808 800 5000

ChildLine

www.childline.org.uk/get-support

0800 1111

Police

Immediate Threat: 999

Non-Immediate: 101

The FA Safeguarding Team

safeguarding@thefa.com

0800 169 1863

Child Exploitation & Online Protection

www.ceop.police.uk

