

## WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of the Norfolk County FA bulletin and the final instalment of the 2021-22 season. As we look forward to the new season and the new challenges ahead, we would like to wish all teams good luck for the 2022-23 season.

## NORFOLK'S GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARD WINNERS 2022 ANNOUNCE

We are proud to announce Norfolk's winners of The FA & McDonald's Grassroots Football Awards 2022.



Without the commitment of our army of volunteers, clubs and leagues football in Norfolk would struggle to survive and it is the dedication and enthusiasm of such individuals that makes the game so special. After receiving over 70 nominations over a six week period, an independent judging panel selected winners and highly commended awards across ten different categories. The winners of this year's awards are as follows:

- **Club of the Year** – Martham FC
- **Coach of the Year (Youth Teams)** – Chelsea Brister  
Highly commended: Karl Barnard
- **Coach of the Year (Adult Teams)** – Neil Jarvis
- **Grounds Team of the Year** – Peter Goodfellow & David Todd  
Highly commended: Richard Brandowski
- **League of the Year** – Norfolk & Suffolk Youth League  
Highly commended: Norfolk Combined Youth League & North West Norfolk League
- **Match Official of the Year** – Rob Bunting
- **Project of the Year** – New Routes
- **Rising Star of the Year** – Francesca Catchpole
- **Volunteer of the Year** – Tanya Pitt  
Highly commended: Gary Howes
- **Spirit of Grassroots Football Award** – Gabby Evbota  
Highly commended: Costessey Sports FC

## CLUB AFFILIATION FOR THE 2022-23 SEASON

Norfolk County FA are pleased to announce that the Club Affiliation window for the 2022/23 Season is now open.



We have restructured our Club affiliation model to ensure that the pricing more accurately reflects the level of service and support provided by Norfolk FA at different levels of the game and across the various formats of football that we facilitate. This means that unlike in previous seasons, Clubs will no longer be required to pay a club level affiliation fee as we move to an entirely team based pricing structure.

To read more about Club Affiliations for the 2022/23 season, please [click here](#).

## PLAYER REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022/23 SEASON

Ahead of the 2022/23 player registration window opening on Wednesday 6th July, we are keen to ensure that all those involved in registering players for a club are in a good position to do so.



Like last season, player registrations will take place on the Club Portal, which has been enhanced to overcome the challenges that everyone faced last season.

Our Football Services Team will be running 2 drop-in sessions to allow people who want some face-to-face help to jump on and have a chat with one of the team. These will be taking place on:

- Monday 11th July - 6.30 PM – 8.00 PM - [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 15th August - 6.30 PM – 8.00 PM - [Click here to join the meeting](#)

To find out more about player registration, please [click here](#).



## ANGELS MEET LIONESSES AHEAD OF EUROS

In celebration of England hosting the UEFA Women's European Championships this year, The FA invited North Walsham Town FC Angels Under 11s to spectate a Lionesses' training session as they prepare to embark upon their UEFA Euro campaign. The youth squad visited St George's Park on Tuesday 21 June 2022 along with teams from across the country to celebrate their former players' journeys to the UEFA Women's Euro squad.



The Angels were fortunate as their alumni, Lauren Hemp, was selected within the provisional 28-player squad.



Lauren Hemp has rightly been described as one of the most exciting young talents in English football. A skilful winger, she dazzles crowds across the country with her quick feet and technical prowess. The Lioness' first club was Norfolk grassroots club North Walsham Town FC.

Read more about this on our website, by [clicking here](#).

## RACHEL COSSEY ON NORFOLK FA'S INAUGURAL BLACK & ASIAN FESTIVAL

The Black & Asian Festival was hosted at Harrod Sport Arena on Monday 30 May at The FDC, Bowthorpe.



Football Development Manager, Rachel Cossey, spoke about the day's successes:

*"It was a really positive day with over 20 children engaged in the festival. The idea for the festival originated during discussions with our Inclusion Strategy Advisory Group (ISAG) where we wanted to provide fun and engaging footballing opportunities for coaches and players from Black and Asian backgrounds. To see the idea come to fruition and have so many children engaged and enjoying football was brilliant. It was also great to have the support of Darren Moss and Nimesh Patel from The FA, who came and visited the festival to speak with the players, coaches, and parents in attendance."*

To read the full interview and learn more about the Black & Asian Festival, please [click here](#).

## HARROD SPORT WOMEN'S & GIRLS' CUP ENJOYS RECORD BREAKING SUCCESS

The 2022 Harrod Sport Women's and Girls' Cup took place at The FDC last weekend and was a huge success as teams battled it out to become triumphant in the small-sided tournament which returned for the first time since 2019.



Hundreds of players took to The FDC, and all enjoyed taking part in what was a fantastic showcase of women's and girls' football.

In total, 72 teams competed in the competition across seven different age categories, marking growth of over double the number of teams compared to the previous event two years ago.



[Click here](#) to read a full review, check out the list of winners, and view the photo album from both days of the tournament.



## TAKE UP THE WHISTLE IN THE 2022/23 SEASON

We are pleased to confirm the first set of dates for the 22/23 season's FA Referee Courses.



After an excellent season of Match Official recruitment which saw 145 newly qualified Referees, we are looking to add to our existing cohort. So, if you've ever thought about taking up the whistle, book your place now.

Refereeing is a great way to keep fit, meet new people, stay involved in football, and earn a bit of additional income. Officials can be rewarded with County Cup Final appointments and Refereeing can even become a viable career opportunity for those progressing up the promotion pathway.



The first course of the upcoming season will take place at The FDC, Norwich on Tuesday 5th and Saturday 9th July.



We spoke to newly qualified match official, Chloe Gravett, about her experiences of refereeing after qualifying last season.

*"I decided to take part in the refereeing course through the support of my local football club, Fakenham. I was assistant coach to the tiny kickers and wanted to start looking for a part time job, and Norfolk FA were short of referees, so it just made sense. Our football club's secretary sent me the details and I joined up!"*

*"I would recommend the course to anyone who is interested in football and wants to understand the game better and earn some money. I have been busy doing lots of games and I really enjoy it!"*

To read more about Referee Courses in the 2022/23 season, please [click here](#). To read more referee testimonials from newly qualified referees, please [click here](#).

## SAFEGUARDING IN FOOTBALL FOR PARENTS/CARERS

The FA is committed to safeguarding children across the game in England. From ensuring best practice and recognising poor practice to understanding how to report concerns quickly and effectively, we believe that making football fun, enjoyable and safe is everyone's responsibility.



Our Safeguarding Awareness for Parents & Carers' course is designed to help you to make an informed choice about the football setting you enrol your child in.

To complete the course, please [click here](#).

## AND FINALLY

As always, we will continue to do our best to offer support throughout the 22/23 season and wish all clubs good fortune in the coming 12 months.

Best wishes,  
**Norfolk County FA**