

WELCOME

Welcome to the latest edition of the Norfolk County FA bulletin. It's an exciting time for the grassroots game as we approach the 'business end' of the 21/22 season with cup finals on the horizon as well as our brand-new 3G pitch being opened at our flagship facility The FDC.

THE FDC ARENA

The FDC Arena 3G AGP (Artificial Grass Pitch) has now been completed with the final touches being added to the surrounding features of the ground.



One of the biggest recent developments has seen our partners **Harrod Sport** arrive on site to construct and install the goals that will be used by teams training and playing at the facility.



As well as the popular 7-side and 9-side 4G Swivel Weighted Portagoals, Harrod Sport has provided the facility with a pair of state-of-the-art 4G UEFA Weighted Portagoals for 11-side match play and training.



These elite box net goals can be found at professional clubs across Europe and are perfect to host high level fixtures as well as providing a premier training experience for our grassroots teams.



As well as the all-important goals being installed, the finishing touches are being made to grounds signage, the dugouts, the Hospitality Suite, The Snack Box and the changing rooms.

The Arena pitch will be ready for usage from early April with League Cup finals taking place before current pitch hire bookings are moved across as we begin the redevelopment of The FDC's small-sided pitches.

The latest construction works will see the format of our enclosed pitches changed to feature two new 7-side pens and each of the pitch carpets resurfaced.

THE FDC ARENA SUMMER BOOKINGS

Booking availability for the short term is extremely limited due to the additional redevelopment works on our small-sided pitches, however we are currently accepting bookings for pre-season friendlies and casual training blocks throughout June and July.



Hire rates include access to the Arena changing rooms, while use of our new Hospitality Suite can be added into your booking.

Whether you have a one-off fixture you wish to play at a special venue, feel your team could do with a pre-season training camp for a few days, or would like to secure a block of summer sessions, speak to us now to play on the newest pitch in Norfolk.

Get in touch and to discuss our available dates by emailing TheFDC@NorfolkFA.com or calling 01603 704050 (Ext. 2).

COUNTY CUP FINAL MATCH OFFICIALS NAMED

On behalf of the Norfolk FA Referees' Committee, we have the pleasure of confirming appointments to our 2022 County Cup Finals.

Appointment to a Cup Final comes as a result of the match officials', performances, dedication, hard work and commitment to refereeing in Norfolk during the season. Congratulations to all those appointed to these prestigious games and we wish you all the very best in your Final.



To view a full list of match officials for this season's County Cup Finals, please [click here](#).

CLUB MATTERS OPEN WORKSHOPS PROGRAMME

There are a number of support workshops being delivered by Club Matters (Sport England) over the next few months.



Covering a range of topics from marketing to legal structures and community engagement, Club Matters workshops are here to support and develop community sports organisations across the country. These workshops are free of charge and you can find all the details you need via the links below.

If your organisation would like to set up a specific workshop, please [click here](#) for the workshop booking process.

THESE BOOTS ARE MADE FOR WALKING – A SLOWER VERSION OF THE BEAUTIFUL GAME!

Walking Football, if you haven't heard of it, is a slower version of the traditional small-sided game; aimed at either getting players back into the sport they love, giving people a first step into trying football for the first time, or enabling players to continue to take part at a more leisurely level.



The Walking Football format of the game is growing at a rapid rate and we now host five sessions across our FDC facilities as well as numerous sessions taking place at alternative venues across Norfolk.

In addition, we host two Women's Walking Football Sessions that take place at The FDC in Bowthorpe on a Thursday afternoon and TheFDC@OpenAcademy on a Monday night, priced at £3pp.



These sessions are coordinated by our Women's & Girls Development Officer Harry Diggins and are proving extremely popular, with many players trying the sport for the first time and enjoying the social aspects, as well as the mental and physical wellbeing benefits of the game.

"It continues to be a real buzz, my energy levels have increased and I'm much fitter now, both physically and mentally. Thank you to Harry and everyone in the group for the great sessions and the laughter!"

– Anita Larkins, Women's Walking Footballer

Players taking part in The FDC's Walking Football sessions, can even enjoy a coffee and cake in the bar area afterwards!

[Check our website to find a session near you!](#)

NORFOLK FA CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2022

Tuesday 8th March saw the return of [International Women's Day](#) which forms part of Women's History Month and celebrates the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

This global day of activity is recognised worldwide as groups come together to celebrate women's achievements as well as rally for women's equality, with this year's campaign theme titled '[#BreakTheBias](#)'.

We joined in on the celebrations by recognising some influential females of our own, women that have had a positive impact on local football and have their own inspirational journeys to share.



Check out the feature articles we shared to celebrate [#IWD2022](#):

- [Norfolk Referee Tracey Clayton](#)
- [Women's Walking Footballer Anita Larkins](#)
- [Aylsham FC and Old Catton JFC Coach Angie Westgate](#)
- [Thetford Bulldogs FC Volunteer Kirsty Turner](#)

TICKETS GO ON SALE FOR THE BIGGEST WOMEN'S EURO EVER

Tickets to UEFA Women's EURO England 2022 are officially on sale and to mark the occasion, tournament organisers have unveiled giant women's table football players on London's iconic Carnaby Street.



With tickets to all 31 games going on sale, now is the chance for fans of football, women's sport, and big events to purchase a ticket and be part of a history making tournament that aims to unite football and communities and amplify the growth of the women's game.

To read more and purchase tickets, please [click here](#).

HOST YOUR CLUB PRESENTATION EVENT AT THE FDC

It will soon be time to celebrate the achievements of the 21/22 campaign and if you are looking for a venue to host a presentation event for your Club or Team, look no further than our flagship football facility, The FDC in Norwich.



The FDC's presentation package boasts the following:

- Space to accommodate up to 120 people
- Fully licensed bar
- A minimum of two members of Norfolk FA staff
- Hot and cold food options available
- Use of large screen TV's
- 3G Pitch usage (subject to availability)
- Great offers on trophies and medals from our Official Trophy partners 4Trophies
- Fully floodlit, CCTV monitored car parking

To find out more or check available dates, please email TheFDC@NorfolkFA.com.

THEFDC@FLEGG IS HIRING

We are looking to recruit a part-time member of staff to support the day-to-day operations of our rural Football Development Centre, TheFDC@Flegg in Martham.



The Satellite FDC Operations Assistant will be responsible for supporting the delivery of our strategic business aims as well as assisting with the management of core initiatives at the facility.

Find out more about the position and how to apply [here](#).

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES – COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS

The end of the season is approaching once again and with it comes cup finals galore!

After a great season where we've seen 11 County Cup Competitions flourish, we are excited to once again be approaching Cup Final season.

We will have 22 teams competing to lift our prestigious trophies in finals over the coming months and the majority will be taking place on our new Arena pitch at The FDC.

For a limited time, we are offering a great opportunity to support Norfolk Football and enter into a partnership with Norfolk FA all in one go, by securing a competition for the rest of 21/22 and the whole of the 22/23 season.



Partnerships include extensive promotion, naming rights and multiple media exposure opportunities.

The competitions currently available for sponsorship are as follows:

- The Norfolk Saturday Junior Cup
- The Norfolk Saturday Intermediate Cup
- The Norfolk Sunday Senior Cup
- The Norfolk U12's Cup
- The Stuart Dracup Cup (U14's)
- The John Savage Cup (U16's)



If you are interested in supporting Grassroots Football and think that sponsoring one of our cup competitions may be suitable for your business, email Marketing@NorfolkFA.com.

FREE BUSINESS INSURANCE REVIEW FROM ONE BROKER

Independent insurance broker and Norfolk County FA partner, One Broker, is offering all business owners a free, no-obligation commercial insurance review.



As an independent insurance broker dedicated to giving a personal service, One Broker will identify any gaps in your cover and highlight areas where you may be paying too much, so you can be sure that your business is protected at the best possible price.

Call Account Executive Ian Stone on 01603 218249 or email ian.stone@onebroker.co.uk to arrange your review.

PROMOTION. One Broker is a trading style of One Broker (Norwich) Ltd. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

SAFEGUARDING COURSES FOR NORFOLK FOOTBALL MANAGERS AND COACHES

It is currently best practice for everybody involved in youth football teams to have the FA Safeguarding Children Course qualification that provides an understanding of safeguarding concerns, poor practice, and reporting.



From the 2023/24 season onwards, it will be a requirement for all Youth Managers and Coaches to have obtained the FA Safeguarding Children Course qualification. To prepare for this, we are strongly recommending that clubs encourage relevant personnel to complete this qualification now.

You can find out more and complete the course by [clicking here](#).

WE NEED YOUR HELP - ENCOURAGE MEMBERS OF YOUR CLUB TO 'TALK TO US!'

Earlier this season we launched the new 'Talk to us!' initiative which encourages both adults and children to report any potential concerns regarding safeguarding and poor practice.

By streamlining the reporting process through providing a quick and easy online form (which can be filled in anonymously) we have aimed to give people more confidence when it comes to reporting and empower them to whistle blow if they see something that doesn't seem right.

We have also utilised our new child friendly mascots 'The Safe Squad' to spread this important message to Norfolk's youth footballers in a new, dedicated section of the website known as '[The Cub House](#)'.



Click on the image above to visit the new page on our website which enables people to access the form at the touch of a button.

In addition, we have created several marketing assets featuring scannable QR codes to highlight our new safeguarding promotion, promote The FA's 'Play Safe' message and for people to access the form with their smartphone or tablet.

The 'Talk to us!' initiative has proven successful so far, and we are now asking Norfolk clubs and leagues to support the 'Talk to us!' message by promoting it to their members.



Here's what you can do to help:

- Add a link to the 'Talk to us!' page on your website
- Promote the 'Talk to us!' link on your social media
- Have a conversation with your members about the 'Talk to us!' initiative and the importance of reporting concerns
- Encourage youth footballers to visit 'The Cub House' section of our website to learn more about playing safe
- Download our selection of marketing materials and share to your members digitally
- Print our selection of marketing materials and display in your clubhouse or matchday facilities

For more information about ensuring your club is doing all it can to promote Safeguarding and good practice, please email Safeguarding@NorfolkFA.com.

For support in promoting Safeguarding messaging to your members, please email Marketing@NorfolkFA.com.

NORFOLK FA CLUB & LEAGUE MENU: COSTESSEY SPORTS FC

The Norfolk FA Football Development team recently delivered a bespoke coaching workshop for Costessey Sports FC as part of our Club & League menu which is an initiative designed to offer bespoke support based on a club or league's individual needs.

The session held at The FDC in Norwich focused on Coach support after the club requested a bespoke workshop to offer advice and assistance to their youth coaches.



"We really like the idea of The FA building bespoke support around what we need, rather than the traditional delivery of attending pre-planned CPD or training events... The ability to work with Anna and Norfolk FA to create a bespoke support session based around your individual club's needs would work for every club regardless of size or focus."

- Dan Henry, Costessey Sports FC

Read the rest of Dan's thoughts on the workshop on our [website](#) and to find out more about our Club & League menu, please [click here](#) or email Anna.Larkins@NorfolkFA.com.

AND FINALLY

As always, we will continue to do our best to offer support and guidance as we approach the end of 21/22 and prepare for 22/23, if you need us, do not hesitate to get in touch using the relevant channels provided.

Best wishes,
Norfolk County FA