

Norfolk County FA Bulletin

September 2017



WELCOME

Welcome to the first Norfolk County FA bulletin of the 2017-18 season. This new communication will be delivered to the Norfolk Football community on a monthly basis.

In this new format, we will provide you with the most up-to-date news and key information about:

- What the Association has been up to with an insight into our work
- What's on the horizon for clubs, including various opportunities to get involved in Norfolk Football
- Some important reminders

VOLUNTEERS' AWARDS EVENING

It was a pleasure to attend Norfolk FA's annual Volunteers' Awards Evening last month at Sprowston Manor.



The evening celebrated the incredible contributions that Clubs, Leagues and Individuals made to Grassroots Football in Norfolk during the 2016-17 season and beyond, with Wimbledon and French Open Champion Alfie Hewett joining us as our Special Guest with The Voice Kids star and local boy Perry Cooke for entertainment.

Read our full review of the evening [on our website](#).

CHAPLIN FARRANT

The Evening also showcased the support of award winning architectural practice Chaplin Farrant in the first of a three year partnership with Norfolk FA.

Based locally in Norwich and operating across East Anglia & the UK, Chaplin Farrant specialise in providing innovative designs with practical management and cost control.

They are already a prominent presence in the Norfolk Football Landscape and are eager to be able to support the local game, having already played key roles in the

development of various football facilities around the county, including the impressive Youngs Park in Aylsham and we are delighted to join forces with them and support the grassroots game.

You can find out more about their services by visiting ChaplinFarrant.com.

NEW REFEREES' COURSE

Our first new Referees' course of the season at Caister last month saw 15 new officials attend and pass their appraisal stage.



Our next Referees' course will be held at theFDC in Bowthorpe in October with the Introductory Evening and Taster session taking place on Friday 6th October. If you know of anyone interested in taking up the whistle, full details are available [here](#).

To find out more information about the latest Referees news, visit the online [Referees bulletin here](#).

WINTER TRAINING - theFDC@Flegg

It's that time of the year! The nights are pulling in now and a lot of clubs are looking at places to train over the autumn and winter period. theFDC@Flegg, a full-size 3G pitch set in the beautiful rural village of Martham at Flegg High School, could help you.



A variety of times and slots are available over the course of the week so please get in touch via theFDCFlegg@NorfolkFA.com or call 01603 704050 (Ext 4).

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FOOTBALL FUTURES

Do you know someone aged 12-24 who has a passion for the game?



The Norfolk FA Football Futures Programme has been a huge success over the last few years, providing dozens of young leaders the opportunity to upskill, develop and gain knowledge within the game.

Two specific training programmes are available this season and each training programme will be tutored by County FA and FA Staff:

Referee Specific Training Day

Date: Friday 20 October 2017

Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm

Venue: theFDC@OpenAcademy, NR7 9DL

Coach Specific Training Day

Date: Friday 27 October 2017

Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm

Venue: theFDC@OpenAcademy, NR7 9DL

If you would like to book onto either of the two training days please complete the sign up form [by clicking here](#).



Another aspect of the Football Futures programme is our recently established Norfolk FA Youth Council, which oversees and assists the delivery of Football Futures events.

If you're aged 14-23 and want to be a part of the team working to support the targets set out for the Norfolk FA Football Futures programme, check out the [available roles here!](#)

2017/18 CHARTER STANDARD UPDATE

It is vitally important that all Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues have a minimum of one representative attend this Web Ex; it will include information on a number of topics.

Date: Thursday 21 September 2017

Time: 18:30 – 19:30

Sign up to the Web Ex by [completing the short survey here](#).

REGULATION UPDATES FOR 2017/18

The 2017/18 sees a number of key Regulation amendments being implemented. It is very important that Clubs and Players familiarise themselves with the updates, particularly relating to suspension start dates, in preparation for the new season.

[Click here to view all the amendments](#). Should you have any questions regarding any of these changes please contact our Football Administration team on 01603 704050.

COUNTY CUPS

After a fantastic 2016-17 season of County Cups, we are delighted to see them return this weekend starting with the Junior Cup on Saturday afternoon and the Sunday Senior and Sunday Junior on the following morning.



Please visit our website for important information on dates; kick-off times and more for our County Cup [competitions please visit our website here](#).

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LEATHES PRIOR VETERANS LEAGUE

The Leathes Prior Veterans League got underway last weekend which included 6 of our 7 new teams getting their campaign started.

To find out more information on the Leathes Prior Veterans League please [visit our website](#). Here you will find a run-down of the weekend's action.



#SMOKEFREESIDELINES

Youth Football Clubs kick off their seasons this weekend and do so knowing their sidelines will be smoke-free.

#SmokefreeSidelines is a new initiative with the aspiration to prevent smoking tobacco in football environments being seen as normal. It aims to encourage spectators to refrain from smoking pitchside and near playing areas, where impressionable children and young people can see it.



The campaign was launched in July at our largest tournament - The FDC Youth Cup. In the last two months 12 clubs have signed up to become a 'Champion' of the scheme for their district. Fakenham Town FC was the first club to get involved in the project, with teams from many other districts now involved.

[Watch a video of the launch of #SmokefreeSidelines.](#)

[Read the full press release on our website.](#)

TOUR DE NORFOLK CHARITY RIDE

Eight current and former members of Norfolk FA staff, led by our Chairman, will come together this weekend as we take on this year's Stage 70 Tour de Norfolk Cycle Ride on Sunday 17 September.



We will be riding through 70 miles of our beautiful county in order to raise funds for Cancer Research UK – in particular the Bobby Moore Fund, which was formed to fund further research into tackling Bowel Cancer.

Please help us support this worthy cause by sponsoring our riders as they take on this challenge [by clicking here](#).

HANDBOOK 2017-18 NOW ONLINE

This year's Handbook is now available for all to access via the Norfolk FA website.

The annual publication serves as a directory of local football including rules and regulations.

Simply click on the image below to view and download:



PLAY COACH VOLUNTEER REFEREE

It's fantastic to see the impact that our new strategy, Play Coach Volunteer Referee (PCVR) is having on Norfolk clubs.

In May we announced the launch of both the PCVR Club Support followed by the Critical Support Fund in July desperate need for financial support ahead of the new season.

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Both Support Funds were communicated to club officials during the summer which has seen over £10,000 worth of investment distributed to over 50 clubs.

JOIN OUR CLUB

The next step in our PCVR strategy is to revamp the 'Join Our Club' programme.

With more and more people embracing online platforms, our Marketing department will look to support and educate clubs wishing to further explore the digital age.

Coupled with the support of the Football Development department, the programme aims to assist clubs with the recruitment of players, coaches and various volunteering roles.



For clubs interested in benefitting from this programme, club secretaries should [sign up to the 'Join Our Club launch' Web Ex to find out more.](#)

MEN'S HEALTH WELLBEING GROUP

Men from across Norfolk will be given 'All to Play For' while also looking after their mental health by joining a new football group designed to help improve their physical and emotional wellbeing.



The free sessions are being run at the Football Development Centre, Bowthorpe by Norfolk and Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust (NSFT) in partnership with Active Norfolk, and are open to all adult men – both in and out of services – who feel they need extra support with their wellbeing.

The sessions will take place at The FDC for 10 to 12 weeks, beginning on Wednesday, September 27 at 1pm.

To find out more about these sessions, [please click here.](#)

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

Football Development



Facilities, Investment & Development Manager
Ian Grange



Football Workforce Coordinator
Kate Dixon



Senior Football Development Officer
Stacey Annison



Football Development Officer
Harry Diggins

The 'Department Spotlight' section provides an insight into the different Departments here at Norfolk FA and the work they undertake.

The Football Development Department are responsible for growing participation and improving the grassroots game in Norfolk.

They do this by managing and implementing various projects surrounding: Charter Standard, Coach Education, Leadership & Volunteering, Facilities & Funding, small-sided & Futsal, Women & Girls and more.

Following the appointment of former Facilities, Investment & Development Gavin Lemmon as Chief Executive, we were delighted to welcome Ian Grange into the role last month.

To find out more about his appointment, [click here.](#)

You can contact our Football Development Team on 01603 704050 (Ext. 1; Opt. 2).

AND FINALLY, GOOD LUCK!

With the 2017/18 football season firmly upon us, all at Norfolk FA would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone involved in Norfolk Football the very best of luck this campaign.

As always, should you have any general enquiries please email Info@NorfolkFA.com.

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