

Football Futures Blog – Summer 2017



Welcome to the Football Futures Blog, where our Young Leaders can showcase the fantastic work they have been doing to give themselves a platform for opportunity.

Gracie East



I started my journey when I was 6 years old playing in a boys team. When I turned 11 years old, I joined a girls' team. The next step in my journey was to attend a [Junior Football Leader \(JFL\) programme](#) - this is when I started to referee and coach. I started by coaching the U10's boys team, as a result of this I started to referee their games.

This year I was chosen to be a part of the Norfolk FA Youth Council, which is made up of young people aged 14-24 who play an active role within Norfolk Football. Next, I went on to do my FA referee course, which subsequently led to me being in the local paper and also being interviewed by Mustard TV for achieving the joint highest marks in the knowledge exam! My next step is to get onto the coaching ladder starting with my Level 1 Coaching course when I turn 16.

Sam Hilling



I have coached, played and volunteered in Grassroots football! I've played for several years at various different clubs including Coltishall Jaguars, Stalham Youth, Broadland United and Reepham Town.

Since I was 11 years old I have held multiple coaching roles, starting at Broadland United Under 7's before recently moving to Spixworth Youth Under 10's, where we have just finished our second season together. I've also volunteered in different Norfolk FA initiative including the new Youth Council, the Football Futures Programme, Transition Festivals for Youth Team moving into a different format, Cup Finals and coaching sessions for Birthday Parties.

My overall ambition for the future is to become a professional football coach at a foreign football club. I have recently completed my level 1 and am looking to book onto other courses like the level 2, UEFA A & B and UEFA Pro Licence.

[Click here to find more information about our FA Football Futures Programme!](#)