



# RESPECTING THE REFEREE

## ARE YOU CREATING A WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT FOR REFEREES AT YOUR CLUB?

*Oxfordshire Pass the Positivity aims to build on The FA's Respect Programme by promoting positive behaviour amongst players, coaches, parents, and spectators and supporting clubs to reinforce key messages.*

*We have created some hints & tips of how you can play a role in making football positive by setting the right environment & ethos to keep referees in the game!*

### LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Make sure your players, coaches & spectators are leading by example & show respect to their opponents and the referee!

Young People said that poor behaviour and bad language from players, coaches and spectators put them off continuing!

**CHALLENGE:** How can you get this message across to your players, coaches and spectators? Do you have a captain that leads by example? Can you promote The FA's free Introduction to Refereeing modules to your coaches, parents, and spectators?

### MATCH OFFICIALS VISITING YOUR CLUB

Young People said that it can be very daunting visiting new clubs as a referee.

What processes could you have in place to make referees feel welcome & supported at your club? Do you have someone to 'meet & greet' and is a point of contact for young referees? This may just give that extra bit of support & play a vital role in giving them a positive experience!

### FA RESPECT PROGRAMME

Do you have The FA Respect Programme implemented at your club? Provide briefings & FA Respect Code of Conducts to club members (players, coaches, parents/guardians and others) to make sure everyone is creating a positive environment for everyone involved!



## RESPECT THE OFFICIALS!

Play your role in retaining referees! Every year referees give up their role due to abuse - make sure your members play their part in providing a positive experience for officials & attracting new referees. Youth football attracts a lot of under 18 referees. Abusing them will be a welfare issue and will be reported to the County FA.

**CHALLENGE:** How can your team play an active role in providing a positive experience for match officials?

*There are learning & resources that you can utilise to help support you:*

FA RESPECT CODE OF CONDUCTS

FA INTRODUCTION TO REFEREEING MODULES

FA 21 DAYS OF POSITIVITY

FA WE ONLY DO POSITIVE

REPORTING DISCRIMINATION

## PITCH-SIDE ENVIRONMENT

Young people stated that the pitch side can be an intimidating place and can put them off wanting to referee. Are your spectators & coaches setting the right example? Setting up Respect Barriers can play a vital role.

**CHALLENGE:** How can your club ensure it is setting the right environment to help referees flourish?



**PLAY YOUR PART AND MAKE  
OXFORDSHIRE FOOTBALL POSITIVE!**