



**OXFORDSHIRE  
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

**Malpractice**  
**Statement**

Oxfordshire FA are committed to pursuing the highest standards of probity and the elimination of malpractice in the management of our organisation, and aims to promote accountability and a climate of openness, to encourage the disclosure of allegations of malpractice.

Personnel/candidates/individuals must report allegations to the Head of Centre.

It is ultimately the responsibility of the Head of the Centre to ensure that this policy is published and accessible to all personnel, candidates and any relevant third parties. However, the quality coordinators (QCs) specific to each qualification are responsible for ensuring this information is fully understood by their qualification team and by the candidates who commence courses/programmes in their area.

Information contained within this documentation applies to all personnel/candidates/individuals involved with Oxfordshire FA. Arrangements in place offer individuals a safe and accessible procedure for reporting allegations of malpractice in a confidential manner, on the basis that Oxfordshire FA will take appropriate steps to ensure that individuals reporting allegations of malpractice are not penalised and are protected and that individuals accused will be protected against false, malicious or anonymous accusations. Oxfordshire FA is keen to encourage personnel/candidates/individuals to report allegations without fear, and will ensure that any disclosure is treated with the utmost confidentiality.

Anonymous allegations will only be considered if they are of a serious nature and the evidence is sufficient to warrant an investigation and for appropriate action to be taken. All allegations will be recorded and submitted to the awarding body for investigation.

Instances of malpractice that may be committed by personnel or candidates include:

Committing plagiarism by copying and passing off the whole or part(s) of another person's work, with or without the originator's permission and without appropriately acknowledging the source

Failing to comply with the assessor's/investigating officer's instructions and/or 1st4sport's regulations in relation to the assessment and security

Misusing assessment material

Impersonating other candidates by pretending to be someone else, in order to produce the work for another, or arranging for another to take one's place in an assessment

Fabricating and/or altering results and/or evidence, documents and/or certificates

Using unauthorised material in relation to the requirements of supervised assessment

Behaving in such a way as to undermine the integrity of the assessment.

Personnel and/or candidates who commit malpractice and who fail to comply with the guidance on regulations for assessment will lead 1st4sport to withhold the candidates' results. Withholding information or failing to report promptly any suspected cases of malpractice or non-compliance by centre personnel and/or candidates may result in the imposition of sanctions/penalties on Oxfordshire FA, with a possible outcome being the suspension of certification/registration or even recognised centre status. Candidates are required to be aware of the penalties for/consequences of breaching regulations, which may include one or more of the following:

Written warning

Disqualification from entering one or more (re)assessments

Disqualification from the whole qualification.

Candidates must understand that if the allegations are proven, Certificates may be invalid and those already issued may be withdrawn.

Personnel who commit malpractice, which is confirmed after investigation, may be subject to penalties, including:

Exclusion from the delivery of the qualification

Exclusion from the assessment of the qualification

Exclusion from the internal verification/moderation of the qualification

Exclusion from the financial/quality management/administration of the qualification

Temporary suspension

Work only under supervision

Undertake specific training.

### **The Reporting of Malpractice**

In order to make an allegation of malpractice, you are required to contact:

Head of Centre

Oxfordshire FA

Learning@OxfordshireFA.com Tel: 01993 778586