

Referee Promotion Guidance

2021/22 Season



A THRIVING LOCAL GAME



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SUFFOLK COUNTY
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Contents

2	<u>Contents</u>
3	<u>Introduction</u>
4	<u>Level 7 to 6 Promotion Scheme (Male Pathway)</u>
5	<u>Level 6 to 5 Promotion Scheme (Male Pathway)</u>
6	<u>Level 5 to 4 Promotion Scheme (Male Pathway)</u>
7	<u>Level 4W to Level 3W (Female Pathway)</u>
8	<u>Level 3W to Level 2W (Female Pathway)</u>
9	<u>Additional Information</u>
10	<u>How to Apply</u>
11	<u>Suffolk FA Referees' Department</u>



A THRIVING LOCAL GAME

SUFFOLK COUNTY
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Introduction

The Suffolk FA Referee Promotion Scheme is for ambitious referees who are looking to further their careers. It is our aim to provide these referees with high-quality support and development throughout the season through match observations and development workshops.

Promotions up to and including Level 5 are the sole responsibility of Suffolk County FA following guidance set by The Football Association. Referees seeking promotion from Level 5 (Senior County Referee) to Level 4 (Supply League Referee) will be nominated by Suffolk County FA, however the final decision as to whether the referee is reclassified is at the discretion of The Football Association.

As specified within The FA Rules and Regulations, the Promotion Scheme for the 2021/22 season will run from the 1st July 2021 until 30th April 2022. During this period, referees will be required to meet the criteria specified as appropriate. Referees will be notified of the outcome of their application following the conclusion to the season.

This booklet details the pre-requisites for a referee to be eligible to apply for promotion to the next level, as well as the criteria expected throughout the season. Any referee seeking promotion should read and understand the criteria and expectations of the scheme before applying.

Any additional queries relating to the Suffolk FA Promotion Scheme can be sent via e-mail to RefereePromotions@SuffolkFA.com or by contacting the Referees' Department by calling 01449 616606 (Option 5).



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Level 7 to Level 6 Promotion (Male Pathway)

This promotion is applicable for referees which are currently classified as a Level 7 (Junior Referee) seeking promotion to Level 6 (County Referee) status.

Pre-Requisites

- Is a registered Level 7 match official to Suffolk Football Association for the 2021/22 season.
- Has sufficient experience of refereeing Open-Age football.
- Provides regular availability to relevant League and County FA Appointments Officers.

Promotion Criteria

- Referee 20 games of 11v11 Open-Age football during the promotion window. (A maximum of 20% of these matches may be at U18 level.)
- Be observed by Suffolk FA Referee Developers on three occasions throughout the season and demonstrate a performance commensurate with a higher level.
- Attend a Referee Development Workshop as advised and successfully pass an FA examination on the Laws of the Game.

Additional Requirements

- Ensure that all correspondence is responded to in a prompt and efficient manner.
- Provide the County FA with details of fixtures throughout the season, including changes or cancellations.
- Achieve a satisfactory position in the club mark merit table of the appropriate league.



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SUFFOLK COUNTY
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Level 6 to Level 5 Promotion

This promotion is applicable for referees which are currently classified as a Level 6 (County Referee) seeking promotion to Level 5 (Senior County Referee) status.

Pre-Requisites

- Is a registered Level 6 match official to Suffolk Football Association for the 2021/22 season.
- Provides regular availability to relevant League and County FA Appointments Officers.

Promotion Criteria

- Referee 20 games of 11v11 Open-Age football during the promotion window. (A maximum of 20% of these matches may be at U18 level.)
- Be observed by Suffolk FA Referee Developers on three occasions throughout the season and demonstrate a performance commensurate with a higher level.
- Attend a Referee Development Workshop as advised and successfully pass an FA examination on the Laws of the Game.

Additional Requirements

- Ensure that all correspondence is responded to in a prompt and efficient manner.
- Provide the County FA with details of fixtures throughout the season, including changes or cancellations.
- Achieve a satisfactory position in the club mark merit table of the appropriate league.



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SUFFOLK COUNTY
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Level 5 to Level 4 Promotion

This promotion is applicable for referees which are currently classified as a Level 5 (Senior County Referee) seeking promotion to Level 4 (Supply League Referee) status.

Promotion Criteria

- Receive at least 5 Observer reports via the County Football Association (If some County FAs can only achieve 3/4 observer reports then the top 50% of the club mark merit table criteria will remain) during the period 1st July 2021 - 30th April 2022.
 - Achieved an average observer mark of 70 or above.
 - Referee a minimum of 20 adult male/female matches in total during the period 1st July 2021 – 30th April 2022. *(Under 18 football may be included but must not constitute more than 20% of candidate's total matches as a referee.)*
 - Have completed a minimum of 10 appointments as Assistant Referee on adult male/female matches during the period 1st July 2020 – 30th April 2021 It is recommended that as many as possible are at Supply League level. *(Under 18 football may be included but must not constitute more than 20% of candidate's total matches as an assistant referee.)*
 - Be prepared and regularly available to referee Saturday and Midweek matches.
 - Attend one of the regional in-service nomination training Sessions, delivered by The Football Association, or have previously attended in the 2019-20 season.
 - Successfully complete an examination on the Laws of the Game
 - Successfully complete a Contributory League Assistant Referee Fitness Test, prior to nomination.
- The minimum standard to be attained is:
- o 12 minute Continuous Run covering a minimum distance of 2,600 metres, and
 - o 2 x 50 metre sprint – max 7.5 seconds for each sprint.



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Level 4W to Level 3W Promotion (Female Pathway)

This promotion is applicable for referees which are currently classified as a Level 4W within the Female Refereeing Pathway and are seeking promotion to Level 3W within the Women's game.

Pre-Requisites

- Is a registered match official to Suffolk Football Association for the 2020/21 season.
- Has sufficient experience of refereeing Women's football.
- Provides regular availability to relevant League and County FA Appointments Officers.

Promotion Criteria

- Referee 20 games of 11v11 Open-Age football within the Women's game during the promotion window. (A maximum of 20% of these matches may be at U18 level.)
- Be observed by Suffolk FA Referee Developers on three occasions throughout the season and demonstrate a performance commensurate with a higher level.
- Attend a Referee Development Workshop as advised and successfully pass an FA examination on the Laws of the Game.

Additional Requirements

- Ensure that all correspondence is responded to in a prompt and efficient manner.
- Provide the County FA with details of fixtures throughout the season, including changes or cancellations.
- Achieve a satisfactory position in the club mark merit table of the appropriate league.



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FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Level 3W to Level 2W Promotion (Female Pathway)

This promotion is applicable for referees which are currently classified as a Level 3W within the Female Refereeing Pathway and are seeking promotion to Level 2W within the Women's game.

Promotion Criteria

- Receive at least 5 Observer reports via the County Football Association (If some County FAs can only achieve 3/4 observer reports then the top 50% of the club mark merit table criteria will remain) during the period 1st July 2021 - 30th April 2022.
- Achieved an average observer mark of 70 or above.
- Referee a minimum of 20 adult matches in total during the period 1st July 2021 – 30th April 2022. It is required that 80% of these must be within the Women's game. *(Under 18 football may be included but must not constitute more than 20% of candidate's total matches as a referee.)*
- Have completed a minimum of 8 appointments as Assistant Referee on adult matches during the period 1st July 2021 – 30th April 2022 It is required that 80% of these must be within the Women's game. *(Under 18 football may be included but must not constitute more than 20% of candidate's total matches as an assistant referee.)*
- Attend one of the regional in-service nomination training Sessions, delivered by The Football Association, or have previously attended in the 2020-21 season.
- Successfully complete an examination on the Laws of the Game
- Successfully complete an FA Women's Referee Fitness Test prior to nomination.



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FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Additional Information

Application for Male and Female Pathways

A referee may apply to be part of a Promotion Scheme in both the Male and Female pathway. This should be indicated at the point of application.

Multiple Promotions within the Same Season

If a referee is identified as having the potential to make rapid progression, they may be invited to seek multiple promotions within the same season. This decision is at the sole discretion of the County FA.

Referee Match Records

Prior to the start of the 2021/22 season, candidates within the Suffolk FA Promotion Scheme will be sent a link to access their unique Match Record folder. It is the responsibility of the referee to ensure that this is updated regularly, including any cancellations or late appointments. Failure to do so may result in the referee being removed from the scheme.

SISRA Observe

Each referee seeking promotion will have access to SISRA Observe where their referee observations will be published.

Notification of Match Observations

Referee Developers will contact the match referee prior to conducting an observation for the purposes of the Referee Promotion Scheme. When contact is made, the referee should establish with the Referee Developer their expected arrival time to the ground and how contact will be made directly should late changes be made to the fixture.



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How to Apply

Should a referee wish to be part of the Referee Promotion Scheme for the 2021/22 season, they should make their initial application online by no later than Friday 31st July 2021. Any application received after this date may not be accepted.

From a Laptop / Computer

[CLICK HERE - ONLINE APPLICATION FORM](#)

From a Mobile Device / Tablet

Please scan the QR code below using your phone / tablets camera to be directed to the online form.



Should you wish to discuss your application further, please contact the Referees' Department.



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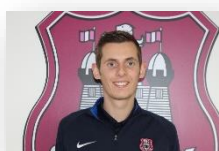
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Suffolk FA Referees' Department

Bill Steward House, The Buntings,
Stowmarket,
Suffolk,
IP14 5GZ

E | Referees@SuffolkFA.com

T | 01449 616606 (Option 5)



Alan Dale

Senior Referee Development Officer
E: Alan.Dale@SuffolkFA.com

Responsible for the overview and implementation of strategies for Referee Recruitment, Retention along with enhancing development opportunities and pathways including the Youth Referees' Academy, Suffolk CORE and Referee Promotion Scheme.



Ian Atkins

Referee Development Officer
E: Ian.Atkins@SuffolkFA.com

Responsible for supporting and implementing strategies for Referee Recruitment and Retention. Provide strategic support and appointments for Level T referees.

Deputy Safeguarding Officer.



Melissa Stickland

Referee Appointments Officer
E: Melissa.Stickland@SuffolkFA.com

Responsible for Referee Appointments to Suffolk Youth Leagues and Suffolk Girls' & Women's League.

Additional responsibilities within the Football Services Department.

Ian Smillie

Saturday County Cups Appointments Officer
E: Ian.Smillie@SuffolkFA.com

Graham Apperley

Sunday County Cups Appointments Officer
E: Graham.Apperley@SuffolkFA.com



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11