

THE SUFFOLK FA YOUTH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



WAYS TO CONNECT WITH THE YOUTH COUNCIL:

X – SuffolkFA_YC

Email -

Suffolkfayouthcouncil@gmail.com

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about all our exciting events and
updates!**

February Edition 2024

WHO WE ARE

The Suffolk FA Youth Council are a team of young people aged between 16-25 made up of individuals from all different roles within football from across the county who are the voice of the Youth within Suffolk. The Suffolk FA Youth Council are provided with the autonomy to come up with their own ideas and suggestions to make a difference within the county. The Youth Council are here to support and give everyone the opportunity to make a difference and be heard, as we recognise that everyone has something meaningful to say.

INTRODUCTION TO YOUR YOUTH COUNCIL

Meet Lucy – Youth Council Vice-Chair ...

I am Lucy, Vice-Chair of the Youth Council, having joined as a member in 2022. While I did not become interested in football until I was 14, I took a less conventional route for a young person getting involved in football. In 2020, I became a Club Secretary, and have held various administrative roles over the years, including League Committee Member and League Secretary. My role within the Suffolk Youth Council is



to assist the Chair by helping the voices of young people get heard. We have made good progress as a Youth Council, and I am certain that we shall continue this progress going forward into the last months of the season. I am especially looking forward to this year's Grassroots Festival, which shall be held in Felixstowe.

I know how daunting it can be as a young person getting involved in administrative roles such as becoming a secretary, so feel free to contact me for help and advice!

If you see a Youth Council member don't be afraid to speak to us, we would love to hear everyone's suggestions.

YOUTH AND GRASSROOTS HEROES FEATURE

The Youth Council would love to know about your Youth heroes. We are always looking to recognise people who are making a difference and we want to use these stories. If your club has Youth heroes that need recognising send them to our new email address suffolkfayouthcouncil@gmail.com, let us about them as we want to know and show them the recognition that they deserve.

As a Youth Council we have identified our Sponsor Richard Bugg as our first Youth and Grassroots Hero. Richard has kindly sponsored and supported the Youth Council for many years. This support has been a tremendous help to the Youth Council, and given us autonomy to bring our ideas and plans to life in order to support the growing game in Suffolk.

Richard played for the county at both football and cricket, however due to illness unfortunately this was cut shorter than expected. However, this has not stopped his interest in local sport, particularly football and boxing. After selling his company several years ago, Richard decided to move towards helping young people in sport. Richard said: 'I have sponsored many young people in various sports. When I was asked by Suffolk FA to sponsor the Youth Council I was delighted, it has brought me considerable amounts of pleasure to meet these young people and follow their careers within the Youth Council and beyond. The experience they have gained in the committee and on the sports field has given them a grounding for life. To be a successful team player you must have discipline and composure which being a member has brought. This project will always have my support!'

The Youth Council would like to say a big thank you to Richard – without his support, making a difference would be a lot harder. When reflecting on what the term grassroots heroes meant to us we concluded that it is going above and beyond to make a difference. This is what we believe Richard has done for us – he has provided some amazing support and we continue to be inspired by his generosity.

EVENTS

This month the Suffolk FA Youth Council have been working alongside the Suffolk Girls' and Women's League to introduce and run the first club assistant referee workshops, which allow parents to become more confident with running the line and volunteering within the game. It has been identified that a lot of parents do not feel confident in running the line, as they do not know what they are doing – so this event will be sure to benefit. So far this is shaping up to be a very exciting event, which the Youth Council hope to be able to deliver to all leagues across the county soon. The Youth Council are very excited to be able to work with everyone across the county to improve and shape the game.

The Youth Council are currently continuing to work on more projects to support and make a difference within the county, keep an eye on this space!

HAVE YOUR SAY

The Youth Council would love to hear from the Youth involved in today's game. Any support, ideas and suggestions that we receive help us to make a difference. Have your say and support the Youth Council:

[Suggestions Form](#)

[Youth Voice Survey](#)

