

**Accredited Coaching Organisations**

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**What is an Accredited Coaching Organisation?**

An Accredited Coaching Organisation is a football based community programme which operates holiday courses, football services in schools and out of club sessions within Worcestershire.

A recognised and experienced football coaching provider and their staff should strive to offer fun and professional coaching for all involved all of the time, whilst maintaining a safe learning environment for participants. All coaching sessions should be open to anyone regardless of ability, gender, race or religion.

**What is a lead coach?**

For the purpose of this application form, a lead coach is the senior coach and lead deliverer at all football coaching sessions and as such, it is expected that the senior coach at each session adheres to the criteria set out in each stage of the three awards – dependent on which you apply for.

**How do we apply to become an Accredited Coaching Organisation?**

The cost to apply for the award is free. This includes registration to Worcestershire FA and marketing and promotion tools as well as the benefits listed below.

When signing up, all organisations will be committed to WFA reviewing their criteria annually and understand there may be spot checks throughout the season.

For assistance in completing the form, or if you have any further questions please contact Martin Collier (Football Development Manager) via email: [martin.collier@Worcestershirefa.com](mailto:martin.collier@Worcestershirefa.com)

**What are the benefits for successful applicants?**

There are a number of both tangible and intangible benefits available to those organisations who achieve the accreditation.These benefits include:

* **Registration with Worcestershire FA**
* **Priority for WFA coach education courses**
* **Certificate of achievement**
* **Use of Worcestershire FA logo and Worcestershire FA Coach Accreditation Award logo**
* **Access to information and advice from Worcestershire FA staff**
* **Worcestershire FA marketing and promotion, including emails to clubs, website, newsletters and social media**
* **Discipline, Fair Play, RESPECT and Charter Standard support**
* **Sustainable exit routes support for participants**

**Minimum Criteria for Accreditation - BRONZE**

* Acceptance and promotion of FA RESPECT Codes of Conduct for coaches, players and spectators
* Adoption of Equality and Safeguarding Children policies and an appointed Child Welfare Officer
* Appointed Child Welfare Officer to have attended a Safeguarding Children workshop and be committed to attend a Welfare Officer Workshop. **Contact county Welfare Officer.**
* All coaches working with Under 16s to have an accepted Criminal Records Check (CRC)
* Lead coaches to have completed and passed a minimum of the Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Football, as well as a current FA Emergency Aid certificate and a current FA Safeguarding Children certificate
* All lead coaches to be a member of The FA Licensed Coaches’ Club
* Commitment to an annual review of staff and policies in conjunction with Worcestershire FA
* Organisations must be open to all potential participants regardless of ability, gender, race or religion
* Organisations must adopt a clear and transparent pricing structure
* Evidence of organisation/company accounts
* Evidence of Public Liability and Personal Accident Insurance
* First Aid kit present at all activities
* Adherence to The FA Goalpost Safety requirements
* Health and Safety Risk Assessment procedure
* Existing link with 2 Charter Standard clubs including 1 Community club
* Formal link to other WFA Accredited Coaching Organisations
* Completion of WFA spreadsheet detailing participation numbers at all coaching events and any participants who have attended at least one session at a WFA affiliated club

**Additional Criteria** - **SILVER**

* Lead coaches to have completed the Level 2 Certificate in Coaching Football

**Additional Criteria** - **GOLD**

* Lead coaches to have completed the Basic First Aid for Sport course