



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

CRITERIA FOR CLUBS

Clubs must be affiliated to their local County FA

Through affiliation Clubs will achieve the following criteria:

- Offer a minimum of one team at any age group for male or female or disability playing in an FA sanctioned competition.
- Have an in-date FA Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Checks (DBS) for all relevant officials.
- Have a Welfare Officer for Youth Clubs (male, female and disability).
- Safeguarding Committee Members course completed by Club committee members.

Through the Clubs Portal, Clubs will achieve or evidence the following criteria:

- Evidence or adopt a set of Club rules and be a constituted Club.
- Evidence or adopt the relevant Club safeguarding policies.
- Evidence or adopt an equality policy.
- Adopt The Football Leadership diversity code.
- Adopt the Nationwide Respect codes of conduct and implement The FA Respect activations relevant to your club.
- Have a bank account in the Club's name recommended for all Clubs and mandatory for Clubs with three or more teams.
- Provide evidence of last season's accounts if in existence for more than one season.
- Have a good disciplinary record within the Nationwide Respect disciplinary code (if in existence for more than one season).

Through the Club Portal, Clubs will continue to adhere to the criteria and complete the relevant validation process to remain England Football Accredited.

England Football Accredited Clubs will achieve on pitch and off pitch criteria:

On pitch

Adult teams should have a named individual that has completed the **Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAIF)**. If this person is a player, an additional person is required.

Youth teams to have at least one coach or manager with the **Introduction to Coaching Football (I2CF) per team, with in-date Introduction to First Aid in Football (IFAIF) and Safeguarding Children Course (SCC)**. A qualified coach or manager must be present at training and fixtures.

Have a coach:player ratio of 1:16 or less.

Off pitch

Complete the relevant Club development plan to support club development and sustainability.

Confirm Club meetings that take place and make sure they are recorded. Copies of minutes are available upon request.

Demonstrate that decisions made by the Club are informed by, and communicated to, it's members.

Processes

Teams with people that need access to achieve qualification criteria can find the courses here: www.thebootroom.thefa.com/learning and will show against their records in the Club Portal for validation each season.

Clubs will evidence official criteria through the Club Portal processes or through The County FA Development Officers.



NETWORK STRATEGY

FOR LEAGUES AND CLUBS 2020-2030

Your Leagues and Clubs are the beating heart of our new grassroots football strategy.

During the next ten years, we are committed to making positive changes to improve the game for everyone. Here's how:

Male, Female and Disabled Participation

We will increase the number of male, female and disabled teams, putting pathways in place to deliver consistent and comprehensive opportunities to maximise the levels of enjoyment for all – regardless of gender, sexual orientation, skin colour or ability.

Volunteers and Workforce

We will support, reward and diversify the grassroots volunteers and workforce, encouraging skills and diversity at all levels while developing the next generation. We will work to make football accessible for all, and for life.

Digital Products and Services

We will support all Leagues and Clubs in the use of FA technology to keep them on top of their game: for more effective and efficient management and administration, while building an effective and supportive online community to learn and grow together by sharing knowledge.

Facilities

The Football Foundation will increase direct involvement into sites that are owned and/or operated by Clubs where it is needed most. All football environments, from training grounds to classrooms to changing rooms, will be made safe and positive places that thrive on inclusivity and respect, making them key parts of the local community.

A VIBRANT NATIONAL LEAGUE AND CLUB NETWORK

Our offering includes graduated support to ensure positivity and progress **FOR ALL** Leagues and Clubs across England. This includes tailored support to 1000 leagues and 1000 clubs in recognition of their ambition and potential to grow across the male, female and disability pathways.



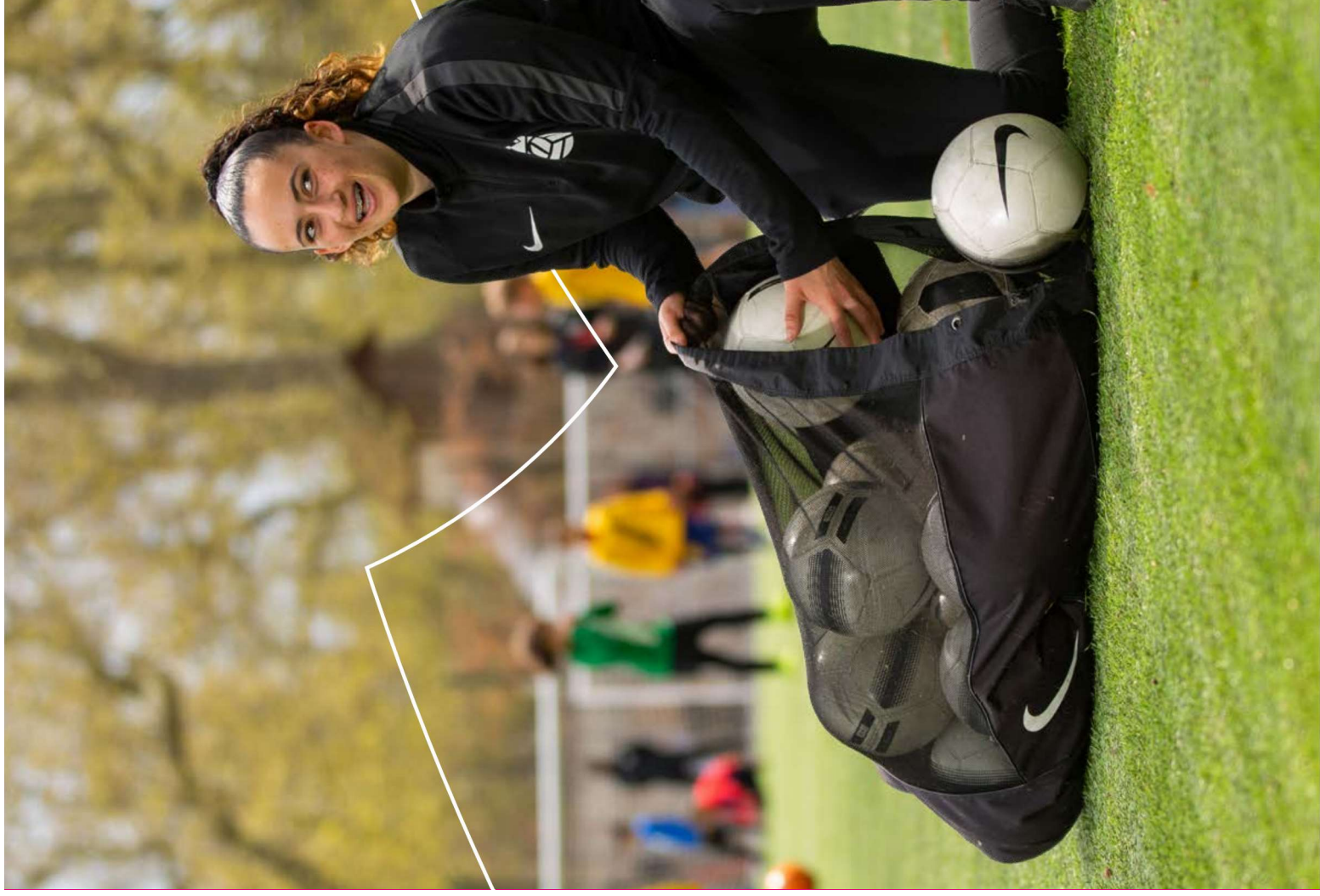
A robust and sustainable League and Club network with sound infrastructure.



A comprehensive offer for League and Club activities.



High quality operations and accessible community facilities.



SUPPORT AND SERVICES

We're committed to supporting all the dedicated volunteers out there.

We recognise all you do for the good of our beautiful game, and it's our duty to support you with the very best resources, and the most up-to-date knowledge and information to help you run the game to the highest possible standards whilst supporting, encouraging and growing the next generation of volunteers.

We want Leagues and Clubs to be the very best versions of themselves with a vision to be the beating heart of their community.

That's why we provide tailored support, recognition and reward for **every League** and **every Club**. You deserve the best so that you can be the best.

Fill your boots

We've got some great resources to help you learn more about English Grassroots Football, plus further information about England Football Accredited, and the Leagues and Clubs system. Go local - contact your [County FA](#) for support.

Go online to find all the support, ideas, help and all the knowledge you need to succeed.

Search for the In The Box podcast, part of the Grassroots Football Hub on [YouTube](#), or listen to the podcast on [Anchor](#) with new episodes available monthly.

Head to englandfootballgrassrootshub.co.uk to book onto a webinar.

Take a look at www.englishfootball.com/accredited

**We're here for you.
For everyone.
For the very best in
grassroots football.**





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PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Twitter: @EnglandFootball

Facebook: @englandfootball

Instagram: @englandfootball

Web: englandfootball.com

Email: clubaccreditation@thefa.com

leagueaccreditation@thefa.com