



English Schools' Football Association

# Membership Matters

## Don't forget...

**The ESFA AGM is on the 24th November.**

**The workshop Session for which details have been circulated with AGM papers, will commence at 10:30 am.**

Have a look at the new ESFA website, if you haven't already

[www.schoolsfootball.org](http://www.schoolsfootball.org)

**All ESFA national competition fixtures are available to view via the website - make sure you submit your scores online**

## PLCF Funded Regional Hubs



Once again the Premier League Charitable Fund (PLCF) is supporting the ESFA and our U11 representative football programme. As part of this support we are excited to announce the start of a number of District football 'hubs' across the country. The funding to support high quality venue hire and use will help to strengthen District football across each of our regions and bring activity closer together.

In addition, this centralised model has the following benefits;

- Better centralised planning and control of activity
- Standardising operations and minimum standards
- Reduced administration and fundraising for volunteers
- Standardised fixture models, increasing opportunities with professional club recruitment
- Opportunities to capitalise on others' investments (i.e. ESFA development fund)
- Opportunities to improve the profile of district football

Initial funding has been spent to support representative football activity in some of our national 'hotspots', such as Kent CSFA

Region:	ESFA Area	Recommended Bid:
North East	A	Northumberland & Durham CSFA
North West	B	Wirral SFA
West Mids	C	Birmingham PSFA
East Mids	D	Derbyshire
South West	E	Gloucestershire CSFA
South Central	F	Hampshire CSFA
South East	G	No host association – Centrally led via ESFA
South East	H	Kent CSFA

We will also be funding a number of other activity areas to stimulate growth and attract new teams. Work is underway on highlighting these areas. Anyone interested in learning more or supporting a hub venue, please get in touch with [david.ebberson@schoolsfa.com](mailto:david.ebberson@schoolsfa.com)

## Council Report



### ESFA Council meeting - 15 September 2018

John Martin, Chairman for 2018/19, opened his first meeting by welcoming back members and thanking the outgoing Chairman for his leadership last season. The Chair congratulated Mark Warren (Midlands) and Ryan Smith (North) on their election to Council for the 18/19 season, under extended eligibility criteria agreed at the 17/18 AGM, and also welcomed back Peter Clayton as The FA's representative on the ESFA Council. Throughout the meeting, Council approved the nomination of Owen Aiston to the Cerebral Palsy Football Development Committee and elected Alan Johnston to the role of Council Safeguarding Champion, following a discussion around the development of a Safeguarding Operating Standard for education partners, proposed by The FA and supported by the ESFA. Council received the list of eligible long service award nominations, and re-confirmed that recipients would again have the choice of a presentation at the AGM, or a more local arrangement through their own Association. A minute's silence was also held in remembrance for those who had passed away since the last meeting.

Trustees reported on a number of new partnerships developed and launched over the summer, with Panini commissioning a second project from the ESFA, UK Sepsis Trust becoming an Associate Charity and UCFB becoming an "HE Foundation Partner", sponsoring the international programme. Council were delighted to hear that Danone had extended their sponsorship of the U11 competitions, and that PlayStation had confirmed their continued investment in the ESFA for a further year. All other 2017/18 sponsors were confirmed as continuing into the 18/19 season. Trustees invited all CSFAs to extend invitations to Pass4Soccer, the ESFA's official US scholarships partner, to county trials and matches, in recognition our contractual commitments to them. Details of such invitations should be forwarded to the CEO. Trustees also reminded members that any match officials used by any member or school must hold a DBS clearance, referring to the (new!) ESFA website for further guidance.



Council heard from the Representative Committee that Nick Cuff, Deputy Headteacher at Great & Little Shelford CE (A) Primary School, Cambridge, had been appointed to the voluntary International Programme Co-ordinator role and arrangements would now be put in place for him to start. Council re-confirmed that, to be eligible to trial for the international squads, pupils must be in full time education (attending at a School, VI Form College, General Further Education College or an Independent College for at least 540 hours of planned learning per year. Those entering into an apprenticeship agreement, engaged in a traineeship or in full time work with part time education or training or self-employment are not eligible for nomination) and on the roll of a DfE registered institution. Council confirmed that nominations must be submitted by the CSFA in which the player attends school. Council were updated on the Committee's responses to the representative football research project, reported back in June, and heard that Associations were to be asked to provide information on any regulation/custom and practice in place for selecting Academy/RTC players for rep football sides. Council also heard that applications to become PLCF regional hubs had been reviewed and that announcement of the successful centres was to be made before the end of September.

Competitions Committee reported their pleasure at the renewal of key sponsorship contracts, and heard that National Competition entries were approaching the number achieved last season. Discussions about the possibility of a schools' futsal competition were held, with further details expected. Members reviewed the format of existing competitions and confirmed their continuation as planned.

Association Development Committee reported back on the significant number of applications submitted to the ESFA's development fund, with decisions due in w/c 24th September. The Committee also evaluated the participation of the Girls' Deaf Schools' Trophy winners in The FA Disability Festival, and whilst logistically difficult, committed to continuing to support this opportunity if possible.

## ESFA Development Fund

The ESFA Development Fund has helped to create over 3,000 new school teams and offered playing opportunities for over 27,000 new participants over the course of the 2016-17 and 2017-18 seasons. Over the past 2 years over £160,000 has been directly invested into the grassroots level of schools' football.

For the 2018-19 season the funding window opened in June, allowing 3 months for our Counties, Districts, Schools and further partners to plan their delivery and submit an application – as they requested in review of the previous season.

The extra time clearly had a positive outcome as a record 172 applications were received, with 72 of those being accepted across 27 of our ESFA Counties. With a projected 2,231 new teams looking to be created across all formats of the game, we are really excited that this should see over 23,000 new participants created for schools football over the next 10 months.

We look forward to sharing some of the incredible projects throughout the season, just like this one from Bedfordshire - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Wu5EurtJeU&t=1s>

## Reward & Recognition - Winner 2



We are pleased to announce our second Reward & Recognition winner of 2018-19 as:

**John Anderson from Gainsborough, Lincolnshire**

John was nominated by Natalie Marvin, Team Leader at Parish Church Primary School and is well known for being right at the heart of anything happening in schools' football in Gainsborough.

John has held regular training sessions for the children of Parish School. With no school field, he utilises the local park to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to experience the joy of football. The children at the school have become the Y5/6 Mixed Team and the Y5/6 Girls' Team, who went on to win the district ESFA 7-a-side competition for a record-breaking 6<sup>th</sup> year in a row, whilst John's Y5/6 Boys' team and Y5/6 Girls' team were district winners of the National League Trust competitions. At regional level, these teams finished in 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> places.

Above and beyond his role at Parish School, John held community training sessions for all children, providing an opportunity for both a Girls and Boys representative team to go on to compete in the ESFA U11 9-a-side District Cup, whilst his successful bid to the ESFA and Premier League Scheme funded new kits for these teams.

Along with running all of these teams, two local schools' leagues and three district cups, John also successfully applied for the ESFA Development Fund, using the money to run two inspirational festivals for children across Gainsborough, to introduce them to football too.

Congratulations and thank you for your hard work John, making you this season's second nominee for the **ESFA Volunteer of the Year** as well as being the recipient of 2 tickets to England vs Croatia at Wembley Stadium in November, as recognition of your success!



## Volunteer Strategy - we need your help



As you know, the ESFA have been working hard to try and kick start a Reward and Recognition programme to help show our appreciation to volunteers from within the broad spectrum of schools' football. Whilst we have already been able to present two worthy winners with some prizes this season, we still feel we need to do more to encourage nominations and support.

We know that the ESFA exists on a platform of incredibly dedicated and hard-working volunteers and we really want to be able to say 'thank you' to them in ways that we know they will appreciate. As a result, we have put together a short questionnaire and invite you to please, take a couple of minutes to let us know your thoughts and also share this link far and wide, to your own network of volunteers so we can get a really good idea of what people are looking for.

Please use the link below to let us know how we can really reward and recognise our workforce

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/esfarewards>



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