



English Schools' Football Association

Membership Matters

Reminders

National Finals 2019

The following National Finals are coming up, head to the website for full details

Saturday 4 May

ESFA U11 Danone Nations Cup National Finals

Birmingham City FC
KO 12pm

Wednesday 8 May

ESFA Premier League U16 Schools' Cup Finals

Man City Academy Stadium
KO 11:30, 1:30, 3:30 & 5:30pm

Thursday 9 - Saturday 12 May

A variety of ESFA National Cup Finals

Stoke City FC
KO 11:30, 1:30, 3:30 & 5:30pm each day

Tuesday 21 - Thursday 23 May

ESFA PlayStation Schools' Cup Finals

West Bromwich Albion
KO 9:30, 11:30, 1:30, 3:30 & 5:30pm each day

Chairman's Report of Council

John Martin, Chairman, opened the Council meeting by welcoming members to Worcestershire.



Council welcomed Sarah DaCosta, National Child Welfare Officer, who provided the annual safeguarding training update for Council members, who then went on to adopt a Safeguarding Code of Conduct which outlined specific commitments and responsibilities in this regard. Council approved the procedure for Association suspension in the event of non

-compliance with ESFA policy, and agreed to publish the procedure and a list of suspended Association rep teams on the ESFA website next season, to ensure that no member inadvertently played against suspended opposition. Council heard that there had been a mixed response to the survey of County Schools' FA's about their professional relationships with County FAs, and were advised the detailed report would follow.

Council approved the release of guidance detailing eligibility for representative football in the U18 age group, in light of the changing nature of the post-16 education landscape: see "Membership Matters/April" and the website. Council further heard that a productive meeting had been held with the JPL and wished to remind membership that sanction from the ESFA was needed should Associations wish to take part in the opportunities provided by JPL or other third parties. Should any Association experience difficulties with their local JPL, Council invited membership to contact their ESFA Council member who would follow up accordingly. Members welcomed the advert for a disability specialist to join them on Council and were pleased to note that a fuller fixture list for the u15 international girls' team was planned for next season.

Representative Committee members recommended that the international management teams should adopt the same Safeguarding Code of Conduct as Council members had: this was approved. Further reports were given on the progress of the international programme and on PLCF regional hub funding, which would be discontinued at the end of this season, as originally contracted. Vacancies on the international management teams were to be announced in due course.

Read the full report [here](#).



ESFA Council Member Recruitment

Regrettably the invitation to nominate members to serve on National Council has failed to identify new candidates and as such, the AGM-approved flexibilities for Council membership are to be enacted, as follows:

“In the event that an eligible nominee for elected Council membership is not identified in an area, Council may, for a period of no longer than one year, co-opt a schools’ employee who does not hold QTS but who is a member of an affiliated Association in the area, as long as the co-opted membership for that area does not exceed 1 member.”

I would now be grateful if your Association could consider making nominations for co-opting to Council, in line with the eligibility criteria laid out above, to fill one vacancy in each of the North, Midlands and South West regions.

Both the nomination and its seconding must come from affiliated Associations and must be received by the Chief Executive by 9am on Monday 13th May. Should competing eligible nominations be received, an election, to conclude by 3rd June, will be called.





The ESFA is Recruiting

As well as looking for a new intake of Council Members, the ESFA is also looking to fill various other positions. We would be grateful if you could share the opportunities below amongst your members and networks:

National Competitions & Discipline Secretary

<https://schoolsfootball.org/ads/national-competitions-discipline-secretary/>

2 x National Competitions Co-ordinators (internship vacancies)

<https://schoolsfootball.org/ads/internship-vacancy-national-competitions-co-ordinators-x2/>

Social Media Intern

<https://schoolsfootball.org/ads/internship-vacancy-social-media-intern/>

PR & Communications Intern

<https://schoolsfootball.org/ads/internship-vacancy-pr-communications-intern/>



We are also looking for a specialist role to join us on Council for the 2019-20 season. Following a period of investment in disability football, and the creation for the first time this year of nationally organised, regional pan-disability tournaments, the English Schools' Football Association is seeking an expert in disability sport to advise and guide the further development of its disability offer, by serving on the National Council.

The successful candidate will have extensive knowledge of the world of disability sport as it applies to school children, and an understanding of the game of football in schools. S/he will bring demonstrable experience in board-level operations, having a track record of high impact influence in a comparable role. Experience of operating at a national level, and/or an understanding the role of a National Governing Body would also be advantageous.

If you, or someone you know is suitable for this post, then please visit the link below for full information. The closing date is 10th May.

<https://schoolsfootball.org/ads/national-governing-body-council-vacancy-disability-football/>

News in Brief

AGM Rule Changes

The deadline for submitting rule/bye-law changes for consideration by the AGM is 6th June 2019. Any changes must be submitted in writing to the CEO, Andrea Chilton and contain:

- The proposed rule change
- The rationale for the proposed rule change
- Proposing Association
- Association seconding the proposed change

New ESFA Partnership

The ESFA are launching this week a new partnership with Catapult and PlayerTek, the pioneering sports-performance tracking system that helps team managers make informed decisions by using technology that has previously only been available to the elite. There will be information circulated to you regarding how this partnership could benefit representative sides, so keep an eye out for more details to come!

ESFA National Finals 2019

All National Finals, marking the close of the 2018-19 season have now been formally announced. If you haven't already, you can read about all the upcoming events via the links below:

Danone Nations Cup 2019

<https://schoolsfootball.org/2019/04/05/esfa-danone-u11-primary-finals-announced/>

ESFA Premier League U16 Finals

<https://schoolsfootball.org/2019/04/09/esfa-u16-premier-league-finals-announced/>

ESFA National Finals at Stoke City FC

<https://schoolsfootball.org/2019/04/09/esfa-national-finals-at-stoke-city-fc/>

ESFA PlayStation Schools' Cup Finals

<https://schoolsfootball.org/2019/04/03/esfa-playstation-schools-cup-festival-announced-for-2019/>



Notice Board

Members will see from the report of council that the procedure for team / association suspension was approved by Council at its April meeting. The procedure can be found [here](#).

Associations with no representative teams must check next season that their opposition is not subject to suspension. The ESFA website will list registered teams who have yet to gain approval to play representative football.

Post 16 football - Eligibility Criteria

The ESFA recognises that the post-16 market is a complex and changing one, with presumption 6th forms, academisation, further education mergers, sixth form closures and the emergence of “private providers” operating either with government support (eg for apprenticeships) or on a purely commercial basis, making the market a tricky one to support.

This guidance is therefore provided to aid Associations to aid their determination of eligibility of individual organisations and players to participate in ESFA activities. Some of this guidance is a clarification of existing practice, and some is newly defined in the face of the changing sector. Please read these carefully when planning for next season and build in the following checks before entering players/institutions into ESFA activities. The guidance can be found [here](#).

International Programme

As the boys international programme draws to a close ,grateful thanks are give to our volunteer international management teams and selectors and our sponsors , without whom the programme would be impossible to run. We will be advertise for new appointments to the management team shortly—the website’s vacancies page will have the details . In the meantime , we wish the U15 Girls the best of luck with the Bob Docherty Trophy in Salou.



Futsal

Many thanks to those of you who have worked hard to set up futsal competitions this season. We know that the timing in the organisation of these competitions hasn’t been ideal and we will work with The FA to address these matters for any future seasons.

In the meantime however, we wish the successful finalists the very best of luck when they compete in the national finals at SGP on 3rd May.



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