



English Schools' Football Association

Membership Matters

Upcoming U11 District Regional Finals

- North (East)
18 November—
Herlingshaw
Centre,
Middlesbrough
FC
- SW (Central)
2 December—
Madejski Stadium
Reading FC
Community
- North (West)
3 February
Finch Farm,
Everton FC
- Midlands
(Central)
14 April
St George's Park
Burton upon
Trent
- Midlands (North)
21 April
St George's Park
Sheffield
- South East
28 April
The Hive
Barnet FC

PLCF Funding Confirmed

The PLCF has confirmed its continued support of ESFA U11 District Rep football for this season and for next. Although on a reducing funding scale over the two seasons, this is great news given our expectation that continuation funding would not be awarded this year.

The ESFA extends its grateful thanks to PLCF for this grant funding. The awards process is being finalised with PLCF this week and we hope to launch the competitive application for funding in the first part of November. Eligible Associations will be contacted and a general announcement, with guidance, will be published on the ESFA website. We look forward to receiving your applications!

In the meantime, regional tournaments have begun, with SW (West) teams enjoying a fantastic day at Landsdown Playing Fields, in Bath, on 7th October & Districts from the SE enjoying the first of two events for their region, this time at Motspur Park (Fulham FC) on 21st October. The remaining tournaments have been set as outlined here. We are in negotiation with PLCF regarding the date and venue for the national finals.



The FA's National Game Board Conference

Earlier this month, The FA held its National Game Board Conference, where the ESFA was represented by Mike Spinks, Andrea Chilton and Andy Weston. The primary purpose of the conference was to consult on the development of a singular, refreshed strategy for football, in which The FA outlined their desire to "continue to inspire children to love the game". The coming weeks will see several consultation meetings with The FA, during which we will aim to consolidate and enhance our role with them as the major provider of schools' football. There will be many calls on the additional income that the FA has secured from international broadcasting of The FA Cup: positioning schools' football as valuable beneficiary of this will be an important part of these discussions. Last season saw the Association support around 74,000 teams and this significant contribution to football positions us well for these conversations.





Pendle continue as Official Kit Supplier



Pendle are once again the ESFA's Official Kit Supplier and as a result, ESFA affiliated teams can purchase kit at a discounted rate.

You can read the full story [on our website here](#) and contact Pendle directly for any further information.

ESFA Development Fund

Thanks to those of you who applied, or encouraged applications to, the ESFA's development fund. The deadline for applications was 20th October and the panel assessing the submissions meets on 3rd November.

We are aiming to inform applicants of the outcomes during w/c 6th November.

Rod Houston U14 Girls' Cup

St Ivo School, Huntingdon and Chesterfield High School, Liverpool, had the honour of representing English Schools in the Rod Houston U14 Girls' Cup, organised by SAFIB and hosted at Lilleshall National Sports Centre in Shropshire earlier this month.

Joined by Presentation Secondary School from Kilkenny in Ireland and Ysgol Gyfun Cwm from Rhymni in Wales, the girls enjoyed three days of competition which resulted in Presentation Secondary School being crowned winners.

Congratulations to all of those participating and a huge thank you to those involved in organising this extra opportunity for girls to compete

ESFA Annual General Meeting

A further reminder that the ESFA AGM is scheduled to take place on Saturday 25th November in Stafford.

If you haven't already, please remember to inform [Lorna Blakeman](#) or [Sue Gifford](#) of your named attendees as soon as you are able.

Council Member Recruitment

You can take a look at the voluntary positions currently on offer at the ESFA [here...](#)

[ESFA Vacancies](#)

You may have seen the recent campaign on social media to encourage interested applicants to consider volunteering to serve as an ESFA Council member. Whilst we recognise that our local Associations encourage their membership to apply, we are continuing to experience difficulties in filling some of our vacancies, so we hope a national push will help you locally to identify those who you may wish to represent you on your national body.

Please give careful consideration to this matter: vacancies mean that some of our Associations don't have the same voice as others and we'll be discussing this further in the workshop planned for the AGM.



Dates for your Diary

November 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4 U13 IAT R2 Deadline U14 IC R1 Deadline U15 IAT R2 Deadline U16 IC R1 Deadline	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 U14 IC (Girls) R1 Deadline U16 IC (Girls) Regional Round Fixtures U18 IC R1 Deadline	12 U15 Girls' Regional Trials (North v Midlands) (SW v SE)
13	14	15	16	17	18 U18 Boys' Regional Trials (North v Mid- lands) Premier League District U11 Tournament—North	19 U18 Boys' Regional Trials (SE v SW)
20	21	22	23	24	25 ESFA AGM	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2 Premier League District U11 Tournament—South West Danone U11 District Final Deadline U12 5aside District Final Deadline U13 IAT R3 Deadline U14 IC R2 Deadline U15 IAT R3 Deadline U16 IC R2 Deadline U18 IC R2 Deadline	3
4	5	6	7	8	9 U14 IC (Girls) R2 Deadline U16 IC (Girls) Regional Round Fixtures	10 U15 Girls' Final Trial (North v South)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 ESFA Office shuts for Christmas (until 2 January)	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

From the Noticeboard

- The FA Girls' Football Week takes place from 6th – 12th November. Details can be found [here](#).
- **Data Protection: make sure you comply**

Data protection regulations are changing in the new year and penalties for breaches of the regulations will be increased. A timely reminder therefore that, if you hold “personal data” – data by which an individual can be identified (name/address/date of birth/contact details) or which is “sensitive” (medical records, for example, or child protection measures) – about your players, coaches, parents and supporters, you must ensure that:

Personal data is held only for “limited, specifically stated purposes”: this means, if you ask someone for their personal details, you need to tell them why. Phrases like “Thanks for giving us your details. We’ll use them to check your eligibility to play and/or to keep you up to date with our activities” might help when you give players and associates forms to fill in.

Data is not held for longer than necessary: this doesn’t mean you can’t keep an address book, local records about player achievement or celebratory materials recognising the contribution of volunteers. It does mean that you shouldn’t keep information you don’t need to have. So, for example, if you have medical records for players long gone from your Association, you should make sure they are confidentially destroyed.

Data is held securely and not shared with third parties without permission: this doesn’t necessarily mean locked strong boxes, but it does mean you must only share information with those who need to have it. Make sure any electronic records/devices are securely protected (most phones now require you to “unlock” them, for example, if they’ve not been used for a minute or two) and only share sensitive information with those who absolutely need that information to fulfil their roles responsibly. If you’re communicating by email or text, make sure you have all recipients’ permission to share their contact details: if not, when you send a group email, address it to yourself and put all other recipients into the “bcc”/blind copy line.

And finally, if someone asks you to stop contacting them or remove their details from your records, you must do so immediately.

Please remember that you must disclose any information you have if requested to do so by authorities such as the police, child welfare professionals or other statutory agencies.

- The FA have published their guidance on RTCs, including the handbook of contacts in RTCs and the rules and regulations governing their operation and referencing the priority given to schools’ football. You can find the guidance on our website, [here](#).
- The FA have also published their updated Discipline Guidance, which can be found [here](#).

The full album of photos from the Rod Houston tournament are available to view online thanks to [353 Photography](#)

