



Football Futures
*The FA Young Leadership &
Volunteering Programme
2011/12 Season*

Football Futures



The Football Futures Programme is The FA's Volunteering Programme for young people up to the age of 25 who have an interest in getting involved in football leadership and volunteering. This can be in a range of environments be it at a school, college attached to a charter standard club or league or other likeminded partner. Young Leaders can choose from a range of activities, from assisting with the coaching or running of a team, acting as the press officer for a junior league, developing a film to promote a new activity for young people to play, refereeing or being a Respect Ambassador to name but a few.

Through Football Futures, young leaders will gain valuable experience and develop skills that can be applied to all walks of life. Once in the programme, Young Leaders will be offered support to gain football related qualifications such as coaching or refereeing qualifications. Young Leaders can track their volunteer hours and get rewarded through the Gloucestershire FA Football Futures rewards programme.





Football Futures

The FA Football Futures Leadership and Volunteering programme aims to recruit, retain, develop, reward and provide a progressive pathway for young leaders in order to develop a skilled football workforce. The young leader is placed at the heart of the Football Futures programme choosing what, where and how they wish to volunteer in football across six football themes:

Coaching

Refereeing

Running &
Supporting Events

Running &
Developing the Game

Promoting
the Game

Respect
Ambassador





Coaching

Coaching or working with a team in your college, school, university, a Charter Standard Club, the club links programmes, the FA Tesco Skills Programme or Football in the Community Schemes. This can be as small as assisting an experienced coach, to running one-off coaching sessions, to working with a team on a regular basis in training and also on a match day.

The FA Coach Scholarship Programme is designed to support the best young coaches in the country through mentoring support and a bursary to support you to seek out the courses that you need for your own personal development.



Refereeing



The refereeing or officiating that you do can be as small as volunteering to referee some under 8 games at school or officiating on a small-sided tournament. Once you have completed the basic refereeing course, you can then get involved in refereeing 11 a side football and become involved in your local charter standard leagues. You could even put yourself on the pathway to becoming the next Michael Oliver through the National Referee Development Programme.

There are now several courses for you to get involved in if you wish to do some refereeing. There are the mini-whistler's course, small-sided referee's workshops, Futsal Referee's course or the full basic refereeing course (14 years old +).



Running & Supporting Events



Assisting in the coordination and organisation of an event e.g. Intra school football or assisting in its running on the day, e.g. acting as a “pitch runner”. It can be any kind of event from intra school football to regional/national tournaments.

Events are a key part of the Football Futures programme and where a lot of you will probably be involved in some capacity. Even if you are a coach, your club or school might host a tournament that you are involved in. You could be acting as a “pitch runner”, coordinate the fixtures and results, act as referee liaison for the day or any of the other essential jobs that people need at a tournament.



Running & Developing the Game



Assisting in the running of a charter standard club or league or an intra school league. This can involve supporting the fixtures secretary, taking minutes at committee meetings or writing development plans etc.

This is a longer term volunteering project than the events strand. This could be acting as a fixtures secretary for a local league, or perhaps the intra-mural competition at your school, college or university. You may help to draw up a development plan for your club to help it maintain its charter standard status.



Promoting the Game



Promoting the game, for example website development or contributions, managing a Facebook group for a team or club or photography and film-making etc.

Many of you will probably have already been involved in promoting the game through your volunteering activities and not even have realised it! Have you created a Facebook group for your club, team or league? That is part of promoting the game. Running a website? Writing match reports? Photography? All are elements of promoting the game that many of you may have already been doing but not receiving the rewards for them – the Promoting the Game strand of the Football Futures programme is designed to cater for these activities.



Respect

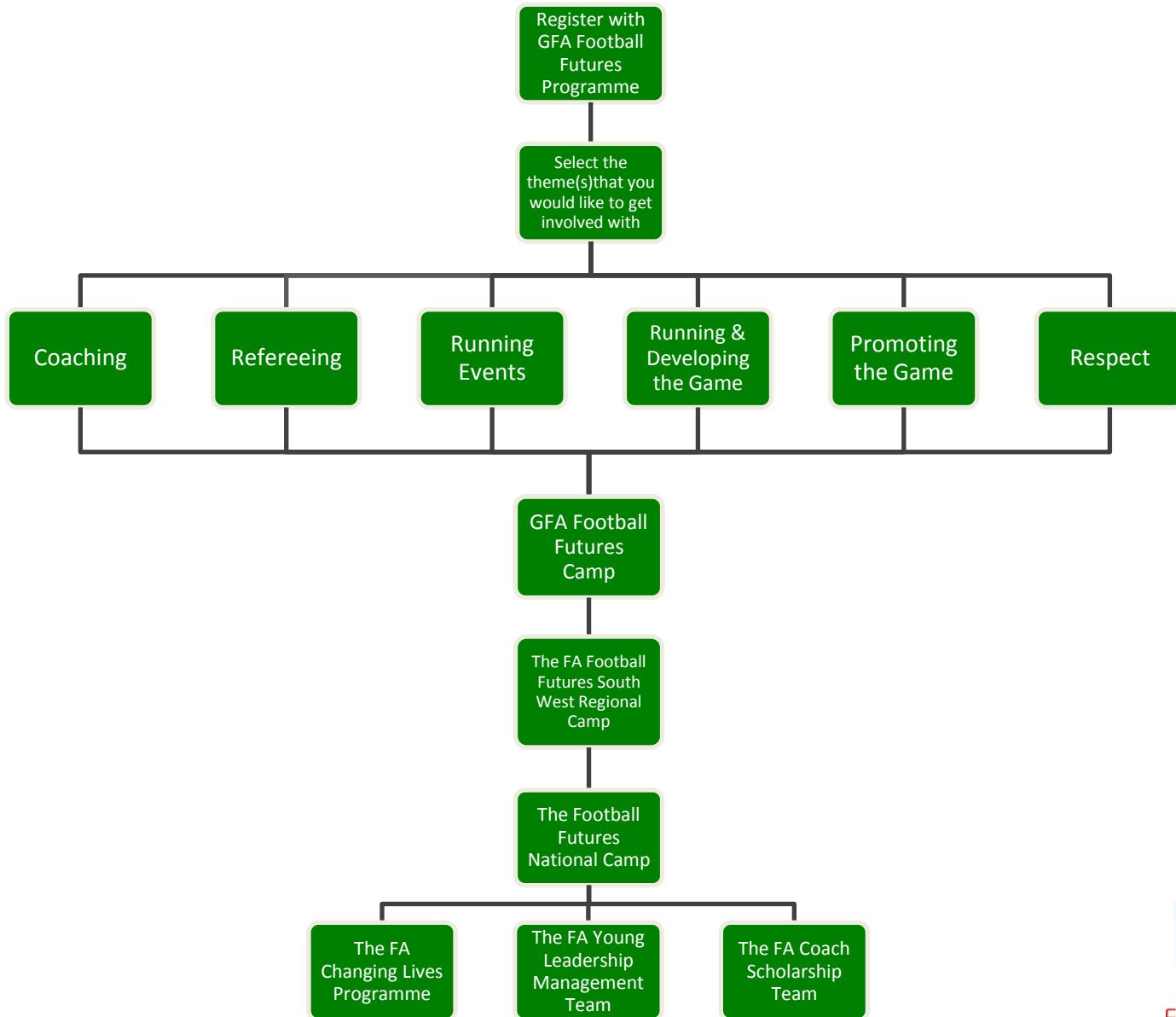


A Respect Ambassador will ensure that all players have signed up to the Respect Codes of Conduct, putting up Respect barriers and ensuring that teams all understand the competition rules and regulations etc.

This will work towards ensuring that the club, league, school, college or university's Respect practices are adhered to and rewarded through the programme.



Football Futures Pathway



Football Futures



County Camp

The Gloucestershire FA hold two annual one day county camps to provide continuous support for young leaders across the county. The one day camps hold a series of workshops, each based around the six themes of the Football Futures programme. These camps are open to all young leaders to attend and provide an invaluable introduction to the programme and how to get involved in football.

Regional Camp

The Gloucestershire FA are able to send a select group of young leaders to the annual South West Regional Camp, where young leaders are provided with extended support in their work and are exposed to new areas of football through which they can develop their work. The young leaders get to work alongside others from the different counties within the region as well as benefitting from the knowledge and experience of various members of staff.

National Camp

Each year The FA hold a week long residential camp for 100+ young leaders. County FA's nominate two outstanding candidates to attend the National Camp, who have displayed an impressive commitment to football as well as demonstrating their leadership skills. A full range of workshops based on a vast array of topics, delivered by staff from The FA, are held during the week to aid the development of the young leaders.



Football Futures



Football Futures Academy

The FA are currently developing a full range of scholarship and placement programmes to support and develop gifted and talented young leaders working within the game under the six themes of the Football Futures programme.

The FA Changing Lives Programme

From The FA National Camp a group of young leaders are invited to join the Changing Lives Programme, where they are given the opportunity to work with FA staff on projects around the world. In recent years young leaders have travelled to Africa and Trinidad to support children and provide footballing opportunities.



The FA Young Leadership Management Team

A group of outstanding young leaders are selected from The FA National Camp to join the leadership management team and be involved with the development and management of the following years camp. Again, this is a fantastic opportunity to be involved at a national level and help shape the Football Futures programme.



The FA Coach Scholarship Programme

The FA Coach Scholarship Programme is designed to support the best young coaches in the country through mentoring support and a bursary to support you to seek out the courses that you need for your own personal development.



Further Information



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