



EAST FIFE COMMUNITY FOOTBALL CLUB



PARENT & PLAYER INDUCTION PACK



WELCOME

Welcome and thank you for choosing East Fife Community Football Club (EFCFC) as the local football club for your family.

We as a club are sure you have many questions about what being a member of EFCFC means. Hopefully this information induction pack will answer a few questions and give you an idea of what we expect from our players, volunteers and parents.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your team representative or a senior club committee official whose details can be found at the end of this pack.



CLUB HISTORY

EFCFC was founded in 2013 when the various East Fife youth clubs became one. Although East Fife Ladies are still a separate entity there are strong links in place between both clubs and girls are actively encouraged to join EFCFC as a pathway to the ladies' senior teams. The idea of bringing all the parties together was to share the same vision, direction and have one ethos running consistently throughout the club which has created a stronger link to East Fife Football Club senior team. Players can join the club at the age of 18 months progressing through all the age groups throughout the club creating a pathway which links with Fife Elite Football Academy into East Fife first team.

The club has grown somewhat in recent years and we now have youth teams from ages 5 to 19, an over 35's team and an Amateur team, not to mention a variety of community activities for girls, women, boys and men. We also have a direct pathway to EFFC U20's team. The club have over 350 players registered from "Mini fifiers" to adults, and over 90 volunteer coaches and helpers.

The club has a "football for all" policy for all children, adults and volunteers. The day-to-day management of the club is carried out by a small volunteer committee and we are always actively encouraging new parents to become coaches, helpers and committee members.

EFCFC is accredited by the Scottish FA as a Platinum Quality Mark Legacy Status club in the community with the aim to provide support & opportunity to change lives for the better!



CLUB VISION

The overall and long-term vision of EFCFC is to create a positive experience and provide opportunities for the players within the club to develop their talent in a fun, safe and learning environment.

The club's aim is to not only produce and develop football players for Professional Football Club Academies to then play for East Fife Football Club's first team and East Fife Women's team, but also to provide support in the community for those that would like to be active and healthy.

We will be following the club vision and looking to develop technically, physically and tactically astute players in a safe, fun learning environment.

Our responsibility for the future of this club is to give budding talent the very best opportunity to flourish; we want to make EFCFC a place where today's talent can be part of the games future.

CLUB VALUES

Our players are at the centre of everything we do – our focus is to help them reach their potential and develop in a fun, safe environment.

The club has a number of values in which all coaches, players, volunteers and club members must ensure are upheld, and is always striving to increase and add to these core values.

- Respect
- Honesty
- Enjoyment
- Team Work
- Sportsmanship
- Integrity
- Realism



CLUB PHILOSOPHY

At EFCFC we believe in providing a positive learning environment where players are challenged and are allowed to develop technically, tactically, physically and psychologically.

Our goal is to not only educate players, but to also let the players have fun through a learning experience. We believe the balance of fun and learning is essential to the development of a player, individually and collectively as part of teams.

Our identity as a club is not only expressed through the way we play football, but also through our coaching methodology and the relationships we have with our players and their parents.

At EFCFC there are key areas of football which we try to promote and embed into our teams' style of play. We strongly believe that training session should, as practically as possible, be with a ball.

The club follows the Scottish FA's national player pathway model for football development.



CLUB VOLUNTEER COACHES

EFCFC are dedicated to our volunteers who give freely of their valuable time in providing a stimulating, challenging, supportive and fun football experience to participants in the club.

The club's committee will endeavour to support these volunteers in their work by providing an environment where all activities are carried out in a safe, fun manner at all times conducted in the spirit of "Fair Play".

The club committee recognise the value of having appropriately qualified personnel in the club and therefore will endeavour to support any of our coaches in the coach education process with the Scottish FA.

The coaches must create a welcoming and positive environment for the children to play football and will always look to put the children, their needs and their safety first at all times.

The training sessions will look to provide fun and enjoyable activity suitable to the age & stage of players, which will look to be well organised and planned practices and games that stimulate the players.

Communicate appropriately with children and encourage children to have freedom to express themselves. Use teachable moments to educate young players and be a good role model.

Be patient with players during transition periods of the game formats and also with growth and body maturation.

The coaches will look to motivate and encourage the players to be the best they possibly can be for each individual.

Important to remember, the coaches are volunteers and do not have all the answers.

“Volunteers are not paid – not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless.”



CHILD SAFETY & PROTECTION

For the club to continually maintain the standards and safety of our players all coaches and volunteers must complete the minimum qualification standards set by the club;

All new volunteers working for the club must complete a PVG form within the designated timescale to allow the club to complete a check with Disclosure Scotland as they will be working with children and protected adults. They must also complete a child and wellbeing and mental health course.

Disclosure Scotland continually monitor PVG scheme members records for criminal convictions that may affect their suitability to work with vulnerable groups.

If your child has any medical condition or allergy, then you must make this known by completing the section on the registration system and informing your coach.

We do everything we can to ensure our players are safe and we expect parents and guardians to do the same. Two volunteer coaches or parents per team are required to have completed a relevant two-day first aid course every three years who will also be PVG disclosure checked, however we are not allowed to administer any prescribed medication to a player.



PLAYER EXPECTATIONS

All club players must act responsibly before, during and after each training session/match with the club. Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated.

All players should wear the training kit provided. Each player is responsible for their own kit. The Players must wear shin guards and football boots for all football training sessions and matches.

Any absence or injury must be reported to the team secretary at the earliest possible time. We all have a responsibility to make sure all players, visitors feel welcome. If there is a deliberate attempt to cause another player harm, either physically or mentally will result in the individual being removed from the club immediately.

The players must show respect for the kit and equipment provided by the club and ensure that it is kept safe and maintained. Players will be encouraged to practice the techniques and skills taught by the club and attempt to apply them in matches. Players must adhere to the club's code of conduct and rules.

The players should always in training and games provide maximum commitment, build on their successes, try to improve on their weaknesses, learn from their mistakes and most importantly enjoy the experience.



PLAYER FAIR PLAY ETHOS

Players, when playing football in both training sessions and matches will always work hard to be the best player they can be, even if the team is losing or the opposition is stronger.

Rules all club players look to follow:

- Always play in a sporting and friendly way, play to win but play fairly;
- Play because you want to and not because you are forced to – ENJOY!
- Learn the rules, accept them and play by them and never argue with the referee;
- Respect your opponents and the spectators;
- Never swear, cheat or play act;
- Never tell a player from either side he/she is no good or mock him for making a mistake;
- Do not overreact when your team scores, be a good loser as well as a winner;
- Shake hands with your opponents;
- Do your best at all times;
- Encourage your team and supporters to respect players, officials, coaches and spectators from both teams.



PARENTS/GUARDIANS FAIR PLAY ETHOS

Parents and guardians of the players must adhere to the club's fair play ethos:

- Remain outside the field of play and behind the designated spectator area;
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting or abusive language or behaviour;
- Always respect the match official and coaches decisions;
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success;
- Remember that children play for FUN and development;
- Let the coaches do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do;
- Understand that the club has a detailed coaching curriculum and players Philosophy regardless of winning or losing;
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition and match officials;
- Never criticise a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of individual and collective learning.

Positive Coaching Scotland

Our vision is a football culture in Scotland where young players are developed in a positive, safe environment, where they learn to win through effort and where valuable life lessons are developed. Through the Positive Coaching Scotland programme we are driving change.

Positive Coaching Scotland gives all involved in the game the tools to develop happy, successful, confident, and respectful young people. We want our players to win, just not at all costs, and we want them to stay involved in the game through to adulthood.

Unfortunately, across all levels of the youth game, coaches focused on winning at all costs, irresponsible parents piling pressure on their children, violence on the touchline and disrespect for officials have become far too common. Therefore, it's no surprise a high proportion of players are lost to football at a young age and we aren't producing enough high performing players. Coaches, parents, volunteers, officials and players alike, let's work together to change our culture.

Our Strategy

The PCS programme is a double goal strategy:

The first goal is teaching young people vital character building skills through football, skills that will equip them for life. The second goal is winning. Learning to compete effectively is a necessity in all areas of life. We want to win, just not at all costs, but through applying concerted effort to achieve set goals. We use three key principles:

Honour Our Game

Teach everyone involved how to honour their team-mates, opponents, the rules, officials, and themselves.

Redefine Winning

Move the focus from the scoreboard to succeeding and winning through effort.

Fill the emotional tank

Build a young player's confidence, motivation and resilience.

For more information on Positive Coaching Scotland – www.scottishfa.co.uk



SOCIAL MEDIA

EFCFC wishes to ensure, as practically as possible, that all internet and social media postings are acceptable. To achieve this requirement all users must access any internet and social media in an acceptable manner.

The policy provides guidance on the procedures that will support the use of social networking and other online services within the club. It is important that all players, volunteers and parents or anyone working on behalf of them are aware of this policy and agree to the terms.

A full copy of the Social Media policy is available on My Club Hub and in the club document pack.

Club Document Pack

You will find all documents on our website under the policies section:-

1. Club constitution
2. Parent and Guardian code of conduct for junior players
3. 11+ code of conduct
4. Equity statement
5. Health & safety policy
6. Junior teams code of conduct
7. Volunteer code of conduct
8. Social media code of conduct
9. Child well-being policy



ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

We hope your child will enjoy their session within the team and will want to come back and be a full-time member of the club.

If this is the case, we ask that you speak with your team representative who will assist you in registering on our online system.

If for any reason you have difficulty in paying the monthly fees, please speak to your team secretary immediately so we are aware of any circumstances we may be able to assist with. Information going forward will be given to you by team secretaries, but please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Fees are set annually at our AGM and are paid monthly by Direct Debit.

There is also an annual registration fee which for younger teams is paid around November time and older teams in May. The annual registration fee helps towards re-registering the team and kids with the SYFA. As part of annual registration all kids will be issued with training t-shirt and shorts.



USEFUL WEBSITE LINKS

www.eastfifecommunityfootballclub.com - East Fife Community Football Club

<http://www.scottishyouthfa.co.uk/> - Scottish Youth Football Association

www.scottishfa.co.uk - Scottish Football Association

www.winningscotlandfoundation.org - Positive Coaching Scotland

www.disclosurescotland.co.uk - Disclosure Scotland



CLUB CONTACTS

Director of Football – Dave Heddle: Directoroffootball@efcfc.co.uk

Club Secretary – Michelle Brand: secratary@efcfc.co.uk

Child Protection Officer – Andrew Morrison: scoonie40@gmail.com

Facilities Co-ordinator – John Walker: John.walker27@btinternet.com

Head of Development – Antony McMinn: development@efcfc.co.uk

Head of Community Coach – Gregor Rodger: community@efcfc.co.uk

Treasurer – Michelle Brand: treasurer@efcfc.co.uk