E S F A

Membership Matters

Edition #9 - June 17

The ESFA's Annual General Meeting is due to take place on Saturday 25th November 2017 at the Beacon Centre in Stafford. The indicative agenda is as follows, but to be confirmed:

10.00 Workshop
12.00 Buffet Lunch
13.00 Annual General Meeting
15.30 (latest) Depart

Please hold the date in your diary: we will seek confirmation of attendance when formal papers are issued

GRADUATE INTERNSHIP

Following his appointment to the ESFA's graduate internship vacancy in September 2016, Ben Brookes has been acting in a voluntary capacity as a National Competitions Co-ordinator, supporting the National Competitions Department to deliver another outstanding season of football. Leading on the Under 12 Impact Trophies Football Fives and the Regional U18 Leagues as well as undertaking Competitions Secretary duties for the B Team Cup and Small Schools' Cup competitions at various age groups. Ben also used his excellent communication skills to write match reports for national finals, a task which required a good command of the English language as well as an inherent passion for football.

Commenting on his time at the ESFA, Ben said, "It has been both a pleasure and an immense privilege to be part of the English Schools' FA for the last season. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone involved with the Association for providing me with the chance to gain some practical experience in the field of Football Administration and the inner workings of a National Governing Body at the same time. In particular, there are a couple of groups of people that I would like to thank especially. Firstly, it was abundantly clear from my time here that there are a number of very passionate people involved at the sharp end of delivering schools' football whether that be in the capacity of a P.E. teacher, Referee or a County Administrator for example; without your contribution school's football, both in your respective regions and nationally would suffer greatly so I would like to place my appreciation on record to these individuals for making my job easier, it really does make a difference. Secondly, I would like to thank everyone at the English Schools' FA Headquarters and Council for giving me the opportunity to grow as a person and allowing me to work in such an enjoyable environment to contribute to. Lastly, I would like wish everyone the very best of luck for the future."

Ben leaves the Association on 30th June, following the successful conclusion of his internship. We thank Ben for all of his hard work, his diligence and his customer service in his time with us and wish him every success in future.

ESFA NATIONAL CUP FINALS

Since the May edition of MM, the majority of the remaining national finals have been completed. On 29th April, the Ricoh Arena hosted the U16 and U18 boys' Inter County Trophy finals. In the U16 age group, Staffordshire were victorious over Greater Manchester, winning 4-2 on penalties. The U18 match was also undecided at full time, with Essex ultimately defeating Durham by 2 goals to 1 after extra time. The Chairman of the Association was magnanimous in defeat when awarding the trophy!

A few days later, at Birmingham City, 6 matches were contested over three days, despite the stoppage of play on one of these days, due to poor visibility arising from a fire next to the ground. On 4th May, Kent and Berkshire County Schools' FAs contested the PlayStation U14 Inter County Trophy for boys, with Kent emerging victorious by 4-0. The PlayStation u15 Inter Association Trophy was won by Wirral SFA (Merseyside SFA) who defeated Swansea SFA by a narrow 2-1. The following week, on 9th May, the PlayStation U15 School Cup for B teams was won by Cardinal Heenan Catholic Sports College (Liverpool), who needed extra time to defeat Thomas Tallis School (Blackheath) 4-2. On the same day, Derbyshire County Schools' FA were victorious in the U16 Inter County Girls' Trophy, beating Sussex 2-0.

The final day at Birmingham City (11th May) saw North Kent and Newcastle upon Tyne DSFAs contest the PlayStation U13 Inter Association Trophy, with Newcastle enjoying a 2-1 victory. On the same day, Kent CSFA were crowned national champions of the PlayStation U14 Inter County Girls competition, following their 2-0 defeat of Lancashire.

Onward thereafter to Derby County for the 15 scheduled PlayStation Schools' Cups. The National Competitions Department hosted a packed three days which included professional player appearances, a best mascot competition, the "decibel-ometer" to identify the loudest spectators and the cross bar challenge. The weather eventually defeated us with the final two matches of the event being cancelled due to rain: more on those later on. In the meantime, fixtures and results can be found on Page 3.

The Danone Nations Cup Finals, this year hosted at Stoke City, saw 32 entrants play through knock out rounds to reach the final on the day. Results were as follows:

U11 Inter Association Trophy	Middlesborough PSFA defeated South Birmingham PSFA 1 - 0
U11 Schools' Cup for School Teams	Victoria College Preparatory School (channel Islands CSFA) defeated Fair Oak Junior School (Hampshire CSFA) 3 – 0
U11 Schools' Cup for Girls	Greenside Primary School (Greater Manchester CSFA) defeated Broadstoke Middle School (Dorset CSFA) 3 - 2
U11 Small Schools' Cup	Loyola School (Essex SFA) defeated Baston School (Lincs CSFA) 2 - 0

Match reports from these fixtures can be viewed on the ESFA website's "news" page.

All that now remain, once the PlayStation U14 Schools' Cup for Girls is rescheduled, are the U11 District Finals are scheduled for 10th June at Derby County's Academy, then the two U12 9 a side finals, which will conclude the national finals programme for this season.

PlayStation U12 Schools' Cup for Boys		
Northampton School for Boys (Northampton SFA)	1-4	Thomas Telford School (Telford & Wrekin SFA)
PlayStation U13 Schools' Cup for Girls		
St Ivo School (Huntingdon SFA)	5-6 (p)	Chesterfield High School (Sefton SFA)
PlayStation U12 Schools' Cup for B Teams		
Wright Robinson College (Manchester SFA)	0-1	Whitgift School (Croydon SFA)
PlayStation U14 Open Schools' Cup		
Ashfield School (Ashfield & Mansfield SFA)	4-2	The Oxford Academy (Oxford City SFA)
PlayStation U15 Schools' Cup for Girls		
Heathside School (Woking SFA)	1-5	South Hunsley School (East Riding SFA)
PlayStation U14 Schools' Cup for B Teams		
Carshalton Boys' Sports College (Sutton SFA)	5-4 (p)	Audenshaw School (Tameside SFA)
PlayStation U13 Small Schools' Cup		
Ibstock Place School Richmond SFA)	1-2	The De La Salle Academy (Liverpool SFA)
PlayStation U13 Schools' Cup for B Teams		
Kingsdale School (South London SFA)	3-4 (p)	Walkden High School (Salford SFA)
PlayStation U14 Small Schools' Cup		
Bury Grammar School (Bury Metro SFA)	4-3	St Bernard's Catholic Grammar School (Slough SFA)
PlayStation U15 Small Schools' Cup		
Ellesmere Port Catholic High School (Ellesmere Port SFA)	0-5	Langley School (Norwich SFA)
PlayStation U12 Open Schools' Cup		
Riddlesdown Collegiate (Croydon SFA)	2-4 (p)	Thomas Telford School (Telford & Wrekin SFA)
PlayStation U13 Schools' Cup for Boys		
St Bede's Catholic Middle School (Redditch SFA)	2-0	All Hallows Catholic School
PlayStation U13 Open Schools' Cup		
Whitgift School (Croydon SFA)	4-5 (p)	Thomas Telford School (Telford & Wrekin SFA)

Match 14 of the three day programme, the PlayStation U14 Schools' Cup for Girls, was the first weather-affected match and this will now be scheduled after half term. Match 15, however, the PlayStation U15 Open Schools' Cup, contested between Nene Park Academy (Peterborough SFA) and Sandwell Academy (Sandwell SFA) took place on 20th May at The Hawthorns in West Bromwich, where Sandwell Academy needed extra time to secure their victory by 4 goals to 2.

20th May also saw the conclusion of both the PlayStation U14 and U15 Schools' Cups for Boys hosted by Everton FC at Goodison Park. In the U14 contest, Beths Grammar School (North Kent) were crowned national champions following their 5-1 defeat of St Francis Xavier's College (Liverpool). St Francis Xavier's had better fortunes in the U15 age group, emerging victorious after a penalty shootout gave them the title, with a 5-4 final score.

ESFA AFFILIATION

The ESFA will open the affiliation window during the week commencing Monday 19 June and will circulate an email to prompt association secretaries to login and register. In the meantime, we advise you of this important information that you will require at the time of completing your online affiliation application.

Welfare Officers: If your Association is running representative team(s) then the Association must have a fully compliant Welfare Officer in place. Associations must ensure that all information is accurate and up-to-date. Please, check all your Welfare Officer and staff details carefully.

Your Welfare Officer must have:
• An in-date FA Criminal Record Check (CRC)
• Attended the FA Safeguarding Workshop within the last 3 years (or updated online)
• Have attended the FA Welfare Officer Workshop

Your affiliation will be refused until you have an FA compliant Welfare Officer for your Rep teams.

Registration of Rep. Team Staff: It is very important that we know who is coaching and managing teams for your Association and that they are FA CRC checked and have had appropriate safeguarding training. Therefore, all staff will need to be registered on our online database:
• For each representative team you are running, you must enter details of all the management and coaching staff against that team.
• All Staff working with teams must have an accepted FA CRC (within the last 3 years) and have attended FA Safeguarding (or, for practising teachers, LEA) training within the last 3 years
• Failing this the registration of an individual representative TEAM will be SUSPENDED i.e. the team will not be able to play representative fixtures or train until the suspension is lifted
• If you are unable to designate staff for a particular age group team then you will be unable to complete the affiliation process
• An individual member of staff may only have designated overall control of a maximum of two (2) teams
• We will check the FA CRC status and inform you by email if a CRC needs to be updated
• The affiliation will not be accepted until the CRC is accepted

The dates of CRCs will now be visible on the ESFA Portal and the system will flag up when a CRC needs to be renewed, 6 months prior to the date of renewal.

We appreciate that these are "more changes" but we feel we will now have in place a system that will enable the ESFA to move forward with confidence in terms of safeguarding, and ensuring that all the necessary checks and training are undertaken.

We thank you for the support you have given us; for the work that you have done and continue to do within your Associations and assure you that we will continue to give you all the support that we can - we are only a phone call or an email away. If you have any welfare related enquiries, please contact Sarah DaCosta (sarah.dacosta@schoolsfa.com (M) 07960 500723) or Martin Duffield (martin.duffield@schoolsfa.com (M) 07852 276416 or (T) 01384 242526).

INTERNATIONAL TEAM MANAGER AND PLAYER INTERVIEWS

Read the fascinating insights provided by our current U18 boys' team manager and our former U15 girls' team manager following their interviews with Andy Williams, Council Member, North:
www.esfa.co.uk/news/?2017/05/10/121856/international-focus-qa-with-team-managers-past-and-present

Share the celebration of success with Aiden Stone, U18 goalkeeper, as he reflects on how his English Schoolboys' career has contributed to him signing his first professional contract
www.esfa.co.uk/news/?2017/05/25/141624/england-u18-keeper-lands-premier-league-contract-for-2017