**Suffolk FA Youth Retention Fund Application Form – 2024-25**

Suffolk FA launched a new fund for the 2021/22 season to support families who are facing financial challenges caused by the pandemic, meaning young players are in danger of not being able to play for an affiliated team. It will be continuing for the 2024-25 season.

The Youth Retention Fund will support the cost of young players’ club membership fees and other expenses in a bid to prevent children dropping out of football simply because of the cost of playing.

For 2024-25, clubs are able to access different levels of funding depending on the number of youth teams affiliated to the club, with each individual application having a maximum award of £150.

* Clubs with 1-29 youth teams – a maximum of £600 per club (max of £150 per each individual award)
* Clubs with 30-39 youth teams – a maximum of £750 per club (max of £150 per each individual award)
* Clubs with 40-49 youth teams – a maximum of £900 per club (max of £150 per each individual award)
* Clubs with 50+ youth teams – a maximum of £1050 per club (max of £150 per each individual award)

Funding for 2024-25 is again being provided from the Suffolk FA Benevolent Fund. For applications to be considered, the club whom an applicant represents will need to have made at least a £10 donation to the Suffolk FA Benevolent Fund for the 2024-25 season.

Applications can be made on behalf of families by club secretaries or agencies such as social services, GPs or schools, but must be supported by a club affiliated to Suffolk FA for the 2024-25 season.

Grant payments will be made directly to the child's club will go towards fees or in some circumstances additional costs such as kit, packed lunches or entry fees for tournaments.

Applicants will be asked to outline what the financial support will be used for, and the reasons behind the application. They will also be asked to evidence what other support will mean the young player continues throughout the season and beyond. Applications for those who received support during the 2023-24 season are welcomed.

To apply, please complete the below form honestly and in its entirety and return it to [info@suffolkfa.com](mailto:info@suffolkfa.com). Once receipt of the form has been acknowledged, we will aim to provide an outcome to the application within 10 working days. Any fraudulent applications to the fund will be reported. The closing date for applications is 31st March 2025.

**A** Bill Steward House,

The Buntings, Stowmarket,

Suffolk, IP14 5GZ

**T** 01449 616606

**E** info@suffolkfa.com

Registered in England No 3831570

Registered Charity No 1198767

VAT Registration No 785 700605

**What will the grant cover i.e. Club annual membership fees, kit, travel (i.e. bus or train ticket to local event), food vouchers to attend an event, entry fees to tournaments etc?**

**Date the grant cover is ideally requested to start?  
*Suffolk FA will endeavour to provide cover from a requested date when possible.***

**Child’s FA number:**

**Child’s Address:**

**Football Club:**

**Team and Age Group for 2024-25 season:**

**How long has the child played for the club?:**

**Name of person making application, position, organisation and contact information:**

**Relationship to child:**

**Date of Birth:**

**Name of Child:**

**Please outline any support that the child's club has previously or is currently providing the child?   
*Please include as much detail as possible to support the application***

**Please outline the child's circumstances which have led to this application being made?   
*Please include as much detail as possible to support the application***

**Total grant amount requested?   
*Max limit of £150.00 per child***

**Please explain how this grant will help retain the child in football?  
*Please include as much detail as possible to support the application***

**Please confirm the club has donated at least £10 to the Suffolk FA Benevolent Fund for the 2024/25 season**  Yes  No  Don’t Know **Please tick the box below which is the size of the club.  
Club has 1-29 youth teams**

**Please provide any further details which may support the application to the Youth Retention Fund?**

**Please outline any other support the child or family has previously or is currently receiving? For example: Free School Meals*.   
Please include as much detail as possible to support the application***

**Club has 30-39 youth teams**

**Club has 40-49 youth teams**

**Club has 50+ youth teams**

**Name, position and organisation of person completing this form:**

**Signature:**

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