

What it takes to meet the standard: Club Criteria from 2020/21



The FA Charter Standard accreditation is for Clubs which are proud to be the places people want to play and enjoy grassroots football. The programme aims to raise standards in grassroots football, support the development of Clubs and Leagues as well as to recognise and reward commitment and achievement. Any Club affiliated to a County FA can apply. The criteria are challenging, but attainable, designed to encourage sustainable grassroots football in positive environments.

LEVELS OF ACCREDITATION

Different levels of accreditation are available. Each level recognises exceptional provision of grassroots football:

The FA Charter Standard Club Youth

The FA Charter Standard Development Club

The FA Charter Standard Club Adult

The FA Charter Standard Community Club

The levels are designed to ensure The FA Charter Standard reflects the diverse environments we find in different grassroots Clubs. The levels allow The FA to support various Clubs' ambitions and capacities to deliver different types of football. County FAs can choose to support Clubs to achieve new levels when a Club feels ready and able to offer new standards of football.

THE ROLE OF COUNTY FAs

County FAs should use the following criteria to assess Club and League applications. The criteria will inform their decision to award the accreditation and help Counties decide to which level a Club should be accredited.

THE CRITERIA

To become accredited all Clubs must be able to demonstrate a minimum standard. County FAs should support applicants to meet these criteria.

As a minimum all Clubs must:

Be **affiliated** to a County FA

Have at least one **team in a League** sanctioned by The FA

Have a **bank account in the Club's name** recommended for single team Clubs and mandatory for Clubs with more than one team

Provide a **financial statement** approved by the Club's committee

Have a **disciplinary record** within The FA Respect discipline threshold (if in existence for more than one season)

Operate within a set of **Club rules**

Have a **Club equality policy**

Adopt **The FA Respect Code of Conduct**

Meet the **annual commitment set out in the application form**

Criteria for different accreditation levels Clubs must satisfy criteria specific to the relevant level they are applying for. This is in addition to the minimum criteria above.

In addition to the minimum criteria all **Adult Clubs** must:

Have a first aider for each team with an in date **FA Level 1 introduction to first aid in football (IFAIF)**. If the first aider is a player an additional first aider is required

Complete the **Club Planning Document**

In addition to the minimum criteria all **Youth Clubs** must:

Have Club officials who are proud to make their **environment safe, fun and inclusive for all**

Provide **recent committee meeting minutes**

Have a **Club Safeguarding Policy**

Have **FA Enhanced Criminal Record Checks (CRC)** for all relevant officials

Have a first aider for each adult team with an in date **FA Level 1 introduction to first aid in football (IFAIF)**

At least one **FA Level 1 qualified coach** per team with in date **first aid (IFAIF)** and **Safeguarding Children certificate**

Have a coach:player ratio of **1:16 or less**

Provide links to **attract new players and opportunities to move, transition or progress players**



In addition to the minimum criteria all Development Clubs must:

Have Club officials who are proud to make their **environment safe, fun and inclusive for all**

Provide **recent committee meeting minutes**

Have a **Club Safeguarding Policy**

Have **FA Enhanced Criminal Record Checks (CRC)** for all relevant officials

Have a first aider for each adult team with an in date **FA Level 1 introduction to first aid in football (IFAIF)**

At least one **FA Level 1 qualified coach** per team with in date **first aid (IFAIF) and Safeguarding Children certificate**

Have at least one **FA Level 2 qualified coach with one team**

Have a coach:player ratio of **1:16 or less**

Provide links to **attract new players and opportunities to move, transition or progress players**

A minimum of **5 teams covering at least 4 different age groups**

Have a **football development plan covering at least three years**

In addition to the minimum criteria all Community Clubs must:

Have Club officials who are proud to make their **environment safe, fun and inclusive for all**

Provide **recent committee meeting minutes**

Have a **Club Safeguarding Policy**

Have **FA Enhanced Criminal Record Checks (CRC)** for all relevant officials

Have a first aider for each adult team with an in date **FA Level 1 introduction to first aid in football (IFAIF)**

At least one **FA Level 1 qualified coach** per team with in date **first aid (IFAIF) and Safeguarding Children certificate**

Have at least two **FA Level 2 qualified coaches within the club**

Have one person who has attended **The FA Developing Coaches through Mentoring course**

Have a coach:player ratio of **1:16 or less**

Provide links to **attract new players and opportunities to move, transition or progress players**

Have at least **10 teams covering mini-soccer, youth and adult football**

Have at least **one male and one female team**

Have a **football development plan covering at least three years**

