



The FA Charter Standard Club Programme

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

FC 20__ / __ - 20__ / __



Develop a shared vision for the club that is inspirational and not only shared by the club committee but by its members and partners. By involving as many people as you can in the creation and then the implementation of the vision, responsibilities will be easier to be disseminated and more can be achieved.

The Club Development Table is a summary of the number of teams it wishes to retain and develop within the various categories of football over the period of the plan.

Set realistic targets and don't be afraid to change them season by season as you review the plan.

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Running Your Club

To ensure the club has the appropriate legal structure, has the right people and processes in place that allows it to operate effectively and efficiently, in order to sustain its activities.

Tip

The correct club structure will allow the club to run its affairs in an effective and efficient manor from making decisions, collecting subs to presenting itself professionally to members and potential sponsors and funders. Using the Sport England’s Club Matters programme together with FA support and resources, the club may attract added investment and become more tax efficient and able to access Gift Aid.

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Retain & Increase Participation

To support and retain all existing players and teams within the club and look to develop opportunities where gaps in provision exist locally and introduce new male and especially new female players to the game.

Tip

Can the club run summer camps to support new U7 and U8 teams and identify any teams that may be struggling for players towards the end of each season and proactively recruit new players to these teams? Many playing opportunities exists for boys but not so many for girls wishing to play, so could the club look to create new female only mini-soccer teams with support from their County FA?

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Player Development -
Better Young Players

To create a positive environment for every player to develop key essential skills to reach his or her potential. Ensure player pathways exist to aid player development and ensure teams compete at appropriate levels of competition.

Tip

The 5-11 age groups are critical when developing technical skills so can the club identify how they support these players in this crucial part of their learning? FA Charter Standard clubs can receive support from their County FA and the FA Skills Team to help them with this. Can clubs identify the correct competitions available to cater for the ability of their teams ensuring they are playing in a challenging and appropriate level? Again the County FA can support clubs.

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Coach Development

To recruit, develop and retain a coaching workforce that supports player development and retention. To develop a support structure for coaches within the club ensuring they can continue to develop and learn and remain motivated.

Tip

The County FA and FA run many development evenings that coaches can attend to develop thier knowledge. Support can also be received through the FA Licensed Coaches Club, including session planners and tips from other coaches. The FA Mentoring Adults workshop is a great way to retain experienced coaches within the club and pass on their knowledge to new coaches through occasionally supporting them.

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Supporting the Football Workforce

To ensure the club has the right people in place to run the club and that all volunteers feel supported and valued in what they do. Look to divide responsibilities across all available people within the club to lighten the load on existing volunteers and look to introduce new volunteers periodically.

Tip

It is important to recognise the great work that volunteers do within the club so can the club create a process for recognising their volunteers as well as players at different times throughout the season. By asking each volunteer to recruit a deputy will allow them to share their knowledge and some of their workload, as well as being a good succession plan for the club.

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Improved Playing & Training Facilities

To identify and secure the required facilities for fixtures and training, catering for the expected growth identified in the development plan. Access support to improve the quality of the playing surfaces and changing facilities

Tip

Is the club able to assess it’s future requirements and demand for training and match fixtures and identify potential sites where they can play? The County FA will be able to provide support for those wishing to improve or develop their own facilities but the club needs to understand it’s future demand. Who are the key partners the club needs to engage with to achieve these ambitions?

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Please contact your County FA for any enquiries

