



## **Membership Matters- October 2024**

Welcome to October's edition of Membership Matters, the second edition of this schools' football season. We hope all Members have had an enjoyable start to the season and find the information below helpful and interesting. We ask that you share this email far and wide within your schools' football networks to ensure all members are kept as up to date as possible with ESFA activity and messages.

### **A welcome message from ESFA Chair, Nick Loftus**

“Well, the season's now underway. Trials done, teams selected and games kicking off.

Schools' football provides something 'unique and special' that children can't always get from playing in grassroots clubs or even if they are registered at professional clubs. I really appreciate the efforts of people who create great learning and educational benefits through the medium of schools' football. I am sure that the students in your care and their parents and guardians appreciate your efforts too. Thank you again and keep doing what you do for schools' football”



### **ESFA CEO Visits Gloucester Primary Schools' FA**

The ESFA's CEO, Andrea Chilton, was invited by Gloucester Primary Schools' FA to attend one of their events on Saturday 5th October. Andrea highlighted multiple areas of good practice within the Association, including a mutually beneficial relationship with a local school venue, a focus on family engagement and celebration of success and a real sense of community.

To read Andrea's full writeup from the event, please click [here](#).

The CEO is keen to join members at one of your events or your meetings this season. Drop Andrea a note on [Andrea.chilton@schoolsfa.com](mailto:Andrea.chilton@schoolsfa.com) if there are particular dates which would work for you.



## ESFA priorities and business plan

Now that the ESFA's funding contract with the FA for the season has been finalised, we can share our priority areas for development and some of our key targets. You can see a summary of our business plan [here](#) and our menu of activities [here](#). Some of our key targets include recruiting 15,000 players, of which 10,000 must be girls, to our primary age "Hotshots" campaign; recruiting 11,000 girls to our "Equaliser" programme and 200 more to our confidence builder programme. Schools' Football Week remains a priority, as does the further work to support volunteer recruitment, retention, recognition and reward. We aim to continue to diversify our income and to become more profitable to allow the continued investment in representative football, whilst achieving the FA's S365 standard and the new Code of Governance. For more details on any of these activities please contact your local Council Member or [andrea.chilton@schoolsfa.com](mailto:andrea.chilton@schoolsfa.com)

## ESFA AGM Part 2

A Notification to all members that the ESFA AGM Part 2 will take place on 28 November 2024 at 7pm. Only FORMAL Associations will be eligible to vote on matters arising during the meeting. The meeting will take place online via teams. The formal notification and registration information will follow this week – please read it carefully to ensure that you reserve your place.

## Does your Association need volunteers?

The ESFA has recently launched a new [volunteer recruitment webpage](#) which gives Associations the opportunity to promote any volunteer vacancies with a view to sharing these opportunities to a much wider audience to help fill volunteer recruitment gaps.

Since the launch of the new volunteering campaign across the ESFA's social media channels, the specially designed webpage has received over 6,500 views and we have had plenty of enquiries from individuals looking to volunteer across the country.



The impact of this campaign has been clear to see with various Associations reporting that they have filled vacancies and had plenty of volunteers looking to get involved.

If you have any vacancies within your Association or need any additional support from volunteers, please ensure your Association Secretary fills out the form [here](#) to submit the available opportunities.

Alternatively, please contact [daniel.Smith@schoolsfa.com](mailto:daniel.Smith@schoolsfa.com) if you need any further guidance or information.

**ESFA Enterprises Coaching Camps**



For members who attended the summer AGM, you will be aware that the ESFA has created a wholly owned subsidiary company through which to conduct non-charitable (ie profit-making) commercial activities. The first project is the summer coaching camps, which will run in July 2025. We anticipate opening registrations for the camps on Weds 23rd October and would very much welcome any support you can give in publicising this activity.

The camps will take place in July 2025 at Marlborough College. We are aiming to register 50 boys at U14 (for the camp which starts on 21st July) and 100 girls at U15 (for the camp which starts on 28th July). You can find more details on the ESFA Enterprises website [here](#). You can also follow @esfaenterprises on X, Instagram and Facebook and share any posts from these channels across your own, to help promote these new opportunities for players.

Please remember that this is not part of the ESFA's core charitable purpose. The reason for running these camps at all, and specifically through the subsidiary company, is so that the company can donate its profits back to the charity, creating unrestricted income and profits which can be distributed to ESFA Membership.

If you have any questions, please contact Andrea on [Andrea.Chilton@schoolsfa.com](mailto:Andrea.Chilton@schoolsfa.com).

**Rep Football Roundup**



Haydn Evans-Wood, the Competitions Co-Ordinator for the ESFA's representative competitions has written a short report on the progress of the ESFA's inter-Association competitions so far this season. The roundup highlights the achievements of teams within the competition and aims to celebrate successes of Associations and the players involved.

Read the full report on our website [here](#).

### ESFA Newsletters for Secondary and Primary Schools



The ESFA has recently introduced two brand new newsletters, one for primary and one for secondary schools. The aim of these newsletters is to summarise the Association's activities and make as many teachers as possible aware of the array of schools' football opportunities that the ESFA provides.

The newsletters will be distributed termly, ensuring teachers are reminded of the Association's activities and how they can get involved.

You can view the inaugural versions of the newsletters via the links below:

[Primary Newsletter](#)

[Secondary Newsletter](#)

It would be great if members could share these newsletters with schools in their area by sending the links above, to ensure as many schools as possible are aware of the ESFA's schools' football opportunities. If you have any questions on this, please do not hesitate to contact Jacob Blades on [Jacob.Blades@schoolsfa.com](mailto:Jacob.Blades@schoolsfa.com) . In future editions we aim to report on our local structures, just in case a school receives the newsletter but isn't involved in your local activity.

### **Welcome Lisa Nisbet to the ESFA Council**

The ESFA welcomes new Council Member for the South East, Lisa Nisbet on board for the 24/25 season. Lisa has written a quick introduction below for those of you who don't know her. We look forward to seeing how she gets on during her first term on Council -

“Hello, my name is Lisa Nisbet formally known as Lisa Shipwright Trigg. I am very excited to be able to say I have joined the Council for the ESFA starting this year. I have worked at St Ivo academy in St Ives for the last 14 years, where I have been very fortunate to get to multiple national finals with girls' teams of various ages. I have had previous experience running the County teams in my area and coaching for local teams both junior and adult. I was fortunate enough to grow up around football, where I found my love of the game itself - my Grandad was a professional footballer, retiring and running international football tournaments alongside my Nana and other close family members have also had football-related careers. I am excited to get involved as much as possible and help the Council and my Counties move forward in any way I can.”



## Play Safe Weekend 2024

The ESFA would like to thank members for their support with the ESFA's Play Safe Weekend activity. It was brilliant to see so many of you getting involved across social media and engaging with our Safeguarding Team across the weekend.

To read about the ESFA's involvement in the Play Safe Weekend and for more information on our safeguarding campaign, "Stay Safe in Schools' Football", please click [here](#).







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