



Scottish Charity
No:SC006452

SSFA NEWSLETTER, FEBRUARY 2020

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide a quick update on developments in the Scottish Schools F.A. and contains important information for all those involved in schools' football. **Please forward it to those involved in your school.** An electronic copy is also available on the SSFA website under the NEWS tab.

Thank You!

Thanks to your commitment and support all our Shield and National competitions have now reached the quarter and semi- finals stage. Details can be found on the SSFA website at Competitions and Fixtures/Results.

Facebook/Twitter

Tremendous uplifting inputs from pupils, parents, staff and volunteers. Many thanks to those of you who take the time to contribute and to our Tech Guru Ian Cairns who, amongst so many other things, takes such fabulous photographs.

Coach Education

- The new SFA Coaching Pathways can be found under the Coaches tab on the SSFA website
- Updated info on SSFA preferred coaching qualifications can be found under the Downloads tab.

Registration of Players, Teaching Staff and Community Based Volunteers Involved in SSFA Activities

- A reminder that all players must be registered with the SFA Live system. The SSFA currently has over 27 000 players registered. If you haven't updated your info recently, please do so asap. For more information on the Registration System see link below https://scottishschoolsfa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/RegistrationGuide_1920.pdf
- Approximately 920 adults (school and community based volunteers) involved in SSFA activities have also registered with SFA Live. By registering we are helping the SFA to build a picture of participation across the country which in turn helps them identify where further input or support is required.

If you, your teaching colleagues and any non-teaching volunteers involved in SSFA activities have not yet registered with SFA Live, please do so. For more information, see the link above.

Audit of Community Based Volunteers Involved in SSFA Activities

Many thanks to the 250 schools that responded to the SFA's request to the SSFA for information on the number of community based volunteers assisting with schools' football. By way of feedback:

- 5% of those returns indicated that community based volunteers take a team
- Schools were very quick to offer assurances regarding PVG compliance for community based volunteers.

Child Wellbeing Training for Teaching Staff and Community Based Volunteers

While Local Authorities and Schools have procedures in place for teaching staff and community based volunteers involved in school based activities, the SSFA would encourage any member of staff or community based volunteer to undertake the SFA's online training in Child Wellbeing which can be found on the SSFA website at <https://scottishschoolsfa.co.uk/coach-education/>

It may be of interest to you to know that some of our member schools' senior pupils have completed the SFA's on-line Child Protection training as part of various qualifications including the Saltire Award and Sports Leadership Award.

Updated/New Policies and Documentation on the SSFA Website

Child Wellbeing

Wherever possible, documents have been added, updated or replaced to support the SFA's endeavours with regard to child wellbeing. Please see the link below:

<https://scottishschoolsfa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Childrens-Wellbeing-Policy-Aug19-3.pdf>

Other Policies

Various other policies have been updated to reflect our new constitution. These can be found on the website at SSFA/About Us and Policies.

SFA Guidance on Heading Practice

Please click on the link below and read the SFA's guidance on heading practice.

<https://www.scottishfa.co.uk/news/scottish-fa-announces-new-heading-guidelines/?rid=14258>

The same information will shortly be available on the SSFA website.

And Finally,

This is a really tough term for all those involved in schools so on behalf of the SSFA, thank you once again for all your hard work and we wish you a restful Easter – when it eventually comes!

Scottish Schools F.A.

February 2020.