



Guidance for supporters attending grassroots matches.



# Foreword

For the majority of the millions of people involved in football each week, either as a player, employee, volunteer, or supporter, the experience is extremely positive, helping to develop a life long love of the game. However, there can be occasions when some behaviours occur that are unacceptable.

Discriminatory abuse can occur in many forms – and the use of any threatening, abusive, indecent or insulting words or behaviour in reference to a person's ethnic origin, colour, race, nationality, religion or belief, gender, gender reassignment, sexual orientation or disability is completely unacceptable.

Aggressive and subtle discriminatory abuse persists across British society and it is unsurprising that this behaviour can also manifest in football.

Central to English Football's Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Action Plan 2013 – 2017 is to deliver "football for everyone". We are determined to provide an inclusive football experience for anyone who wishes to play, work in or support English football. An experience that is reflective of our diverse communities, safe for all and free from abuse and discrimination.

We recognise that there is under-reporting of incidents of discriminatory abuse in grassroots football and we encourage those who feel that they have experienced or witnessed discriminatory abuse to report it.

This guide uses stills from a film that The FA has produced in collaboration with the artist Paul Trevillion and ex-England footballer Graeme Le Saux.

You can view this film and others on www.thefa.com/football-rules-governance/equality/inclusion

Anyone who believes they may have witnessed or been a victim of discrimination or abuse is encouraged to report it immediately – as this guide explains, you should make a club official aware and the police if you want. After the game, you should contact your local County FA or use the details provided in this booklet to contact The FA, or alternatively, Kick It Out have via their reporting app where you can report anonymously.

If someone is found guilty, the club may take action against them and the County FA may take action against the club. If the matter is reported to the police then there could be criminal sanctions.

So please remember, if you see it, or hear it, report it.



Alex Horne, General Secretary, The Football Association





And so we want you to REPORT IT.









Because it may be possible for constructive action to be taken immediately by the club.



























# **TO REPORT DISCRIMINATION**

Email:

# footballforall@TheFA.com info@kickitout.org

Supported by:











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This publication can be made available in braille, large print and audio. Please email your request for the format which will meet your needs at: footballforall@thefa.com

