



Guidance for supporters attending professional and semi-professional 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 occurs 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 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 professional and semi-professional 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 Dion Dublin.

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

Anyone who believes they may have been a victim of, or witnessed, discrimination or abuse is encouraged to report it immediately – as this guide explains, this may include informing a steward, or the club may have their own text service. Use the contact details provided in this booklet to contact The FA, or alternatively, Kick It Out via their reporting app where you can report anonymously.

If a supporter is found guilty, the club can rescind season tickets, memberships and impose a stadium ban. The courts can issue a Football Banning Order, impose fines, restrict travel, imprison abusers and they will have a criminal record.

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



Alex Horne, General Secretary, The Football Association



















THEN WE Can Help You

And what happens if someone is found guilty?















TO REPORT DISCRIMINATION

Email:

footballforall@TheFA.com info@kickitout.org

Supported by:







PROFESSIONAL GAME MATCH OFFICIALS





Equality and Child Protection Department The FA Group

Wembley Stadium Wembley London HA9 0WS

Please contact us at **footballforall@thefa.com** if you would like this information in an alternative format such as Braille, large print or audio.

