



THE CLUB'S COMMITMENT

You will gain access to **GOOD QUALITY COACHING, FACILITIES** and **SUPPORT SERVICES**.

The Club will want you to **EXPRESS YOURSELF** and **DISPLAY YOUR TALENTS**.

The maximum time you can spend on trial at any one Club in any one season is **SIX CONSECUTIVE WEEKS** - it can be less, but not more. At the end of your trial period you will be **GIVEN A REPORT**, verbal or written, and either be offered the chance to **SIGN A FULL REGISTRATION** or complete a form which ends your trial.

It is the **DUTY OF THE CLUB** to approach and inform your **LOCAL CLUB** of their intentions to offer you a trial.

Above all you **DESERVE TO BE, AND WILL BE, TREATED FAIRLY**.

WHAT TO EXPECT

The **CHALLENGE** and **EXCITEMENT** of being involved in a **PROFESSIONAL CLUB** is a handsome prospect.

The people you will be involved with are there to work **IN YOUR BEST INTEREST** and pay the highest regard to your **TECHNICAL, MEDICAL** and **EDUCATIONAL WELFARE**.

USEFUL CONTACTS

CLUB
TELEPHONE
FAX
EMAIL

The Football League 0870 442 0 1888
Football Association 020 745 45 45
FA NSPCC Child Protection Helpline 0800 800 5000*
For deaf users textphone 0800 056 0566*

*24 hours free and confidential

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YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION FOR TRIALISTS

This publication is to be issued by the Club offering a trial to a young player **BEFORE UNDERTAKING HIS TRIAL PERIOD.**

The player and his parent or guardian should read the information and have an opportunity to discuss any of its contents with an **OFFICIAL CLUB REPRESENTATIVE**



www.football-league.co.uk



MESSAGE FROM THE LEAGUE

FOOTBALL WILL ALWAYS NEED NEW PLAYERS, no matter at what level - whether filling International teams or playing parks football.

Going on trial at a professional Club is special and is an achievement in itself to be **CHERISHED AND REMEMBERED**.

Being offered a trial is part of a process which exists that enables young players to **EXPLORE THEIR POTENTIAL**.

Only a **SMALL NUMBER** of young players achieve a professional contract, but many grow from the experience of spending time at a **PROFESSIONAL CLUB**.

My message to you is - **MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR EXPERIENCES, WORK HARD AT EVERYTHING YOU DO**, whether playing football, doing your schoolwork or tidying the garden for your Granny.

Be **HUMBLE IN VICTORY** and **GRACIOUS IN DEFEAT** but, most of all, **ENJOY PLAYING FOOTBALL** at whatever level you are at.

GOOD LUCK!

Richard Hodgson

Head of Youth, The Football League

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT RULES

All Football League Clubs have to abide by a set of **STRINGENT RULES**.

These Rules are intended to enable Clubs to fulfil the requirements of Youth Development, both **EFFECTIVELY** and **EFFICIENTLY**, prevent bad practice and provide a **LEVEL PLAYING FIELD FOR ALL**.

All Clubs hold copies of the Rules on Youth Development and, should you wish to see a full set of Rules, **PLEASE ASK** and they will let you have a copy.

Rules 42-45 specifically **APPLY TO TRIALISTS**.

Never be afraid to **ASK QUESTIONS**.

YOUR COMMITMENT

When on trial with a Club you are **NOT ALLOWED** to trial for another Club.

WORK HARD, play to the **BEST OF YOUR ABILITY** and **ENJOY** the coaching and games at this level.

Be prepared to receive constructive criticism and you will **IMPROVE**.

Be **PUNCTUAL**, of **GOOD APPEARANCE** and attend all coaching sessions and games.

SMILE!

IF YOU REGISTER

If your trial period has been a **SUCCESS** and the Club offers you a **FULL REGISTRATION** to become a **CATEGORY 'A'** player, there are a few things you must know.

As part of the registration process you will be asked to sign an official form which will be recorded on **THE LEAGUE'S DATABASE**.

Signing forms at Category 'A' (professional Club) means that you will have **LIMITED OPPORTUNITY** to play in Category 'B' (schools) football and will **NOT BE ELIGIBLE** for Category 'C' (local league) football.

You will receive a **CODE OF CONDUCT** for you and your parent/guardian to sign, along with a copy of The League's publication '**PLAYERS' AND PARENTS' GUIDE**'.

This booklet provides you with a lot of information you need to know, including a full set of the **RULES**.

You will then be committed to the Club and be expected to **ATTEND ALL COACHING SESSIONS** and play in an **OFFICIAL GAMES** programme against other professional Clubs in your age group.

ENJOY!

