

ECFA Equality Newsletter

one
game
one
community



Welcome to the first ever edition of the Essex FA Equality newsletter. In this newsletter you will find information on Kick It Out Week, launch of Disability Football League and Equality festivals.

E.C.F.A. SUPPORTS KICK IT OUT 'WEEKS OF ACTION'

By Chris Evans

Race issues will come to the fore during two specifically-targeted weeks between 15th and 27th October, the Kick It Out Weeks of Action, and the Essex County Football Association have got behind the campaign by involving themselves in a selection of awareness-raising projects across the region.

At present, the E.C.F.A. has a bursting schedule of activities planned and support will be supplied to two events on Thursday 15th October, one in Dagenham and the other in Redbridge, and three 'Football for All' Workshops are to be staged at venues elsewhere in the County. Equality will be the focus on Monday 19th October followed specifically by Race Equality on Saturday 17th and Disability Equality on Monday 26th.

Kick It Out was established in 1993 and offers a wide range of resources to support activities taking place during the One Game, One Community Weeks of Action, which are viewed as one of the most prominent equality and community engagement initiatives in the Country.

During this period a female seven-a-side competition will also feature in Redbridge for under-represented communities on Friday 30th October and Inclusion Development Officer, John Manning, believes the E.C.F.A. support of the campaign signifies a small part of a larger picture. He said: "Although we have seen real improvements over the last few years in ethnic minority and under-represented groups taking part in football, in Essex and throughout the Country, there is still a need to have more representation in our sport. We've been holding strategic meetings looking into developing and supporting football for under-represented groups," he continued. "On a practical level, we have been supporting football provision at the Dale Farm community site in Crays Hill and have had a representation at equality festivals such as Essex Pride and the Polski Picnic."

Educationally, the E.C.F.A. have already run a number of workshops focusing on race and disability equality and have been offering a selection of coaching courses to address these issues, alongside an existing coach education programme. Operating in conjunction with the Weeks this year will be a Thurrock-based Level One Certificate in Coaching Football exclusively arranged for participation by ethnic minorities. The Course is spread over two weekends on the 7th, 8th, 14th & 15th November.

John explained: "This course has emerged following discussions with the Community Sports Network in Thurrock. We currently deliver around 40 Level Ones per year, which includes two female-only courses and now this one for Ethnic Minorities. We hope this Course will encourage groups who have not previously been able to access the provision to attend and invest their new knowledge and experience back into their community."



**Oct'09
Edition**

Disability Football League



During last season 15 clubs/ organisations and over 150 players with a disability have been playing regular football.

The Essex FA are delighted to announce that for the 2009/10 season there will be the first ever Disability football league in Essex. The league will consist of 6 match days with a youth section in the morning and an adult section in the afternoon:

- October 31st 2009
Basildon
- November 28th 2009
Colchester
- January 30th 2010
Southend
- February 27th 2010
Chelmsford
- March 27th 2010
Southend
- April 24th 2010
Maldon

Each match day will consist of a round robin of fixtures for those teams playing in the various sections of the league.

To keep updated on all the latest league developments, please click on the Essex Soccability League page of this website. For further information on the Essex Soccability League, please contact John Manning on 01245 393 095 or email john.manning@essexfa.com

Upcoming Courses



Level 1 Coaching Course (EM)

The first rung on the coaching ladder.

Venue: Thurrock (CCA150)

Times: 9am - 5pm

Dates: 7,8,14 & 15 November

Cost: £125, £105 (for CS clubs)

Race Equality Workshop

This workshop will assist you to develop an understanding of the needs of various minority groups.

Venue: Southend United FC

Times: 10am-1pm

Date: Saturday 17 October

Cost: £10 (refundable on arrival)

*As part of this workshop tickets to the afternoon's game will be provided.

Disability Equality Workshop

It is aimed at club reps and volunteers who may deal with disabled people wither face to face or on the telephone.

Venue: Chelmsford, Essex FA Offices

Times: 7pm-10pm

Date: Monday 26 October

Cost: £10 (refundable on arrival)

For more information on any of our courses please contact:

sue.hammond@essexfa.com

01245 393 072 or

simon.thomas@essexfa.com

01245 393 071

For more information on the Equality workshops contact:

John Manning@essexfa.com or

01245 393 095

Essex FA REAG needs you!



What is it?

Essex County Football Association is delighted to announce the setting up of a Race Equality Advisory Group. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to get involved in the administration of football, and help your County build equality into all areas of our work.

Why we need you?

We are looking for people who are influential in their local community, who have an excellent understanding of equality and especially race equality.

The Group will be expected to:

- Work with the key equality issues for the wider community in football,
- Build on and strengthen community partnerships
- Increase participation in football from different cultural groups .

Interested?

Contact John Manning on 01245 393 095; john.manning@essexfa.com

Tell us what you think ???

I'd like to know your thoughts on the newsletter, what do you like and dislike, what should be added to it, and how it can be improved. I'd also like to include stories from your club, so please email those and your thoughts to me at john.manning@essexfa.com

