

EBUFC - AGM
SEASON 2021 - 2022
WELFARE REPORT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our coaches, players, volunteers and wider the football family for their hard work and support over the last two years, through the pandemic and a number of lockdowns. Everyone has played their part which has helped the game to come back as strongly as it has.

We spent the first half of this season still having to complete COVID registers and follow strict guidelines however, thankfully this is now over. During this time, many DBS, safeguarding and first aid qualifications had expired so we have worked hard to get all these renewed – currently everyone is up to date, and new members of the club are completing DBS checks and the necessary qualifications

Season 2023/24 DBS & Safeguarding courses will be mandatory. Anyone linked to U18s football no matter what the position (including committee members) will be expected to attend courses & hold proof of enhanced DBS & Safeguarding. This will be a big cost to some clubs & increased workload on volunteers. The FA have not yet announced further guidance on this so we cannot get a head start! Clubs will face sanctions in the form of suspensions/no affiliation if found not adhering to the new rules.

EBUFC was randomly selected for an Unannounced Validation Check by the NFA. These validation visits are to ensure that the correct procedures and policies are in place and meet the FA standards. The Validation visit was conducted by Rosie McCarthy – Designated Safeguarding Officer, and Jim Wilkinson – Chair of Northamptonshire Football Association. Karen Geary also performed a vital check for the club. We passed this visit with no need for an action plan, just reminders to check qualifications for the relevant people & a couple of recommendations for the website.

Marie & I attended a virtual Club Welfare Officers meeting and felt that we were well in line with what we should be doing as a club.

We organised a Defibrillator training & basic First Aid session in conjunction with St. Johns ambulance for coaches/parents, the event was well attended. The defibrillator was replaced at The Pioneer by EBUFC, and we are aware EBSA has replaced the unit at The Grange.

Unfortunately, The NFA are seeing incidents increasing of poor spectator behaviour (problem parents/carers/supporters).

EBUFC must continue to lead by example & promote a fun, safe and inclusive environment for all the players, ensuring they have the very best experiences throughout their football journey. Code of Conduct resources can be found via The Bootroom.

If you would like any support, please make contact, our details can be found on the website.

