

# **SCOTTISH JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**



## **BETTING IN FOOTBALL POLICY**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Scottish Junior FA (SJFA) requires all clubs, officials, Team Officials & Team Staff to be aware that they must be aware of and act within the rules surrounding betting in football.
- 1.2 This policy provides guidance on betting in football and it is important that all players, officials, clubs and leagues are aware of these guidelines.
- 1.3 The Scottish FA launched a “Keep it Clean” campaign in conjunction with the SPFL and Players and Managers’ Union in a move to stay ahead of the growing threat of match fixing. The SJFA will work closely with these bodies and keep clubs and their personnel fully aware of the issues.

## **2. RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 2.1 No club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the SJFA shall bet in any way on a football match (except authorised and registered football pools.)
- 2.2 No club, official, Team Official, other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the SJFA shall knowingly behave in a manner, during or in connection with a match in which the party has participated or has any influence, either direct or indirect, which could give rise to an event in which they or any third party benefits financially through betting.
- 2.3 No club, official, Team Official or other member of Team Staff, player, match official or other person under the jurisdiction of the SJFA shall directly or indirectly offer or receive a bonus or any other inducement to or from another club, official, player, match official or any other person to influence the result of a match or otherwise affect the conduct of a match.

## **3. INVESTIGATING PROCEDURE**

- 3.1 The Treasurer/Discipline Secretary or investigating officer should follow these steps:
  - 3.1.1 Full details and clarifications of the allegation of betting in football should be obtained;
  - 3.1.2 The Treasurer/Discipline Secretary or investigating officer should inform the person against whom the allegation is made as soon as is practically possible. Said person will be informed of their right to be accompanied by a trade union or other representative at any future interview or hearing held under the provision of these procedures;
  - 3.1.3 The Treasurer/Discipline Secretary or investigating officer should consider the involvement of the Police at this stage and may consult with the Management Committee;
  - 3.1.4 The allegations should be fully investigated with the assistance where appropriate, of other individuals / bodies;
  - 3.1.5 A judgement concerning the complaint and validity of the complaint will be made by the Treasurer/Discipline Secretary or investigating officer. This judgement will be detailed in a written report containing the findings of the investigations and reasons for the judgement. The report may be passed to the Management Committee as appropriate;
  - 3.1.6 The Treasurer/Discipline Secretary will decide what action to take. If the complaint is shown to be justified then they will invoke the disciplinary or other appropriate organisation procedures;

- 3.1.7 The complainant should be kept informed of the progress of the investigations and, if appropriate, of the final outcome;
- 3.1.8 If appropriate a copy of the outcomes will be passed to the SJFA Management Committee to enable a review of the procedures.
- 3.2 If the complainant is not satisfied that their concern is being properly dealt with by the Treasurer/Discipline Secretary or investigating officer they have the right to raise it in confidence with the Management Committee not involved.
- 3.3 If the investigation finds the allegations unsubstantiated and all internal procedures have been exhausted but the complainant is not satisfied with the outcome of the investigation, the SJFA recognises the lawful rights of the complainant to pursue their complaint via other means (e.g. report to Police.)