



CFA newsletter

FEBRUARY 2010

Children's football, affiliated or unaffiliated, is generally bursting at the seams in spring, summer and autumn – so why is no-one listening in winter?

The issue is a hot topic of debate on many on-line coaches' forums yet the debate often ends there with no significant action taken - so what can we do? CFA supporter Mal Lee founder of www.dontxtheline.com says;

'Engage children on a level whereby the football fraternity will find it difficult not to listen – a Children's Football Alliance is common sense'.

Winter plays a significant part with children dropping out of structured football season in - season out, so why do leagues persist with scheduling rigid fixtures that can often cause stress, pressure and disdain amongst participants on and off the pitch? Many children's football coaches will tell you that trying to motivate a child to play football in freezing cold temperatures is counter-productive and benefits no-one, so why do we do it? These are just some of the questions that the CFA would give children the opportunity to discuss and report back to the authorities. As we know there are a lot of unchallenged issues from the proper perspective concerning children's football. The CFA aims to help provide the football fraternity with a voice that will help secure the future of the sport in all communities.

Give Us Back Our Game founder Paul Cooper and supporter of the Children's Football Alliance reports that GUBOG workshops have never been so popular with more and more children re-discovering free play through football for fun. If you want to find out more about the excellent work facilitated by GUBOG checkout www.giveusbackourgame.co.uk

Thank you to Coventry Sports Foundation and Geese Theatre Company for supporting the placement of CFA leaflets in delegates packs at the Safe Guarding Children Sport Conference Thursday 25th February at Xcel Leisure Centre, Coventry.

www.safeguardingchildrensportconference.com

Tactics 4 Families a Football in the Community initiative supported by Liverpool Football Club, Football Foundation, Premier League and Liverpool City Council invited the Children's Football Alliance to their workbook launch last month. The innovative T4F team demonstrated how delivering football for fun in the glass room to years 5 and 6 and their families is playing a significant part in engaging diversity, social inclusion and health and well being.

CFA would like to wish **Mark Chester** mark.chester@liverpoolfc.tv (Family Officer) and his team all the best for the future and take this opportunity to express our full support where possible.

Footymums contacted the CFA this month to lend their support. Footymums provide an excellent online service for all parents interested in supporting their children through play. Check out their parents info it is essential reading for all new football parents.

www.footymums.com

Show Racism the Red Card also voiced their support this month creating online links with CFA as did **Families Need Fathers** and **Fair Play for Children**.

www.srtrc.org
www.fnf.org.uk
www.fairplayforchildren.org

CFA encourage diversity, inclusion, fair play and development through football. If you think you can help be a part of health and well being then please contact info@thecfa.co.uk

Ernie Brennan

**CONTACT
THE CFA**