

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLUB  
ACCREDITATION SCHEME 2024 - 25**

**1. INTRODUCTION**

In accordance with its commitment to developing and raising standards within junior football in Wales, the Football Association of Wales (“FAW”), has introduced and maintains a scheme of Club Accreditation. The following regulations govern the implementation of authority over, and requirements to comply with, the Club Accreditation Scheme.

**1.1 Nature of the Club Accreditation Scheme**

- 1.1.1 The Club Accreditation Scheme will be operated and maintained on behalf of the Football Association of Wales.
- 1.1.2 The Club Accreditation Scheme will comprise of five defined levels being STANDARD, BRONZE, SILVER, GOLD, and PLATINUM. The criteria for these levels will be set by the FAW.
- 1.1.3 The STANDARD criteria will be the minimum acceptable level for junior football clubs in Wales. Failure to achieve and maintain the STANDARD criteria will result in disciplinary action against the club concerned, which will result in the immediate cessation of all junior related football activities and inhibit entry into the junior league for non-compliant teams within the club. Standard clubs must outline their desire to remain at this level at affiliation (Only applicable to clubs delivering junior football). A Club safeguarding officer will need to be confirmed at this stage.
- 1.1.4 All other criteria will provide clear development guidance to clubs.
- 1.1.5 The FAW, shall retain overall authority over the operation of this scheme and the awarding of levels.
- 1.1.6 The FAW, reserves the right to amend a club’s accreditation level based on behaviour contrary to the spirit of FAW rules and regulations or improper conduct.
- 1.1.7 Clubs applying to club accreditation for the first time will be fully audited. Clubs who are looking to acquire or retain a level of accreditation at Bronze or higher will be subject to audit on an annual basis. Clubs who are looking to retain standard accreditation will be subject to random checks at the discretion of the FAW, if a club is in breach of this, please refer to 1.1.3
- 1.1.8 Clubs are expected to buy into the spirit of the program upon application.

## **1.2 Responsibilities of a Club**

- 1.2.1 All new and existing clubs must attain, as a minimum, the STANDARD AWARD criteria before participating in junior football.
- 1.2.2 It is the responsibility of every junior club to maintain the criteria of accreditation awarded to the club via their club accreditation application and maintain an accurate record of their COMET club account as a database of individuals who have access to children and young people.
- 1.2.3 Once a club has achieved the relevant criteria, the club will be entitled to display the FAW Club Accreditation mark/logo appropriate to the level achieved for the season awarded.
- 1.2.4 It is the responsibility of every junior club to ensure at least one individual holds the role of “Club Licensing” and “Accreditation Officer” in Comet to support the application process.

## **1.3 Operation of the Club Accreditation Scheme**

- 1.3.1 FAW to issue access to club accreditation applications for all junior clubs (wishing to achieve bronze or higher ) via Club Licence section on the COMET system from the 1<sup>st</sup> of June.
- 1.3.2 All clubs aspiring to achieve Bronze, Silver, Gold, and Platinum must submit a completed club accreditation application via the Club Licence section of their COMET account prior to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.
- 1.3.3 FAW will audit all but Standard club’s accreditation applications submitted via COMET to determine from the information available, whether the club has met the criteria to achieve, as a minimum STANDARD AWARD.
- 1.3.4 FAW will provide a breakdown to the Community Game Board. FAW will also share a breakdown per Area Association of each club accreditation application received and their subsequent accreditation level.
- 1.3.5 In the event of a club not submitting a completed club accreditation application prior to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024, they will be prohibited from participating in all football related activity until an application is submitted/workbook is received.
- 1.3.6 In the event of a club being prohibited from participating in all football related activity, a club may appeal the decision in writing to FAW. Any notice of appeal must be lodged by the club in line with FAW rules.

## **JUNIOR CLUB QUALITY STANDARDS**

### **2. STANDARD AWARD**

Clubs registered on the scheme MUST complete the following quality standards to affiliate to a Junior League: -

## **2.1 Constitution and Affiliation**

Clubs must: -

- 2.1.1 Operate within a constitution comprising of the following nominated officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Accreditation Officer and Comet Champion. One person cannot hold more than two of these positions within a club or across 2 clubs.
- 2.1.2 Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association.
- 2.1.3 Attend meetings as designated by the respective local junior league. In the event of the club secretary being unable to attend, one of the four other nominated officers may attend in his/her absence.
- 2.1.4 Place the safety, welfare, and enjoyment of players at the centre of the club philosophy and constitution.

## **2.2 Safeguarding and Player Welfare**

Clubs must: -

- 2.2.1 Appoint a nominated Safeguarding Officer to liaise with the local League Safeguarding Officer.
- 2.2.2 Ensure the nominated Safeguarding Officer attends a FAW Safeguarding Award, holds an equivalent qualification (UK Sports Coaching Safeguarding Award or NSPCC Time to Listen Award) or has a professional occupation (Social Worker, Police Force or teacher) with Safeguarding or Child Protection responsibilities, holds a valid FAW DBS check and COMET ID.
- 2.2.3 Ensure the Safeguarding Officer's details are clearly displayed and communicated on club digital platforms, clubhouse, and welcome pack.
- 2.2.4 Ensure that the club and all persons adhere to the FAW Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices, Codes of Conduct, all Welfare regulations and instructions issued by the FAW.
- 2.2.5 Ensure all persons who have access to children and young people participate in the FAW national DBS programme and obtain a valid DBS Certificate and subsequent FAW number. All persons who hold solely administrative positions (including but not limited to Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or equivalent positions) and as such do not have active roles with children and young people will require approval through the COMET Football Management system.
- 2.2.6 Ensure all persons with access to children and young people have their COMET ID available at all appropriate times.

2.2.7 Adhere to FAW volunteer recruitment and deployment guidelines.

## 2.3 Club Workforce and Development

Clubs must: -

2.3.1 Ensure they adhere to the following ratios at the correct age groups.

Age group	Qualified coach: Players ratio	DBS certified adult: Players ratio	Qualified first aiders: Players ratio
U6 – U8	1:16	1:6	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U9 – U12	1:16	1:8	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U13 – U16	1:18	1:10	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue

2.3.2 A club may appoint volunteers to the role of 'team helper' with any team. Subject to completion of a FAW DBS check, these individuals can supervise young people to ensure the correct player to adult ratio is maintained.

2.3.3 Ensure each age group squad has at least ONE qualified coach, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

2.3.4 Ensure each club has at least ONE First Aid qualified person at each training or playing venues.

The FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course has been designed by the FAW Medical Department to meet the needs of grassroots football and the requirements of the FAW Club Accreditation Scheme.

### Accepted First Aid Qualifications

· FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course – we would advise that all those involved in the game complete this course due to its specificity to the football environment.

· Individuals with the following roles who work within the Healthcare profession, with up-to-date training, will be determined as an appropriately qualified first aid provider without completing the FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course:

Nurse (RGN)

Physiotherapist (HCPC)

Doctor (GMC)

Paramedic (HCPC)

First Aid/BLS/ALS Tutor

Sports Therapist/Rehabilitator

Military Combat Medical Technician (CMT)

A recognised HSE First Aid for Sport Course (such as 'British Red Cross First Aid for Sport course or St John's Ambulance Sports First Aid training course)

First Aid Qualifications Not Accepted

First Aid at Work

Emergency First Aid at Work

First Aid for baby and child

First aid for adults

- 2.3.5 Ensure there is an adult(s) in attendance who possesses a FAW DBS, FAW Football Leaders Award and FAW First Aid Award for all age group squad's matches and training sessions.
- 2.3.6 Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches aren't registered on the COMET system.
- 2.3.7 Ensure all coaches and First Aid trained persons provide the club with their FAW numbers and Coach education expiry dates for purposes of FAW Club Accreditation.

## **2.4 Equipment and Facilities**

Clubs must: -

- 2.4.1 Use appropriate and safe facilities for training and matches.
- 2.4.2 Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW ([www.faw.cymru](http://www.faw.cymru)) and are stored away safely and securely when not in use.
- 2.4.3 Ensure risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs. In addition, an annual review of the risk assessment should be undertaken with appropriate amendments made where required.

## **2.5 Club provision and development**

Clubs must: -

- 2.5.1 Ensure all clubs adhere to FAW Small-Sided Football Regulations.
- 2.5.2 Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender or ability.

- 2.5.3 For U6 – U12 age groups, all players should have a minimum of 50% playing time when participating in matches.
- 2.5.4 Run a minimum of ONE U6-U11 OR U12-U17 age group team.

### **3. BRONZE AWARD**

Clubs registered on the scheme MUST complete the following quality standards in order to achieve BRONZE AWARD accreditation:

#### **3.1 Constitution and Affiliation**

Clubs must: -

- 3.1.1 Operate within a constitution comprising of the following nominated officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Club Accreditation Officer and COMET Champion. One person cannot hold more than two of these positions within a club or across 2 clubs.
- 3.1.2 Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association.
- 3.1.3 Attend meetings as designated by the respective local junior league. In the event of the club secretary being unable to attend, one of the four other nominated officers may attend in his/her absence.
- 3.1.4 Place the safety, welfare, and enjoyment of players at the centre of the club philosophy and constitution.

#### **3.2 Safeguarding and Player Welfare**

Clubs must: -

- 3.2.1 Appoint a nominated Safeguarding Officer to liaise with the local League Safeguarding Officer.
- 3.2.2 Ensure the nominated Safeguarding Officer attends a FAW Safeguarding Award, holds an equivalent qualification (UK Sports Coaching Safeguarding Award or NSPCC Time to Listen Award) or has a professional occupation (Social Worker, Police Force or teacher) with Safeguarding or Child Protection responsibilities, holds a valid FAW DBS check and COMET ID.
- 3.2.3 Ensure the Safeguarding Officer's details are clearly displayed and communicated on club digital platforms, clubhouse and welcome pack.
- 3.2.4 Ensure that the club and all persons adhere to the FAW Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices, Codes of Conduct, all Welfare regulations and instructions issued by the FAW.

- 3.2.5 Ensure all persons who have access to children and young people participate in the FAW national DBS programme and obtain a valid DBS Certificate and subsequent FAW number. All persons who hold solely administrative positions (including but not limited to Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or equivalent positions) and as such do not have active roles with children and young people will require approval through the COMET Football Management system.
- 3.2.6 Ensure all persons with access to children and young people has their COMET ID available at all appropriate times.
- 3.2.7 Adhere to FAW volunteer recruitment and deployment guidelines.

### 3.3 Club workforce and development

Clubs must: -

- 3.3.1 Ensure they adhere to the following ratios at the correct age groups.

Age group	Qualified coach: Players ratio	DBS certified adult: Players ratio	Qualified first aiders: Players ratio
U6 – U8	1:16	1:6	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U9 – U12	1:16	1:8	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U13 – U16	1:18	1:10	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue

- 3.3.2 A club may appoint volunteers to the role of ‘team helper’ with any team. Subject to completion of a FAW DBS check these individuals can supervise young people to ensure the correct player to adult ratio is maintained.
- 3.3.3 Ensure each U6 – U11 age group squad has at least ONE qualified coach, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.
- 3.3.4 Ensure each U12 – U17 age group squad has at least TWO qualified coaches, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.
- 3.3.5
- 3.3.6 Ensure there is an adult(s) in attendance who possesses a FAW DBS, FAW Football Leaders Award and FAW First Aid Award for all age group squad’s matches and training sessions.
- 3.3.7 Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches aren’t registered on the COMET system.
- 3.3.8 Ensure all coaches and First Aid trained persons provide the club with their FAW numbers and Coach education expiry dates for purposes of FAW Club Accreditation.

### 3.4 Equipment and Facilities

Clubs must: -

- 3.4.1 Use appropriate and safe facilities for training and matches.
- 3.4.2 Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW ([www.faw.cymru](http://www.faw.cymru)) and are stored away safely and securely when not in use.
- 3.4.3 Ensure risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs. In addition, an annual review of the risk assessment should be undertaken with appropriate amendments made where required.

### **3.5 Club provision and development**

Clubs must: -

- 3.5.1 Ensure all clubs adhere to FAW Small-Sided Football Regulations.
- 3.5.2 Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender or ability.
- 3.5.3 For U6 – U12 age groups, all players should have a minimum of 50% playing time when participating in matches.
- 3.5.4 Organise and run a minimum of TWO different teams at  
U6 – U11 OR U12 – U17 age groups within the club.

## **4. SILVER AWARD**

Clubs registered on the scheme MUST complete the following quality standards in order to achieve SILVER AWARD accreditation:

### **4.1 Constitution and Affiliation**

Clubs must: -

- 4.1.1 Operate within a constitution comprising of the following nominated officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Accreditation Officer and COMET Champion. One person cannot hold more than two of these positions within a club or across 2 clubs.
- 4.1.2 Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association.
- 4.1.3 Attend meetings as designated by the respective local junior league. In the event of the secretary being unable to attend, one of the three other nominated officers may attend in his/her absence.



- 4.1.4 Place the safety, welfare and enjoyment of players at the centre of the club philosophy and constitution.
- 4.1.5 The club must provide evidence identifying the commencement of their club development plan.
- 4.1.6 It is desirable that the club appoint a nominated Equality Champion on COMET.
- 4.1.7 It is desirable that that a club has a “ FOR HER Champion “ and is working towards at least 1x W&G team or Huddle.

## **4.2 Safeguarding and Player Welfare**

Clubs must: -

- 4.2.1 Appoint a nominated Safeguarding Officer to liaise with the local League Safeguarding Officer.
- 4.2.2 Ensure the nominated Safeguarding Officer attends a FAW Safeguarding Award, holds an equivalent qualification (UK Sports Coaching Safeguarding Award or NSPCC Time to Listen Award) or has a professional occupation (Social Worker, Police Force or teacher) with Safeguarding or Child Protection responsibilities, holds a valid FAW DBS check and COMET ID.
- 4.2.3 Ensure the Safeguarding Officer’s details are clearly displayed and communicated on club digital platforms, clubhouse and welcome pack.
- 4.2.4 Ensure that the club and all persons adhere to the FAW Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices, Codes of Conduct, all Welfare regulations and instructions issued by the FAW.
- 4.2.5 Ensure all persons who have access to children and young people participate in the FAW national DBS programme and obtain a valid DBS Certificate and subsequent FAW number. All persons who hold solely administrative positions (including but not limited to Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or equivalent positions) and as such do not have active roles with children and young people will require approval through the COMET Football Management system.
- 4.2.6 Ensure all persons with access to children and young people has their COMET ID available at all appropriate times.
- 4.2.7 Adhere to FAW volunteer recruitment and deployment guidelines.

## **4.3. Club workforce and development**

Clubs must:

- 4.3.1 Ensure they adhere to the following ratios at the correct age groups.

Age group	Qualified coach: Players ratio	DBS certified adult: Players ratio	Qualified first aiders: Players ratio
U6 – U8	1:16	1:6	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U9 – U12	1:16	1:8	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U13 – U16	1:18	1:10	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue

4.3.2 A club may appoint volunteers to the role of ‘team helper’ with any team. Subject to completion of a FAW DBS check these individuals can supervise children and young people to ensure the correct player to adult ratio is maintained.

4.3.3 Ensure each U6 – U11 age group squad has at least ONE qualified coach, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

4.3.4 Ensure each U12 – U17 age group squad has at least TWO qualified coaches, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

4.3.5 Ensure each club has at least ONE First Aid qualified person at each training or playing venues.

The FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course has been designed by the FAW Medical Department to meet the needs of grassroots football and the requirements of the FAW Club Accreditation Scheme.

#### Accepted First Aid Qualifications

- FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course – we would advise that all those involved in the game complete this course due to its specificity to the football environment.

- Individuals with the following roles who work within the Healthcare profession, with up-to-date training, will be determined as an appropriately qualified first aid provider without completing the FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course:

Nurse (RGN)

Physiotherapist (HCPC)

Doctor (GMC)

Paramedic (HCPC)

First Aid/BLS/ALS Tutor

Sports Therapist/Rehabilitator

Military Combat Medical Technician (CMT)

A recognised HSE First Aid for Sport Course (such as 'British Red Cross First Aid for Sport course or St John's Ambulance Sports First Aid training course)

First Aid Qualifications Not Accepted

First Aid at Work

Emergency First Aid at Work

First Aid for baby and child

First aid for adults

- 4.3.6 Appoint a nominated Club Coaching Coordinator that has a minimum FAW/UEFA 'C' Licence Coach within the club.
- 4.3.7 Ensure one coach minimum completes and maintains a valid FAW Goalkeepers Award.
- 4.3.7 Ensure there is an adult(s) in attendance who possesses a FAW DBS, FAW Football Leaders Award and FAW First Aid Award for all age group squad's matches and training sessions.
- 4.3.8 Appoint a nominated Club Volunteer Coordinator, must be different to the Coaching Coordinator.
- 4.3.9 Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches aren't registered on the COMET system.
- 4.3.10 Ensure all coaches and First Aid trained persons provide the club with their FAW numbers and Coach education expiry dates for purposes of FAW Club Accreditation.
- 4.3.11 It is desirable that the club appoint a nominated Equality Champion on COMET. *Please note this role will be a mandatory requirement for the 2025-26 season.*

#### **4.4 Equipment and Facilities**

Clubs must: -

- 4.4.1 Use appropriate and safe facilities for matches and training.
- 4.4.2 Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW ([www.faw.cymru](http://www.faw.cymru)) and are stored away safely and securely when not in use.

- 4.4.3 Ensure risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs. In addition, an annual review of the risk assessment should be undertaken with appropriate amendments made where required.

#### **4.5 Club provision and development**

Clubs must: -

- 4.5.1 Ensure all clubs adhere to FAW Small-Sided Football Regulations.
- 4.5.2 Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender or ability.
- 4.5.3 For U6 – U12 age groups, all players should have a minimum of 50% playing time when participating in matches.
- 4.5.4 Organise and run a minimum of TWO different teams at U6 – U11 AND U12 – U17 age groups within the club.
- 4.5.5 Offer female football provision and opportunities.
- 4.5.6 Attend an Environments for HER workshop.
- 4.5.7 Have women and girls provision and growth featured within the development plan.

#### **5. GOLD AWARD**

Clubs registered on the scheme MUST complete the following quality standards in order to achieve GOLD AWARD accreditation:

##### **5.1 Constitution and Affiliation**

Clubs must: -

- 5.1.1 Operate within a constitution comprising of the following nominated officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Accreditation Officer and COMET Champion. One person cannot hold more than two of these positions within a club or across 2 clubs.
- 5.1.2 Appointment of a PAWB Equality Champion to lead the implementation of the Clwb PAWB Programme ([www.pawb.cymru/clwbpawb](http://www.pawb.cymru/clwbpawb)). The PAWB Equality Champion will be required to complete the 'Creating a Clwb PAWB' Online Course as part of their appointment.
- 5.1.3 Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association.
- 5.1.4 Attend meetings as designated by the respective local junior league. In the event of the secretary being unable to attend, one of the four other nominated officers may attend in his/her absence.

- 5.1.5 Place the safety, welfare and enjoyment of players at the centre of the club philosophy and constitution.
- 5.1.5 The club must provide evidence identifying the commencement of their club development plan. Featuring FOR HER outcomes.
- 5.1.5 Desirable the club to appoint a “FOR HER Champion” and at least 2x W&G teams and/or 1 team and huddle.

## 5.2 Safeguarding and Player Welfare

Clubs must: -

- 5.2.1 Appoint a nominated Safeguarding Officer to liaise with the local League Safeguarding Officer.
- 5.2.2 Ensure the nominated Safeguarding Officer attends a FAW Safeguarding Award, holds an equivalent qualification (UK Sports Coaching Safeguarding Award or NSPCC Time to Listen Award) or has a professional occupation (Social Worker, Police Force or teacher) with Safeguarding or Child Protection responsibilities, holds a valid FAW DBS check and COMET ID.
- 5.2.3 Ensure the Safeguarding Officer’s details are clearly displayed and communicated on club digital platforms, clubhouse, and welcome pack.
- 5.2.4 Ensure that the club and all persons adhere to the FAW Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices, Codes of Conduct, all Welfare regulations, and instructions issued by the FAW.
- 5.2.5 Ensure all persons who have access to children and young people participate in the FAW national DBS programme and obtain a valid DBS Certificate and subsequent FAW number. All persons who hold solely administrative positions (including but not limited to Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or equivalent positions) and as such do not have active roles with children and young people will require approval through the COMET Football Management system.
- 5.2.6 Ensure all persons with access to children and young people has their COMET ID available at all appropriate times.
- 5.2.7 Adhere to FAW volunteer recruitment and deployment guidelines.

## 5.3 Club workforce and development

Clubs must: -

- 5.3.1 Ensure they adhere to the following ratios at the correct age groups.

Age group	Qualified coach: Players ratio	DBS certified adult: Players ratio	Qualified first aiders: Players ratio
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U6 – U8	1:16	1:6	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
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5.3.2 A club may appoint volunteers to the role of ‘team helper’ with any team. Subject to completion of a FAW DBS check these individuals can supervise young people to ensure the correct player to adult ratio is maintained.

5.3.3 Ensure each U6 – U11 age group squad has at least ONE qualified coach, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

5.3.4 Ensure each U12 – U17 age group squad has at least TWO qualified coaches, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

5.3.5 Ensure each club has at least ONE First Aid qualified person at each training or playing venues.

The FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course has been designed by the FAW Medical Department to meet the needs of grassroots football and the requirements of the FAW Club Accreditation Scheme.

#### Accepted First Aid Qualifications

- FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course – we would advise that all those involved in the game complete this course due to its specificity to the football environment.

- Individuals with the following roles who work within the Healthcare profession, with up-to-date training, will be determined as an appropriately qualified first aid provider without completing the FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course:

Nurse (RGN)

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Doctor (GMC)

Paramedic (HCPC)

First Aid/BLS/ALS Tutor

Sports Therapist/Rehabilitator

Military Combat Medical Technician (CMT)

A recognised HSE First Aid for Sport Course (such as ‘British Red Cross First Aid for Sport course or St John’s Ambulance Sports First Aid training course)

First Aid Qualifications Not Accepted

First Aid at Work

Emergency First Aid at Work

First Aid for baby and child

First aid for adults

- 5.3.6 Appoint a nominated Club Coaching Coordinator that has a minimum FAW/UEFA 'C' Licence Coach within the club.
- 5.3.7 Ensure there is a ratio of one valid FAW 'C' Certificate coach for every three teams within the club.
- 5.3.8 Ensure one coach minimum completes and maintains a valid FAW Goalkeepers Award.
- 5.3.9 Ensure there is an adult(s) in attendance who possesses a FAW DBS, FAW Football Leaders Award and FAW First Aid Award for all age group squad's matches and training sessions.
- 5.3.10 Appoint a nominated Club Volunteer Coordinator, must be different to the Coaching Coordinator.
- 5.3.11 Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches are not registered on the COMET system.

#### **5.4 Equipment and Facilities**

Clubs must: -

- 5.4.1 Use appropriate and safe facilities for training and matches.
- 5.4.2 Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW ([www.faw.cymru](http://www.faw.cymru)) and are stored away safely and securely when not in use.
- 5.4.3 Ensure risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs. In addition, an annual review of the risk assessment should be undertaken with appropriate amendments made where required.

#### **5.5 Club provision and development**

Clubs must: -

- 5.5.1 Ensure all clubs adhere to FAW Small-Sided Football Regulations.

- 5.5.2 Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender or ability.
- 5.5.3 For U6 – U12 age groups, all players should have a minimum of 50% playing time when participating in matches.
- 5.5.4 Organise and run a MINIMUM of;
  - 3 different teams at U6-U11 age groups
  - 3 different teams at U12-U17 age groups
  - 1 YOUTH OR 1 SENIOR ADULT team

*An adult team can be provided by a partner club providing there is a formal relationship for players to transition to these teams from the junior section.*
- 5.5.5 Offer female football provision and opportunities.
- 5.5.6 Attend an Environments for HER workshop.
- 5.5.7 Have women and girls provision and growth featured within the development plan.
- 5.5.8 Organise and run at least ONE FAW approved community programme;
  - Club or Community Open day,
  - FAW Huddle sessions,
  - Disability football sessions,
  - School football sessions,
  - McDonalds Fun Football Charter Mark Scheme,
  - Charity Events,
  - Turn up & Play session,
  - Walking Football,
  - Wellbeing sessions
  - Footie Families.

## **6. PLATINUM AWARD**

Clubs registered on the scheme MUST complete the following quality standards in order to achieve PLATINUM AWARD accreditation:

### **6.1 Constitution and Affiliation**

Clubs must: -

- 6.1.1 Operate within a constitution comprising of the following nominated officers: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Accreditation Officer and COMET Champion. One person cannot hold more than two of these positions within a club or across clubs.
- 6.1.2 Appointment of a PAWB Equality Champion to lead the implementation of the Clwb PAWB Programme ([www.pawb.cymru/clwbpawb](http://www.pawb.cymru/clwbpawb)). The PAWB Equality Champion will



be required to complete the 'Creating a Clwb PAWB' Online Course as part of their appointment.

- 6.1.3 Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association.
- 6.1.4 Attend meetings as designated by the respective local junior league. In the event of the secretary being unable to attend, one of the four other nominated officers may attend in his/her absence.
- 6.1.5 Place the safety, welfare, and enjoyment of players at the centre of the club philosophy and constitution.
- 6.1.6 The club must provide evidence identifying the commencement of their club development plan. Featuring FOR Her goals.
- 6.1.7 appointed of a "FOR HER Champion" who has attended a FOR HER workshop and has at least 3x W&G teams and/or 2 teams and Huddle.

## **6.2 Safeguarding and Player Welfare**

Clubs must: -

- 6.2.1 Appoint a nominated Safeguarding Officer to liaise with the local League Safeguarding Officer.
- 6.2.2 Ensure the nominated Safeguarding Officer attends a FAW Safeguarding Award, holds an equivalent qualification (UK Sports Coaching Safeguarding Award or NSPCC Time to Listen Award) or has a professional occupation (Social Worker, Police Force or teacher) with Safeguarding or Child Protection responsibilities, holds a valid FAW DBS check and COMET ID.
- 6.2.3 Ensure the Safeguarding Officer's details are clearly displayed and communicated on club digital platforms, clubhouse, and welcome pack.
- 6.2.4 Ensure that the club and all persons adhere to the FAW Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practices, Codes of Conduct, all Welfare regulations and instructions issued by the FAW.
- 6.2.5 Ensure all persons who have access to children and young people participate in the FAW national DBS programme and obtain a valid DBS Certificate and subsequent FAW number. All persons who hold solely administrative positions (including but not limited to Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer or equivalent positions) and as such do not have active roles with children and young people will require approval through the COMET Football Management system.
- 6.2.6 Ensure all persons with access to children and young people has their COMET ID available at all appropriate times.
- 6.2.7 Adhere to FAW Volunteer recruitment and deployment guidelines.

### 6.3 Club workforce and development

Clubs must:-

6.3.1 Ensure they adhere to the following ratios at the correct age groups

Age group	Qualified coach : Players ratio	DBS certified adult : Players ratio	Qualified first aiders : Players ratio
U6 – U8	1:16	1:6	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U9 – U12	1:16	1:8	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue
U13 – U16	1:18	1:10	Minimum 1 per training or playing venue

6.3.2 A club may appoint volunteers to the role of ‘team helper’ with any team. Subject to completion of a FAW DBS check these individuals can supervise young people to ensure the correct player to adult ratio is maintained.

6.3.3 Ensure each U6 – U11 age group squad has at least ONE qualified coach, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

6.3.4 Ensure each U12 – U17 age group squad has at least TWO qualified coaches, minimum FAW Football Leaders Award.

6.3.5 Ensure each club has at least ONE First Aid qualified person at each training or playing venues.

The FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course has been designed by the FAW Medical Department to meet the needs of grassroots football and the requirements of the FAW Club Accreditation Scheme.

Accepted First Aid Qualifications

· FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course – we would advise that all those involved in the game complete this course due to its specificity to the football environment.

· Individuals with the following roles who work within the Healthcare profession, with up-to-date training, will be determined as an appropriately qualified first aid provider without completing the FAW Football Emergency Aid (FEA) course:

Nurse (RGN)

Physiotherapist (HCPC)

Doctor (GMC)

Paramedic (HCPC)

First Aid/BLS/ALS Tutor

Sports Therapist/Rehabilitator

Military Combat Medical Technician (CMT)

A recognised HSE First Aid for Sport Course (such as 'British Red Cross First Aid for Sport course or St John's Ambulance Sports First Aid training course)

First Aid Qualifications Not Accepted

First Aid at Work

Emergency First Aid at Work

First Aid for baby and child

First aid for adults

- 6.3.6 Ensure there is a ratio of one valid FAW 'C' Certificate coach for every three teams within the club.
- 6.3.7 Ensure one coach minimum completes and maintains a valid FAW Goalkeepers Award.
- 6.3.8 Ensure there is an adult(s) in attendance who possesses a FAW DBS, FAW Football Leaders Award and FAW First Aid Award for all age group squad's matches and training sessions.
- 6.3.9 Appoint a nominated Club Volunteer Coordinator, must be different to the Coaching Coordinator.
- 6.3.10 Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches are not registered on the COMET system.

#### **6.4 Equipment and Facilities**

Clubs must: -

- 6.4.1 Use appropriate and safe facilities for games and coaching sessions.
- 6.4.2 Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW ([www.faw.cymru](http://www.faw.cymru)) and are stored away safely and securely when not in use.

- 6.4.3 Ensure risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs. In addition, an annual review of the risk assessment should be undertaken with appropriate amendments made where required.

## 6.5 Club provision and development

Clubs must:-

- 6.5.1 Ensure all clubs adhere to FAW Small-Sided Football Regulations.
- 6.5.2 Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender or ability.
- 6.5.3 For U6 – U12 age groups, all players should have a minimum of 50% playing time when participating in matches.
- 6.5.4 Organise and run MINIMUM
- 3 different teams at U6-U11 age groups
  - 3 different teams at U12-U16 age groups
  - 1 YOUTH team AND 1 SENIOR ADULT team
- OR
- 2 SENIOR ADULT teams
- Youth and adult teams can be provided by a partner club providing there is a formal relationship in place for players to transition to these teams from the junior section.*
- 6.5.5 Offer female football provision and opportunities.
- 6.5.6 Attended an Environments for HER workshop.
- 6.5.7 Have women and girls' provision and growth featured within the development plan.
- 6.5.8 Organise and run at least THREE FAW approved community programmes;
- Club or Community Open day,
  - FAW Huddle sessions,
  - Disability football sessions,
  - School football sessions,
  - McDonalds Fun Football Charter Mark Scheme,
  - Charity Events,
  - Turn up & Play session,
  - Walking Football,
  - Wellbeing sessions
  - Footie Families.

A list of approved Community Activities can be found [here](#).

## **7 Club good practice**

### **7.1 Code of Conduct**

Clubs should: --

- 7.1.1 Promote the FAW Code of Conduct and Good Practice through the use of appropriate literature and other tools engaging children, young people and adults. Recommended literature and other tools can be found [here](#).

### **7.2 Equipment and Facilities**

Clubs should: --

- 7.2.1 Follow the regulations relating to Small-Sided Football which can be found [here](#).
- 7.2.2 Ensure players in year 6 or under use size 3/4 footballs with a minimum of 1 ball for every two players.
- 7.2.3 Ensure players in year 7 and over use size 4/5 footballs with a minimum of 1 ball for every two players.
- 7.2.4 Ensure each team/16 players having the following equipment as a minimum requirement: -
- 8 balls,
  - 20 marker cones,
  - 2 x Sets of coloured training bibs,
  - 1 x ball net,
  - 1 x stirrup pump,
  - 1 x first aid kit.

### **7.3 Volunteer recruitment**

Clubs should: -

- 7.3.1 Encourage parents of children and young people to take an active role within the club by identifying roles and responsibilities by them undertaking a parent registration form.

### **7.4 Identification and support of Talented Players**

Clubs should: -

7.4.1 Encourage and refer male and female players with potential to attend the local Development Centres or Academies.