



01 June 2009

To: FA Charter Standard Clubs

Dear Secretary,

## **Under 8s and Summer Tournaments**

In the last two weeks we have received complaints that Charter Standard Clubs have run, and or taken part in, summer tournaments where U8 players were permitted to play in competitive matches where trophies were awarded to the winners.

I would like to remind all Clubs that this contrary to The FA Rules of Mini-soccer as highlighted below:

*Under 7's or Under 8's are not permitted to play in leagues where results are collected or published or winner trophies are presented, this is deemed to be detrimental to the development of the player and the game and will not be sanctioned. To play in a KO Cup game or a game where points are awarded, or results collected, a player must have achieved the age of 8 on or before 31<sup>st</sup> August.*

Please pass this message on to your Club committee and team managers in particular; as the most recent complaint alleges that the U8 team managers 'voted' to change the U8 tournament rules from non-competitive to competitive on the day!

Failure to comply with the regulation is viewed as a serious issue and all complaints will be investigated. Any Club found to have broken the regulation may have its hard-earned Charter Standard status suspended or revoked and future applications to sanction a summer tournament may not be approved.

I am sorry to have to deliver such a strong message, but we must act to safeguard the interests of the children taking part in local tournaments.

Yours faithfully

David Neale  
Chief Executive



Official kit supplier to Gloucestershire FA

