



CHARTER STANDARD

Best Practice Guidance for Grassroots Football regarding Football Scouts.

As you will be aware in recent months there have been a number of incidents involving an alleged bogus scout attending grassroots football games. In line with the concerns and in order to balance participant's awareness, the following guidelines have been circulated to Club Welfare Officers. Please feel free to use this information at your clubs and meetings. If you have any feedback regarding the guidelines or scouts in general please feed this information back to Manchester FA County Welfare Officer.

- Professional club scouts (sometimes referred to as Recruitment Officers in the Premier League) should identify themselves to the club managers / officials at the start of a game or training session if they are there to scout for players
- Always approach any unidentified or suspicious adults observing matches and ask about their involvement with the game
- If a person identifies themselves as a club scout always ask to see their identification; if they are unable to provide any identification ask them for their name and the person at the club who they formally report to
- If they cannot provide identification and choose to stay at the game / training session ensure that they are not left on their own
- If you have any reason to be suspicious of their actions or intent contact the club for verification of the ID where it has been given; where there is no ID you may wish to ask them to leave or contact the police
- Report as soon as is realistically possible to your CFA Welfare Officer the name of the individual who has claimed to be a scout and the club that they claimed to be working for where no identification has been provided or where you have reason to doubt the validity of the ID