



St Francis Rangers FC

INTRODUCTION FOR COACHES

Who We Are

St Francis Rangers is a community-led football club based in Haywards Heath that has played an important role in developing youth football since the 1990s. The Club has its own pitches at The Colwell Ground, located behind the Princess Royal Hospital. We are an inclusive club, where our doors are truly open to all.

Our Philosophy

- One team spirit, even with multiple teams per age group: we don't stream by ability or form cliques—our focus stays on shared development, friendship, and fun for every child;
- Player development first – we focus on building confidence, skills and friendships;
- Community-focussed: all funds are reinvested into the club;
- Fun & fairness – we want kids to love football and feel valued;

What we provide for coaches

- Discounted player fees (50%), only £100 per season for your child / children
- Fully funded coaching courses, including:
 - [FA Introduction to Coaching Football](#)
 - [FA Introduction to First Aid in Football](#)
 - [FA Safeguarding Children Course](#)
- Club funded Enhanced DBS checks;
- Free SFR branded training jacket;
- A wide range of apps and online tools to help manage your team;
- Onsite equipment storage, with plenty of club maintained coaching equipment;
- Administrative support from an active club committee, with a dedicated coaching representative, to ensure that your voice is heard and can shape how we run the club
- An engaged parent community to assist with setup, transport and matchday;

At our club, we genuinely value our coaches—not just for the time they give, but for the impact they have—so we support them, listen to them, and give them the tools they need to make the club the best it can be.

Training & Match Info

Matches: Sunday mornings (Sep–Apr) at The Colwell Ground, in the [Mid Sussex Youth League](#)

Training: Saturdays, 8:45am–10:00am (year-round)

Summer Venue: The Colwell Ground, Haywards Heath.

Winter Venue: (Oct-Mar): Oathall Community College, 3G Pitches (exclusive access)

Click [here](#) for maps

Club Fees & Equipment

Players pay an annual fee of £200, which includes:

- Training kit;
- Match kit (either use existing kit, or source shirt sponsors for ~£500)
- All equipment and pitch hire;
- Entry into local tournaments;
- End-of-season awards.

Safeguarding, Welfare & Code of Conduct

The Club has a dedicated Club Welfare Officer whose role is to ensure that the club complies with FA safeguarding policies by acting as the main point of contact for safeguarding concerns, promptly reporting any issues, and maintaining confidential records. They ensure all coaches and volunteers have up-to-date DBS checks and safeguarding training, regularly review and communicate the club's welfare policies, and promote a positive, inclusive environment. The CWO supports players, parents, and staff by encouraging open communication, monitoring for bullying or welfare concerns, and liaising with the FA and external agencies as needed. They also handle the administration of safeguarding documentation and help embed safeguarding practices throughout the club.

See our safeguarding statement [here](#)

We all have a role in safeguarding young people and the club requires coaches to adhere to the FA's [Code of Conduct For Adults in Youth Football](#).

Future Investment

The Club anticipates benefitting from future investment in the Colwell Ground by the Colwell Ground Community Interest Company. The investment aims to deliver new pitches, including an all-weather pitch, plus new changing and car-parking facilities. See the latest design concept [here](#).

Starting a New Team?

We love welcoming new teams and coaches to the club. If you'd like to set up your own team:

- The club will handle recruitment, admin and setup;
- You focus on coaching and creating a positive environment;
- You'll be supported by a friendly, experienced network of coaches and volunteers;
- You'll receive everything needed to hit the ground running

If you would like any further information, please contact us at sfrjnrs.join@gmail.com.