

EDF STATEMENT

9 August 2021

RE. 2021/2022 Season

LICENSING

England Deaf Football received a total of 15 clubs registering for our upcoming EDF Challenge Cup and Leagues for this season.

Upon liaising with The FA's License & Sanction team to obtain licensing certificate, we learnt that it is not possible to accept clubs from different countries (i.e. Scotland).

Both The FA and Scottish FA have been in dialogue with EDF and SDFA in the past 24 hours. They acknowledge that the change of rule came from UEFA. Members of The FA and Scottish FA staff sits on the Disability Panel in the UEFA has agreed to raise the matter in the next UEFA's Disability Panel meeting in hope to seek further clarifications and support in hope that rules can be amend for disabled players going forward.

Unfortunately, the EDF will not be able to receive license to continue competitive games involving two clubs from Scotland. The SDFA has been made aware of this, both EDF and SDFA will continue working with The FA and Scottish FA to increase opportunities for deaf players in the UK.

PLAYERS' INTERNATIONAL CLEARANCE

Due to the issues related to licensing (above). Both The FA and Scottish FA made their position clear about players being registered in different countries. The rule is as follow: -

A player can only be registered in a country of their choice. This means that the player can only play for any clubs in both Football in the SAME country.

Example: -

Alan Davies lives in Glasgow. Alan would like to play for York Deaf FC in England. This mean that Alan can only play in England for York Deaf FC and any other mainstream team in England only in Football. Alan also can play Football clubs – either Deaf or mainstream clubs in England only. Alan cannot play for any clubs in Scotland in both Football.

Due to unfortunate changes since the License and Sanction team informing us of above facts and changes in the past 48 hours, we apologise for the timing of this statement.

We will ask all four (4) FAs to liaise with each other re. International Clearance for our players' registrations to ascertain that no-one can play for clubs in two countries, both in Football and Futsal.

England Deaf Football