**Best Practice - Team Leicestershire**

**Summary**

Team Leicestershire is an umbrella organisation run by LRS (Leicestershire & Rutland Sport) and 8 local school sports associations for the delivery of competitive secondary school sport. Leicestershire and Rutland School FA is one of these, covering both male and female disciplines and girls’ futsal. TL offers a pyramid structure to school football competitions in Leicestershire and Rutland, with local area competitions based on School Sports Partnership area boundaries run by SGOs (School Games Organisers) forming the group stage of County cup competitions. Winners of these local area rounds progress to knock out stage of the competitions, and winners attend a finals day at a high profile neutral venue. All fixtures and results are hosted on the website throughout the competition, so progress can be tracked and players get more of a sense that they are participating in *County* Finals. A fixture calendar is announced at the start of the year and all results are inputted directly to the site by the schools themselves.

**Main Outcomes**

* To ensure that every school has access to competitive football
* To deepen the pool of secondary school students playing football in Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.
* To align football across the county to agreed deadlines and to showcase school football competitions with use of high publicity finals and venues.
* To provide a clear line of sight for competitors, from group stages through to national competitions where applicable.

**Challenges**

* Weather!
* Schools extending deadlines of their own accord – not sticking to the set deadlines

**Future actions**

* Expand the Team Leicestershire Football model to FE/U19 age groups. This has been trialled this year and will be developed based on feedback from the schools/colleges involved.
* Look to include Primary school competitions (i.e. Danone Cup) within the Team Leicestershire model, however this would require increased capacity across the county to run both local area leagues and the knock out competitions in this style.

**Website**

Team Leicestershire - <https://www.teamleicestershire.org/>

**Contact**

Team Leicestershire: Matty Crackell / [m.crackell@LRSport.org](mailto:m.crackell@LRSport.org) / 01509 564 865

Leicestershire & Rutland Schools FA: Steve Abson / [s.abson@btopenworld.com](mailto:s.abson@btopenworld.com) / 07962 112 118