

SEPTEMBER 2011



FA CHARTER STANDARD CLUBS & LEAGUES

FREE LEGAL HELPLINE

0191 2 11 77 99

CSlegalhelp@TheFA.com

Muckle LLP

The FA is delighted to have teamed up with Muckle LLP to launch a legal services hotline for Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues which will deliver legal advice free of charge at point of need. This initiative is funded by The FA in order to reward those Clubs and Leagues who have achieved The FA Charter Standard accreditation. Muckle LLP legal helpline will connect you to experienced lawyers who can help answer any legal queries and issues that relate to your Club or League. The lawyers at Muckle LLP are there to advise on a range of legal areas such as contracts, organisational structures, landlord & tenant, property and grounds, construction projects, employment, health & safety, freedom of information and resolving disputes.

Muckle^{LLP}

www.TheFA.com/YourGame

Muckle^{LLP}

www.TheFA.com/YourGame

Free Legal Helpline for FA Charter Standard Clubs & Leagues

The Football Association is proud to announce the launch of a legal services hotline which will be operated by Muckle LLP solicitors. Muckle LLP will provide a FREE legal helpline for all FA Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues for season 2011/12.

The Football Association will pilot the scheme from 1st September 2011 until 31st July 2012. FA Charter Standard Clubs & Leagues will need to provide their National ID number as proof of identification at the start of each call. This can be obtained from your parent County FA, Member Services or your affiliation receipt.



You will have a maximum call length of 30 minutes for each legal enquiry.

If your legal issue is of a particularly complex nature and cannot be resolved within a 30 minute phone call you may require fully supported legal representation. For this type of ongoing legal support The FA has negotiated an extremely competitive rate of £137.50 per hour (plus VAT) with Muckle LLP for all FA Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues. In exceptional cases this may rise to £165 per hour (plus VAT) depending on the nature and complexity of the matter but Clubs and Leagues will be fully consulted in relation to the appropriate fee structure on a case by case basis prior to becoming a client of Muckle LLP.

For all ongoing matters (excluding the free legal helpline service) The FA will receive 10% back from Muckle LLP to be reinvested into the legal helpline to ensure that we can support as many FA Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues as possible and maintain a quality of service that you deserve.

FA Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues will of course still be free to select a different legal provider for any ongoing matters at their own discretion.

Phone lines open 8.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays. All calls received outside these hours will receive a response within 24 hours of the office re-opening.

Areas of Legal Advice Provided

Muckle LLP have been selected to provide FA Charter Standard Clubs and Leagues legal advice due to their expertise on a broad range of issues relevant for football clubs. As a nationally renowned legal firm they are able to cater for, and have experience in, all legal issues including:

Constitutional & Organisational Structure

Advice on the various legal structures available for Clubs and Leagues, any aspects of each structure, together with their advantages and disadvantages.

Landlord & Tenant

Advice on ground leases, tenancy agreements, hiring of facilities, community asset transfers and public and occupier's liabilities. In addition they can advise on the purchase / sale of freehold properties, securing finance against property assets and ground relocations and redevelopments.

Building & Planning

The Muckle Planning team can advise across a spectrum of planning related services including submission of planning applications / rights of appeal against planning decisions, negotiating / removing conditions attached to planning decision notices and providing advice on Highway Agency powers.

Licensing Advice

Advice can be sought around Licensing applications for alcohol, entertainment and gaming licences.

Employment Law

The advice will cover all aspects of employment law from recruitment, managing performance to dismissal, including advice on equality and diversity issues.

Health & Safety

Advice can cover all elements of enforcement and regulatory proceedings in both Magistrates and Crown Courts including prosecutions and investigations in relation to Health & Safety enforcement proceedings.

Contract Law

With experience of contractual complexities in both the commercial and third sector, Clubs and Leagues can be assisted with the legal aspects of contractual negotiation.

Dispute Resolution

Advice can be sought on dealing with all aspects of Data Protection and in responding to requests in relation to the Freedom of Information.

Data Protection / Freedom of Information

Advice can be sought on dealing with all aspects of Data Protection and in responding to requests in relation to the Freedom of Information.