

Scottish Youth FA

Directive



Shaking hands

The Scottish Youth FA encourages all teams to participate in a handshake line-up BEFORE the start of all matches. There is NO requirement to line up and shake hands after a game.

Season 2025-26

Since Covid, there has been a practice of lining players & coaches up at the conclusion of a match to touch elbows, fist-pump or shake hands. This has become an established part of the game. However well meaning, this has created the opportunity for flashpoints between players and coaches.

There is no SYFA rule that requires this to continue.



Shaking hands at the game's conclusion, while not compulsory, is encouraged to foster mutual respect and sportsmanship among players and officials. This gesture, though discretionary, can significantly contribute to a positive and respectful environment.