



FAI Limerick and Clare ETB Soccer Skills Development Course

A course primarily for 16-18 year olds interested in developing a potential career in Football or in the Sports, Leisure and Recreation industry



How to apply

Applicants can register for the course with your local Employment Service Office (Dept. of Social Protection), Additional Criteria: - Applicants will be requested to participate in trial football matches prior to enrolling on the programme.



FAI ETB Bobby Smith Cup champions, 2013

Contact Information

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Lúimnigh agus an Chláir
Limerick and Clare
Education and Training Board

FAI FÁS Soccer Skills Development Course

Is this Course for You?

The soccer skills development course is the course for you if you are unemployed and age 16-35, and are interested in developing a career in football or the Sports, Leisure and Recreation industry.

You don't have to be from Limerick to get on the course; however, some places are reserved for players from Regeneration areas in Limerick.

Regeneration areas of Limerick City include Southill, Moyross, Ballinacurra Weston, St. Mary's Park

Purpose of the Course

This course provides a unique opportunity for talented young footballers in Ireland, who are currently unemployed, to acquire relevant educational qualifications, and improve their employability, while at the same time enhancing their football skills.

Course Content

Football: The football aspects of the programme include two to three hours coaching a day and weekly matches. This is expert and progressive, and delivered by UEFA qualified coaches. Goalkeepers also benefit from specific goalkeeping coaching. Coaching is supplemented by a fitness programme equivalent to full time training in England, including strength & conditioning, yoga and recovery sessions.

Education: Course participants will work towards a full FETAC Level 5 Major Award in Sport, Recreation and Exercise. Work Experience, Communication, Word Processing and Sport and Recreation are components of the FETAC award. Participants can also gain the internationally recognised ITEC Gym Instructor Diploma for working in Gyms and Leisure centres.

Course Outcomes:

On completion of the course you will have:

- Enhanced your footballing skill and expertise
- Developed your physical fitness to a level that will enable you compete in elite competition
- Acquired relevant qualification(s) in the Sport, Leisure and Recreation area and significantly enhanced your employability in this sector
- Improved your general education in areas such as IT and Communications
- Completed a relevant work placement
- Developed useful links in world of Soccer and the wider sport and leisure industry

How the Course is Organised

This full time course is a joint venture by the FAI, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB), and Limerick City and County Council through the Office of Regeneration. It is funded by the LCETB and Limerick City and County Council, and coordinated by UEFA qualified FAI coaches. The course is based in St Enda's Community School and Pike Rovers FC on the southside of Limerick City, and is one of seven similar training programmes delivered by the FAI in the country. There is also the Bobby Smith Cup to play for with all the FAI ETB courses squaring up to each other in a league format.

International football trips (funded by the trainees) are part of the programme each year with Werder Bremen and Manchester City visited in the last two years.

Certification & Progression

This course offers FETAC certification at Level 5 and candidates can achieve the equivalent of 400 Leaving Cert points. In the past graduates of the programme have gone onto Limerick IT, Cork IT, GMIT, IT Tralee, Carlow IT, Limerick College of Further Education and Limerick Central College.

Participants can also achieve the ITEC Gym Instructor Diploma with a number of graduates currently working in gyms and leisure centres.

While everyone who completes the course will have a marked improvement in their footballing skills, some will progress to play soccer at elite levels. Limerick graduates have played for Limerick FC, Dundalk, Galway FC, Cobh Ramblers, Mervue Utd and Wexford Youths.