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FOOTBALL Association receive letter from teams



Harrow Borough's season was declared null and void last week. Picture: Bruce Viveash

Borough player of the season

HARROW INVITE FANS TO SELECT BEST PLAYER



Harrow Borough. Picture: Bruce Viveash

HARROW Borough have invited supporters to begin voting for their player of the season over the weekend, now that the campaign has officially been declared null and void by the Football Association.

After the announcement that all results from the season were to be expunged due to the coronavirus outbreak, the club confirmed that they would still be having a celebration, of sorts, by asking fans to name who they thought had been the best player during the incomplete season. Borough confirmed that there would be no actual end of season awards evening taking place this summer, with government measures to curtail the spread of the Covid-19 virus keeping people indoors for the foreseeable future, but that they wanted supporters to choose the player they think performed best throughout the season as a recognition of the players' efforts.

A brief statement on the club website reads: "The Southern League season has been abandoned and results expunged.

"Sadly our club is shut and must remain so during the lockdown. There will not be an end of season awards night this season, nor will there be any awards made.

"However, we thought supporters might still like to vote for their player of the season, just for a bit of fun."

A special vote has been set up for supporters to choose from players who are still at the club and who made at least 20 appearances during the season, although they can also nominate others should they wish to do so.

Voting will remain open between now and midnight on April 13, with the winner named soon after.

100 clubs write to FA

MORE than 100 clubs, including Peterborough, have now signed a letter to the Football Association to express "profound concern and displeasure" with the decision to expunge all results for the 2019-20 season at non-league and grassroots level, including Harrow Borough's Southern League Premier Division South.

The FA has faced criticism for voiding the season for non-league divisions below the National League and National League North and South, and for women's football below the Women's Super League and Championship, due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The governing body has said the decision was made by the leagues and supported by the FA Board and FA Women's Board, though it is yet to be ratified by the FA Council.

A letter sent to the FA on Monday carried an initial 64 signatories from across non-league football, but has attracted additional support since first being published, with South Shields saying on Tuesday morning the number had sur-

By Ryan Gray

passed 100.

Peterborough owner Darragh MacAnthony also confirmed via social media that he has signed the letter on behalf of the Sky Bet League One club.

The letter accuses the FA of acting with "needless and inexplicable haste" in acting to void the season and said this was "coupled with (a) total lack of substantive dialogue or consultation with affected clubs".

An FA spokesperson said: "The decision taken to end the 2019-20 season across steps three to seven of the National League system was made by committee representatives from the respective leagues, and was supported by the FA Board and the FA Women's Board.

"We fully support the decision they came to during these challenging and unprecedented circumstances for English football."



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