Keeping you ahead of the game
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Moore Stephens has advised a number of football clubs, sports organisations and sports personalities over many years. Our industry group brings focus to our delivery of tangible benefits to our clients.

About Moore Stephens
Moore Stephens offers a wide range of services to football clubs assisting them to maximise their income, increase efficiency, manage risks and secure a sustainable future. As the UK’s 9th largest independent accounting and consulting network, we are large enough to supply a comprehensive range of services but are compact enough to devise tailored, professional solutions to suit our clients’ individual needs.

Understanding the sector
We understand the drivers and issues facing football clubs. We anticipate regulatory updates and changes to ensure we keep our clients ahead of the game. Revenue generated by football clubs has increased exponentially over the past 15 years, but with the opportunities associated with this growth come traps for the unwary.

We understand the policy direction of the tax and regulatory authorities, as well as the dynamics of the sector. We use this knowledge to advise them by working with football clubs, players, investors, property developers, governing bodies and event organisers alike.

Our football club offering
Our range of services includes, but is not limited to:

- football Foundation grant claims;
- charity services to Community Trusts;
- corporate restructuring;
- private client services for owners and players;
- corporate finance – valuations, funding etc.;
- investor tax reliefs including EIS;
- payroll and finance outsourcing;
- governance, risk and assurance – Financial Fair Play (‘FFP’).

Issues affecting football clubs… and how we can help
Football clubs face challenges that are unlike any others in the sports and leisure sector. Below we highlight some of our solutions:

Financial systems
We conduct reviews of the processes involved in preparing management accounts across three stages:

Stage 1: Restructure the nominal ledger using our team’s knowledge of football clubs, enabling the required reporting to be produced.

Stage 2: Using our teams knowledge of the finance systems, create bespoke reports alleviating the need to export reports manually, saving finance teams time, whilst providing reassurance the reports come direct from its finance system.

Stage 3: Create budget templates for the finance team to complete which we then import directly into the finance system.

These stages create an efficient finance process giving the finance team time to concentrate on problem areas and to ensure that the forecasts are always up-to-date. As a result, each football club has been able to halve the time the finance team took to prepare management accounts and focus that time on ensuring the correct figures are reported.

IFRS/FRS 102 conversion
Currently all UK listed groups are required to produce their year-end consolidated financial statements in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as endorsed by the EU.

It is also becoming increasingly common for non-listed companies to choose to prepare their financial statements in accordance with full IFRS especially when
- a listing is intended to take place in the future;
- securing overseas investment;
- requirement of new shareholders especially if international investors.

Over the coming two years most UK companies will be required to either convert to full IFRS or adopt the new UK GAAP (FRS 102), which is a simplified version of IFRS.
Only a handful of UK football clubs have converted to IFRS and we have worked on several of these so have significant experience in helping you through this significant transition.

The concern for management on conversion is the assessment of the impact of changing to IFRS as it affects:
- previously reported results due to changes in accounting policies;
- change in treatment on key items such as player registrations;
- underlying accounting systems;
- level of information required to satisfy additional disclosure requirements.

We can help by ensuring director's understand the impact of converting and help the finance team to update their own system and records so the right information is collected to ensure a smooth transition to IFRS or FRS 102.

**Governance**
Our specialists have extensive experience in providing value added governance support in core areas, providing considerable benefit to all club stakeholders, such as owners, sponsors, fans and the community.

Examples of some of the more significant areas include:
- effectiveness of the board;
- risk management arrangements

- to protect brand and reputation;
- health and safety governance and compliance;
- online ticketing and membership systems, including cyber security and the protection of personal data;
- corporate events management;
- management of key contracts;
- cash handling and stock control in retail and catering outlets;
- marketing and PR;
- management of key stakeholder relationships.

**Financial modelling**
Our advisory team has created a comprehensive bespoke forecasting model for football clubs. The model links directly with your finance system and has been designed to ensure that it is easy to maintain by your finance team.

The model includes a system of checks and balances so that, as the season progresses it's relatively simple to review the accuracy of the model. The model is adaptable to football clubs at all levels and has the ability to be flexed for promotion and relegation.

**Case studies**

**Capital allowances** – After two club relocations we were actively engaged in maximising their capital allowances claims using our property tax experts.

**Enterprise Investment Scheme (EIS)** – advised on the EIS rules so investors could claim EIS relief on a £5 million investment.

**Company secretarial** – acted as company registrar, dealt with all aspects of corporate secretarial activities including share transfers, valuations and filing of statutory forms at Companies House.

**Community Trusts** – assisted with the formation of a Community Trust with charitable status through our experienced Charity Group.

**Interim statements** – acted for a Premiership club, we were engaged in assisting with the preparation of interim financial statements to meet FA regulations. Also acted for Championship clubs in preparation of interim accounts under both UK GAAP and IFRS.
About Moore Stephens

Moore Stephens is a top ten accounting and advisory network, with offices throughout the UK and member firms across the globe.

Our clients range from individuals and entrepreneurs, to large organisations and complex international businesses. We partner with them, support their aspirations and contribute to their success. In-depth understanding of our clients allows us to deliver focused accounting and advisory solutions, both locally and globally.

Clients have access to bespoke services and solutions, including audit and assurance, business support and outsourcing, payroll and employers’ support, business and personal tax, governance and risk, corporate finance, forensic accounting, wealth management, IT consultancy, and restructuring and insolvency.

Our success stems from our industry focus, which enables us to provide an innovative and personal service to our clients in a range of sectors.

Moore Stephens globally

Moore Stephens International is a top ten global accountancy and consulting network, headquartered in London. With fees of over US$2.66 billion and offices in 106 countries, clients have access to the resources and capabilities to meet their global needs.

By combining local expertise and experience with the breadth of our UK and worldwide networks, clients can be confident that, whatever their requirement, Moore Stephens provides the right solution to their local, national and international needs.

Contact information

If you would like further information on any item within this brochure, or information on our services please contact:

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