

FOOD

IF Michelin stars were handed out to football clubs, Kidderminster Harriers' grub would be top of the menu!

From our survey, 22.7 per cent of readers voted the Agborough fayre as the best in Non-League football – an accolade veteran chef Brian Murdoch is rightly proud of. "It's nice to be recognised," said Murdoch. "We aim for quality, homemade food, served hot and fresh on site. We often get praise from fans, but these figures show

Do you buy food at the ground?
Yes 69.67%
No 30.33%

Is the quality good?
Yes 76.98%
No 23.02%

“As a general rule, clubs in the north of England are far superior to the south, food-wise, in Non-League football”

“Kidderminster Harriers without question. The thought of those cottage pies softened the blow of play-off final defeat”

Excluding travel how much do you currently spend on your matchday at a Non-League ground?

£5-£10	27.96%
£11-£15	29.62%
£16-£20	21.41%
£21-£25	11.14%
£25 or more	9.87%

Are you a season ticket holder?
Yes 37.05%
No 62.95%


If yes, what do you pay for your season ticket?

£100 or less	21.89%
£101 - £200	42.97%
£201 - £250	13.25%
£251 - £300	12.65%
£301 - £300	3.61%
£351 - £400	2.21%
More than £400	3.41%

Do you feel your season ticket price represents value for money for the standard of football?
Yes 83.14%
No 16.86%

“Oxford City had a decent variety and a very cheap chicken soup which was perfect on winter Tuesday night games!”

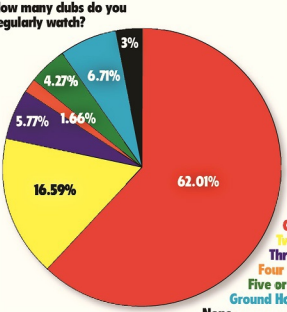
GRUB'S UP! Kidderminster chef Brian Murdoch was the overwhelming favourite in the food category



NLP'S BIG FAT NON-LEAGUE SURVEY

TICKETS, COTTAGE PIES AND BEER BRING FANS CHEER!

THE RESULTS!



W HILE prejudice is clearly still a concern with things said and heard at Non-League grounds, the overall experience for fans attending games is a good one.

Of the 1,266 readers who took part in the biggest Non-League survey of its kind in this country, more than 70 per cent say they have never felt intimidated at a

Non-League ground.

Of course, the 29.07 per cent who have are 364 people too many as we would like to think of grass-roots grounds as safe havens. But most folk will have felt intimidated at some point in their lives walking down a street, sitting on public transport or drinking in a pub, so we believe this is a positive return.

The largest section of respondents watch Conference football at Steps 1 and 2, but whichever level, the overwhelming majority believe the quality on offer provides value for the hard-earned money they spend.

Just under 30 per cent of supporters say they spend between £11-15 inside a Non-League ground, with almost 80 per cent

enjoying a day out – excluding travel – for £20 or less.

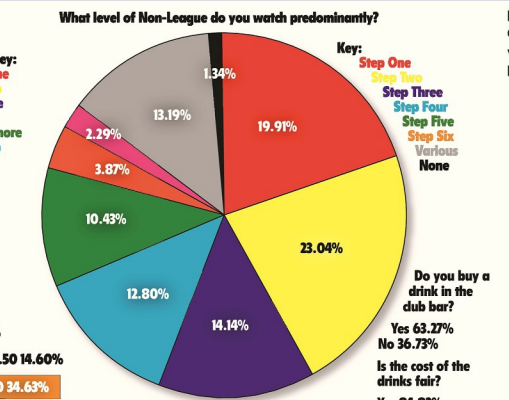
Almost 70 per cent splash out on a programme, 63 per cent buy a drink in the club bar and just under 70 per cent purchase food at the ground – with 85 per cent believing the price of a pint is fair and 77 per cent happy with their grub. Especially when they go to Kidderminster!

Do you think the ban on Non-League players betting on all football is fair?
Yes 67.26%
No 32.74%

Do you bet on football matches?
Yes 31.32%
No 68.88%

Do you take children to Non-League matches?
Yes 36.23%
No 63.77%

Have you ever felt intimidated at a Non-League ground?
Yes 29.07%
No 70.93%



Would you like to see the season start earlier than early to mid-August?
Yes 22.92%
No 77.08%

Do you believe the regular season ends too early in late April?
Yes 54.16%
No 45.84%

Would you like to see midweek matches played every week from the start of the season to allow for postponements later in the campaign?
Yes 58.84%
No 41.16%

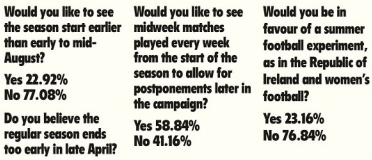
Would you be in favour of a summer football experiment, as in the Republic of Ireland and women's football?
Yes 23.16%
No 76.84%

Do you think the England C team should continue?
Yes 77.04%
No 22.96%

If your club has had a player called up, do you take an interest in how he has got on?
Yes 80.79%
No 19.21%

SEASON

Would you like to see a mid-winter break?



Yes 19.21%	No 80.79%
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Should there be a mid-winter break?



Yes 19.21%	No 80.79%
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Do you buy a drink in the club bar?
Yes 63.27%
No 36.73%

Is the cost of the drinks fair?
Yes 84.82%
No 15.18%

Should you be allowed to drink alcohol on the terraces?
Yes 42.65%
No 57.35%

Do you watch international, Premier League and Champions League football in your club's bar?
Yes 29.70%
No 70.30%

If you buy individual tickets or pay on the gate how much is your club's admission fee?

£5 or less	11.46%
£6 - £10	47.18%
£11 - £15	28.04%
£16 - £20	11.99%
More than £20	1.32%

Do you feel you get value for money for the standard of football?
Yes 84.28%
No 15.72%

ENGLAND C

ENGLAND C have avoided the FA's axe – a decision NLP readers wholeheartedly back.

Last week we exclusively revealed Paul Fairclough's Three Lions will play on for at least another two years despite fears the team could be scrapped as part of cuts to save £30m for Greg Dyke's grass-roots plan.

Former England C stars queued up to back the international team they remember playing a role in the development of their careers.

George Boyd, who played in the Premier League for Burnley last season, Leeds United's Steve Morison, Barnsley manager Lee Johnson, Brighton & Hove Albion keeper David Stockdale, ex-Scotland international Craig Mackail-

Smith and Bristol City defender Aden Flint all supported the team they won caps for.

Fairclough's side beat a full Republic of Ireland U21 side in Galway last month – and there were fears it could be their last game unless the FA performed a U-turn.

Before the FA threw out the proposals, we asked you if the team should continue – 77 per cent said yes.

Players eligible for Fairclough's squad are aged 23 or under in order to compete in the International Challenge Trophy. But 69.5 per cent think the team should revert to an open-age selection policy.



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SMART CALL: Alex Woodyard and his England C teammates have the FA's backing – and our readers'.

PICTURE: Pinnole

