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**“THEY THINK IT’S ALL OVER” – BUT WITH learndirect  
IT DOESN’T HAVE TO BE...**

The World Cup is over and it’s four years until England gets another shot at the trophy, two years until the European Championship and a whole month until the club football season kicks off at home. That could seem like a long time for many fanatics after all the recent football elation and frustration.

So are the next few football-less weeks stretching before you like a barren wasteland? Have you spent the World Cup glued to the screen in the pub or the living room? Were you busting a vocal chord screaming in agony or joy? That energy could be channelled not just *at* football but *into* football, and the way to ease the withdrawal symptoms is to move from spectator to participator by picking up the phone and calling the **learndirect** *national learning advice line* on **0800 100 900**.

The **learndirect** helpline provides free, independent information on over 500,000 courses offered by hundreds of providers nationwide. Open seven days a week from 8am to 10pm, the advice line has taken more than four million calls since its launch and tracked down all sorts of courses for all sorts of people.

Gareth Dent, head of the **learndirect** helpline explains: “The World Cup has shown that Britons really do love their football. But fans don’t have to be content just following the game from the sidelines or the sofa. At the **learndirect** *national learning advice line* we can help people turn their passion into something more - even into their livelihood. Whether that passion is for fashion, French or football, we can find people a course and turn their interest into action”.

**M/f...**

So if you're 'handy' with your feet perhaps it's time to look into Football School, or do a football fitness or football development course. If you're constantly outraged by referee decisions, why not see if you could do any better and enrol on a referee course? Perhaps your talents lie in teaching others and you fancy getting a certificate in football training for the under 10s, studying for your Coaching Licence or even for a BA in Business and Football Management. There are courses in pitch-side first aid and even in football history, culture and society for anyone less inclined towards physical exertion. In short, there's a course out there for every fan, from the serious business of football administration to football fun and skills.

Gareth continues: "Not all of us can bend it like Beckham or save it like Seaman, but that doesn't have to mean the death of our footballing ambitions. If you love the game there are other ways to live it, and the **learndirect** *national learning advice line* can help you find them. Whether you want to help coach a group of kids or research the history of a local team, by calling **0800 100 900** you can get the skills you need to do something you really enjoy in your local area. Give **learndirect** a ring and make sure that rather than just being on the screen, football's coming home - with you.'

**ENDS**

For further information about **learndirect**, call the Press Office on 0114 291 5680