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Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**Re: No pre-match handshakes at all FAI matches**

Dear Affiliates,

The Football Association of Ireland has decided today to issue a directive to all affiliates instructing you that players are not to shake hands with their opponents or match officials at all games under FAI jurisdiction.

The FAI decision, following on from a UEFA directive for their competitions, comes into effect immediately and will remain until further notice across all games in the Republic of Ireland.

The decision has been taken in line with recommendations made by the World Health Organisation to minimise potential transmission of COVID-19.

The FAI medical team remain in communication with the Department of Health and will follow all government recommendations regarding coronavirus.

Your sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rea Walshe'.

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Rea Walshe  
Chief Operation Executive

