

## **FOR IMMEDIATE USE**

### **JOINT STATEMENT FROM:**

The Association of Tartan Army clubs (ATAC - Scotland)  
Football Supporters Federation (FSF - England)  
Football Supporters Federation Cymru (FSF - Wales) and  
Amalgamation of Official NI Fans Clubs (AONISC - Northern Ireland)

### **FANS GROUPS ISSUE "HANDS OFF" WARNING TO BOA CHIEF CLEGG**

Fans groups representing all of the home nations' teams today released a joint statement, blasting BOA Chief Exec Simon Clegg.

Spokesman Tam Ferry said:

"The Official Supporters Groups of Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland today issued a 'HANDS OFF' warning to Simon Clegg and his unhealthy obsession for a TEAM GB football team for the 2012 Olympics. Clegg has no appreciation of the fragile nature and unique status of the 4 home nation Football Associations within world football. There have been several attempts over the last 30 years to force the 4 Associations to amalgamate. Any recognition of a GB football team will lead to more pressure from the International Football community to merge under one team, with one FA and with single membership of FIFA and UEFA. "

He continued:

"The NoTeamGB.com campaign are delighted to welcome the IFA, in their decision to withdraw support for a Team GB, joining the SFA and the FAW in distancing themselves from any Olympic Football. The FA need to listen to their own fans, the England Fans, and stand up to this political bullying and withdraw their support for the Team immediately.

What Mr Clegg as a non-football man fails to realise is that the London Olympics take place less than 4 weeks after the 2012 European Football Championships in Poland and Ukraine, and during the domestic football season.

Mr Clegg needs to accept that there is no Team GB as far as football goes, and that fact wont change no matter how many times he says 'GB football team'.

We wish all the participating athletes every success at the London Olympics, but as football fans, we simply wish the BOA would stop using our beautiful game as a political football. Football fans aren't interested in the Olympics; its the European Championships and the worlds greatest sporting event, the World Cup that matters. "

**ENDS**

Contact

- Tam Ferry (Spokesman) - 07984 510033
- Simon Johnston - 07967 102 588