

TOUCHLINE

WBTFC Newsletter Volume 1 September 2008

Welcome: This is the first of what will be a quarterly newsletter and I hope you find its contents useful. The aim of this communication is to raise awareness of the club objectives, activities and success, as well as up and coming events within the club. However to make this newsletter, and indeed the club, work most effectively we need your feedback so please do take time to pass on thoughts, ideas, and hopefully offers of help. The clubs successes are built around you as members and our fantastic volunteer base which stretches from our mini soccer all the way to our first team.. So a big thanks to you all for whatever part you play in our club, and long may it continue.

Paul, 'H', Harrison – Chairman

Senior teams: Welcome to the start of the 08/09 season hopefully it proves to be better than last season, we welcome a new management team this season with Dave Turner and Alan Blake taking over the reigns as 1st team managers and Ken Turner as u18s manager. At point of writing a lot of effort in pre-season is taking place and we welcome new and old players back to the town this year.

One thing is very clear the first team need your support throughout the season. I have seen the boost the players get when there's good support, last years FA cup run confirmed this. Please take a look at our web site, www.wbtfc.co.uk, or notice boards at Ballards Ash for the fixture list.

Chris Jones – Director of Senior Football

Club development: With the club now achieving Charter Standard Development club status this has brought a host of activity which will be aimed at pushing the club forward in readiness for our new facilities, this drive will ensure that our players and coaching staff are being developed thus ensuing security of our players but also a high standard of coaching across all age groups. The club now holds quarterly review meetings with the Wiltshire County Football Association to assess progress within the club and already we have seen benefits of Charter Standard clubs working together which is improving knowledge within the committee. Our plan has a five year view identifying exit routes for all age groups throughout the club.

I can confirm that our next quarter's objectives are the following: 1) Create a quarterly newsletter; 2) Appoint a Football Development officer; 3) Create a statistical report for monitoring our growth; 4) Move the current plan forward one year to cater for the 2012/2013 season; 5) Create and plan a master coaching program.

Andy Walduck – Club Development officer

Youth teams: A great season so far which followed on from a successful 2007/08 season, both on and off the pitch, new challenges now present themselves to the Youth section. As reported elsewhere the loss of the "Smedley" family from the operational side of the club leaves a large void particularly within the youth section. A behind the scenes reorganisation has now resulted in myself being promoted from "tea bags and toilet rolls" to the rather grand sounding Youth Section Operations Director! I have swiftly asked Nigel Deane to take on the role of deputy operations director (not quite so grand!) It is also pleasing to report that both Dave Topping and Gill Gascoigne have ensured stability by continuing in their section treasurer and secretary positions respectively. Our aim is to provide a solid management and administration platform in support of our managers, coaches and not least registered players. The committee's primary task this season will be delivering several key points of the clubs development plan. Through further education and the implementation of "in house" development days we aim to provide our managers and coaches with the necessary tools to enhance the individual skills and technique of our players. It is planned that this season we can announce the appointment of a "club coach" to assist all our youth teams.

We must acknowledge and learn from previous failures within our section (we now do not have an U11 team this season!), and steps are in place to enhance our links with community soccer to ensure that we always have a strong entry point for new players and coaches alike.

Challenging yet potentially rewarding times ahead, but I am confident we have the infrastructure to succeed and prosper. (if not its back to tea bags and toilet rolls!)

Pete Yeardeley – Director of Youth Football

Relocation: I hope that you are aware that the football club is in the middle of a relocation project which along with the tennis, cricket and running clubs will see the Association move from the current 7 acre site to 26 acres. Progress has been slow and frustrating as we move through the planning application phase, with all questions raised at the first planning session having now been answered we hope to be back in Chippenham in September for a decision. I will update you in the next newsletter.

Andy Walduck – Relocation Officer

What's On?

1st Team games (Check web site and notice boards for details)
Master coaching sessions (dates and time TBA)
Second planning application meeting



New Club structure: Many of you will be aware that Mark Smedley, and family, are soon to move from Bassett to Woking due to work commitments. Mark has been Chairman for the last 5 years as well as matchday program editor, Claire youth section secretary, Scott the website administrator, and Stuart the 1st team matchday reporter. Mark and Claire also organised the 6-a-side tournaments. I am though pleased to say we are not losing them as members, and I know they will visit from time to time. On behalf of the club I would like to thank them for their outstanding contribution as a family, extend our hope that they continue to be part of our club, and wish them all the very best for the future. Mark's resignation proved to be a catalyst for the club committee to evaluate the club structure, and changes were implemented at the AGM. The club has grown considerably in recent years, and we have a development plan that sees us continue that growth, develop school links, and offer football opportunities to more of our community. It's important that our structure allows the club to operate effectively, and to that end we are re-focusing the Club Committee on matters that apply across the club (e.g. financial accounting, club development plan, facilities), and strengthening the responsibility of the "sections", with both Seniors and Youths having their own Operations Director, namely Chris Jones and Pete Yeardeley respectively. To differentiate the committees, the club committee will be known as the Club Executive, and the section committees as Senior/Youth Section Committees. All operational matters for the section will be the responsibility of the section committees, under Chris and Pete's direction, providing for timely decision making as required for operational matters. As the club grows we have the opportunity to add further sections as appropriate, such as Ladies.

The Executive is to be made up of myself as Chairman, Pete and Chris as section Directors, Rod Carter as club Secretary, Dave Topping as club Treasurer (Dave will also remain as Youth Section treasurer), Andy Walduck as club Development Officer, together with Exec members of Gill Gascoigne, Roger Williamson, Steve Matthews, Terry Embling, and Steve Gee. I'll leave Chris and Pete to introduce their team in the next newsletter. When you write it out as I have above, it perhaps sounds grand and over the top, but with 18 teams and more growth planned, it's vital that we have a structure that allows the right decisions to be made at the right level, and in a timely manner. I'd like to thank all those who volunteer their time for the club in whatever way (the 6-a-sides are a fantastic example of just what a club we are, and something we should all take immense pride in), and I look forward to serving our club as best I can over the year.

Paul, 'H', Harrison - Chairman

Sponsor Focus: ABC Tyres and Exhausts have been supporting WBTFC for many years in the main through Boards around the outskirts of the 1st team pitch at Rylands Way. Established in 1990 their business is focused on cars & light commercial vehicles (up to class IV) and they specialise in high performance and 4 wheel drive vehicles. Please give them a call.

WBTFC would like to thank ABC for their continued support through the years. If like ABC if you or your business would like to sponsor WBTFC please drop a note in through our web site

www.wbtfc.uk

September Joke: After a visit to the doctor, Joe Bloggs, the city team's centre forward dropped in to his local pub for a quick one. "What's up mate?" asked his friend Brian, "you look worried." "Yes, I am," Joe replied. "I've just been to the doctor's and he told me I can't play football." "Oh, really?" said Brian. "He's seen you play too then, has he?"

Charity Match helps Cancer Appeal: The Club held a charity game on Saturday 17th May as a cup final curtain lifter, but more importantly the match raised £500 for Macmillan Cancer Support in the process. The game featured the Old Boys (ex players from the past 20 years) versus The Management, a team made up of the youth managers and club committee. In the week before the event furious hunting went on in lofts and cellars for boots last worn some years back. There was much complaining that the kits had clearly shrunk in the wash – as opposed to the players filling them out rather more than they used to! With the game underway it was clear the competitive streak of many had not deserted them, with no one shirking challenges. Fortunately FIFA rules were not fully applied, and rolling substitutions were allowed to provide players with much needed breaks – a sort of modern day job share! The game proved to be a close encounter, with the "Management" just coming out on top 6-5, and was followed by social in the bar and watching the cup final, but most importantly through the game and post match fund raising some £500 in total was raised for Macmillan Cancer Support. This follows a similar game arranged last September when £1,000 was raised for the same charity. Thanks must go to Danny Groom for organising the fixture, and by Xmas the players may just be ready for another!



Wootton Bassett Old Boys



Wootton Bassett Management

