

TOUCHLINE

WBTFC Newsletter Volume 3 March 2009

WBTFC.CO.UK

Welcome: Welcome to this, our 3rd newsletter, through which we aim to keep you informed of club activities and development. Communication is very much the theme of this edition, with Chris commenting on the importance of communication between the senior and junior sections with the aim of consistent approach to development across the different age groups, Pete feeding back on the recent discussion evening held with all youth coaches, and Andy outlining how the club plan to expand the website offering to provide communication to all involved with one of our squads. I must make particular mention also of the historical quest that Mark Smedley has embarked on. Given our club has been in existence since 1882 we actually have little in the way of historical records and Mark's work is changing this. I hope you find the newsletter informative, and if you have any feedback, good or bad, then please do let me know. Paul "H", Chairman

Senior teams: The season is in full swing with the 1st team in a strong position to challenge for promotion. This season although specific targets have been set it is important to realise that playing results were not the only targets. We have made some difficult decisions this season to put some strong foundations into the seniors section to allow us to build a firm base for the future and these are not quick fix solutions, and decisions will be made ongoing to build a stronger senior section for the future both financially and in playing terms. One area of rebuilding is through the integration from junior and senior sections although both have quite different levels it is important that we monitor players coming through the junior levels and identify those players that we can fast track into seniors. However we must be aware of our expectations it is unlikely that 11 players from one age group will automatically progress into senior football although we are charged to bring the cream to the top!. Every opportunity will be given to those players who make the grade to play at the highest level WBTFC can offer (this is the future 1st team players!) I recently wrote in the programme notes that it is good to see so many of the junior players watching the 1st team this season, it is important and very much appreciated by all so please continue this support, I have asked senior players to attend the junior presentation night and the annual 6-a-side tournament to present trophy's and have had an overwhelming positive response.

Chris Jones – Director of Senior Football

Sponsor Focus: Outsource UK, the Swindon based IT recruitment specialists have been supporting WBTFC for more than 5 years. Created in 1991 by Managing Director and Reading fan Paul Jameson, Outsource UK focuses on providing a relationship based solution to both clients and candidates. Working on a local and national scale Outsource UK supplies contract and permanent resource to some of the countries leading organisations. Paul has sponsored advertising boards around the pitch at Ryland's Way and has also seen some of his team apply their dubious talents for WBTFC in past seasons. Thankfully for the sake of football they have now hung up their boots!! For further information please go to www.outsource-uk.co.uk or contact them on 01793 430021.

Youth teams: As the season reaches its usual hectic climax, several of our youth teams are handily poised for honours both in the league and cup. That said the overriding success in my eyes has been the continued development of both players and coaches throughout the season. We recently held an information / feedback development evening with all managers of our youth teams. Numerous issues regarding squad rotation, communication issues between manager, player and parents were discussed in depth. The outcome from this "think tank" will hopefully see these communication lines greatly improved. One initiative that will shortly be launched will be information pages posted on our website for each individual team. Players and parents will be able to log on and see information relating to their own age group regularly updated (i.e. Team news, meeting points etc.) Early days yet, and we are still receptive to new ideas, but watch this space. With the onset of spring that other important date in the youth section approaches... Our annual Holland visit. This year will be extra special as the Dutch will also be sending a party of 60 over as part of a two year exchange programme. Our friends from the v.s, Gravenzandse (as hard to pronounce as it is to spell!!!) will be visiting from the 1st to 4th of May. They will be involved in a hectic programme that will see them visit Arsenal, Reading FC and Swindon Town FC stadiums. They will also be playing three games each against both ours and Swindon Towns youth set ups. Many thanks in advance to the numerous families who will be involved in the hosting programme for without their valuable contribution none of these events would be possible. Finally we bid a fond farewell to one of our current under 9 players, Ryosuke Totsuka who will shortly be returning to his home country of Japan. In his short time in this country Rysoke has not only mastered a new language and culture but also developed into one of the most promising players within our youth set up. We wish him and his family a safe return home and every success for the future.

Pete Yeardley – Director of Youth Football

What's On?

- 17th March 1st Team semi final wilts cup at Melksham Town ground against Warminster FC.
- 9th May Summer Ball and 1st team presentations
- 6th / 7th June WBTFC 6-a-side
- 10th May Minor & Youths presentation (provisional date TBC)



Web Site Update: I'm sure you will agree that our web site www.wbtfc.co.uk has come on leaps and bounds over the last few years; I would like to thank Scott Smedley who has devoted his time and effort on keeping the site moving forward.

The latest drive has been to research on the clubs past which runs right back to 1882, Mark Smedley has been conducting research and found information which goes as far back as Pre War to 1938-39. Mark is still on the lookout for information which details the clubs history; they include team photos and results sheets. If you have some memorabilia tucked away which you think Mark could include in his collection please pass it onto the club. When you have some time take a look at the web site and see what's there already, I think Pete Yearley has aged well since 1959! [Clubs history](#).



Relocation: Following on from the news that planning had been granted for the development on the new facility, I can now confirm that planning has now been granted for the building on Ryland's Way, good news. Persimmon Homes will now focus on negotiating the section 106 with the local council, whereby they agree contributions to community services such as health and education. It's also clear the current economic climate will impact on the timing of our new facility, although you could argue it's a good time to engage with development contractors. I would suggest that we are looking at a further 14-18 months delay before work commences. With this in mind the Sports Association have embarked on a project which will see improvements to the current facility at Ryland's Way, once I have some more detail I will give you an update.

Andy Walduck – Relocation Officer

Joke: A little boy took his parents to court because he did not want to live with them anymore. The honored judge said to him "So why don't you want to live with your dad?" "Because he beats me" said the little boy. "Why don't you want to live with your mum then?" asked the judge. Because she beats me as well. "Oh" said the judge "Well who would you like to live with then?" The little boy replied "I would like to live with Southampton FC, because they don't beat anyone!!"

Club development: WBTFC has been awarded "Community Club Status" - this is a great achievement for our club! This accomplishment could not have been achieved without the hard work of our coaching staff, Committee members and the support from our members, so thanks for that. I can also reveal that WBTFC are the only club in Wiltshire to hold such accreditation, I would suggest that demonstrates how hard it is to obtain.

Progress on last quarter's objectives has again been good with all bar one objective being met; the role of football development officer has yet to be filled, although in March we have started to make some progress, although a little slow. As you have read already one of the aims of the youth teams is to feed the senior sides, the same process is required for our youth sides with boy and girls from as young as 5/6/7 years of age. It's our intention to bring "Community Soccer" (CS) under the banner of WBTFC, thus increasing our pull on local talent which will provide the feed for the younger youth teams. With WBTFC driving CS forward it allows us to utilise the clubs resources both in coaching staff but also facilities like the club house and pitches. This merger also offers other benefits in the shape of coaching development which is also key to the success of our club.

Pete Yearley has already spoken about communication, and the fact we are in the middle of creating a web based message board for each age group, the plan being to have this fully operational for next season although testing will be undertaken at the back end of this season. This will help but it's a small piece of the communication jigsaw. The coaching staff are on the lookout for parents who can help, maybe you could take responsibility for the teams newsletter or you're interested in assisting with coaching, run the line, help with the nets. We could do with your help so please contact your teams coach to ask that question "How can I help". Interestingly in Holland if you join a youth team the application form asks "what will you do for the club" and if this is not completed it's returned to the parent, quite a hard approach don't you think, but maybe something we can learn from.

The agreed objectives for the next quarter are: 1) appoint a section head for girls and ladies football; 2) Follow on with the FDO appointment/activities; 3) Drive forward the Schools Partnership; 4) Formalise Community Soccer partnership; 5) Hold meeting / Assess disabled football within WBTFC. We also have a number of smaller activities underway which will take considerable time and effort for example, organising the Holland Tour for the U12, U13 and U14's and presenting development plan updates to the coaching team. It's going to be a busy time!

Through the summer WBTFC will be creating a formal partnership with the local schools, this partnership will be part of the WB Sports Association which includes Cricket and Tennis clubs. The football club will be driving soccer schools with the aim of filling our summer camps, as well as helping the schools to run football skill sessions.

Andy Walduck – Club Development officer

