

TOUCHLINE

WBTFC Newsletter Volume 4, June 2009

WBTFC.CO.UK

Welcome: Wow, what a busy few months it has been, with the exchange visit with SVGrazezande, our annual tour to Holland, the clubs end of season awards and the annual six a side tournament. Oh yes, and County Ground cup final appearances for 4 of our youth teams. I think it's fair to say that all these activities served to round the season off well.

And so, having had the briefest of moments to draw breath we prepare for another season, and again with excitement and trepidation at what we hope to achieve. Chris, Pete and Bryan, update below on plans for their sections. At a club level the bringing of Community Soccer under the WBTFC offers great opportunity for broadening our offering to the community. We also hope this year to work with the Sports Association and other clubs to allow Ryland's Way to be used for more matches, and to improve the look and feel of the clubhouse. There will be more on the seasons objectives in September, in the meantime enjoy the Summer. Paul H - Chairman

Senior teams: Not sure if we have had much of a break but amazingly the new season is nearly upon us. Pre-season training starts on Tuesday June 30th and the new season starts w/c 10th August. After knocking on the door of promotion last season we are very optimistic for the coming season, I am sure we will see new faces coming into the senior section and we wish them all well.

Danny Groom has agreed to manage the Under 18s with Ken Turner working alongside myself on specific projects; Mike Hartley and Dave Turner will manage the Reserves and 1st Team respectively.

The closed season has continued with good integration from senior players attending the junior presentation days and a great effort from all senior members at the annual 6-aside which was good fun (even though I smelt like a burger for 2 days after). Rod and Steve have worked like trojans in maintaining the pitch and for the 1st time we have spent £2k to ensure that more matches can be played with the aim that Ryland's can be enjoyed by all age groups, I have also requested two junior teams to play a half time mini game at the friendlies against Supermarine and Swindon Town. I hope our junior lads attend our preseason games as the support is very welcome. I will up date you on pre season at the next Touchline but any one who feels they would like to come and assist please come and ask I will always find things for you to do.

Chris Jones – Section Head of Senior Football

Rob Woodhouse:

All at the club were hit hard by the sudden and untimely death late May of Rob Woodhouse, manager of our under 9b side. It was clear from the attendance and touching eulogy's at Rob's funeral that he is a great loss to the Wootton Bassett community, and all at the club would like to pay tribute to Rob and the work he put into ensuring so many young people could enjoy sport and scouting. He will be sadly missed, and we are discussing the most appropriate way for the club to remember Rob on an ongoing basis. In the meantime our heartfelt thoughts go out to Rob's family.

Youth teams: Although we are approaching mid summer you may well think that football has been put to one side for a well earned break. No such luck!!! This is well and truly the time of year for a never ending round of meetings, AGMs, training courses etc as we gear up for next season "Good job we do this for fun!"

Two events of significance took place over the past month or so, the first being our end of season youth awards. Thanks must be extended to all the senior managers and players who gave up their time to present individual honours to all age groups. I would also like to extend my gratitude to those players and parents who attended thus offering support and recognition to all the registered players representing the club over the past season. Secondly in early June we held our 9th annual six aside tournament. Although entry numbers were down this year, and we also did not have our customary heat wave, the event was another great success. In my opinion this event really does unify all sections of the club culminating with the sight of both the past and present chairmen of the club dressed like "yellow gnomes" whilst acting as car park stewards! **Many thanks** must be extended to all those managers, players and yes, **PARENTS** too! who offered their services at some point over the weekend. Special tribute must be paid to Gill Gascoigne and Erk for organising the whole event. Following the excellent Claire Smedley in the role as Youth secretary is not an easy task, but I believe Gill has grown from strength to strength and the section is indebted for her valued contribution. Regarding the "sixes" some debate was raised regarding the inclusion of centre of excellence players by some clubs. This is something that as a club we will look at for next year. My personal opinion is that the professional clubs must issue clear and concise instruction to their registered players to avoid confusion. In all my years in football (too many to count now!) this has always happened and I see no wrong in youngsters aged 8 to 14 being denied the opportunity of playing summer tournaments with their mates without "pressure to perform". After all it was only some 6 years ago that Theo Walcott played in a six a side tournament in Newbury and I can imagine the joy (and tales!!) some of his opponents now reflect on. Obviously these are my personal views, and as a club we will now seek council and guidance prior to formatting next year's event (that should keep the lawyers happy!!!) Enjoy the remaining summer months in preparation to another season ahead with the wind, mud, rain etc...don't you just love it? I should mention that photos of all our awards, sixes etc are now available on the www.wbtfc.co.uk website. Thanks to our Youth section clubman of the year TED QUEZANI for his photo services throughout the year.

Pete Yeardley – Section Head of Youth Football



Woman's & Girls: Both teams played in the Wilts women's and girls league, at U15 in 11 a side and finished fourth from top and have showed good progress under the stewardship of Mark and Johnny. The girls have taken well to Johnny and his ideas in training. The girls have won the fair play award in their division a great achievement. The U12 also won their division fair play award and credit to both teams in how they represented themselves and the club this past season. The U12 finished the season in 6th place in the mid table position having managed to make the championship league after the first round of games, thus playing all the top half of teams a second time. Both girls teams are actively looking for new players to add to their small playing squads. The aim now is to increase not just the number of girls playing for the club, but add to the managing/coaching staff, it is hoped by developing both areas we can have many more teams at different age groups. A ladies senior team will be running next season that will give the girls a chance to carry on playing for the club when adults. Not something that can happen over night without volunteers, so any one looking to start a girl's team, can contact me through the club website using the contact us link on the right side of the home page.

Brvan Wood "Woody" – Section Head of Woman's & Girls

Respect & Let's Kick Racism Out of Football:

With the new 2009/10 season fast approaching it's a good time to send out a reminder about the respect campaign, please check out the online video at www.thefa.com/Leagues/Respect.aspx Also there is drive around kicking out racism at all levels of the game, supported by the PFA. This is specifically focused at grassroots and amateur levels to tackle racial abuse and harassment in parks football, please find the time to look at www.kickitout.org/1.php

Club development: I assumed that through the closed season the workload would drop off a touch, but as Pete has already commented on, this has not the case and we are as busy as ever behind the scenes. You have seen already that Bryan Wood "Woody" has taken the role as Section Head of Woman's and Girls football, we wish him every success in his new role. This will offer dedicated focus on an area which needs to grow with our club. For some time we have been looking to fulfil the role of Football Development officer, we have decided to share the responsibilities around the club with activities being coordinated through Pete. Our links into local schools have matured with formal links which will be established through the summer, meetings will continue to flush out the detail. A formal partnership has now been established with Community Football, this will help drive both U8 boys and girls into the youth sections of the club. Football should be for all, this includes the disabled, WBTFC will be looking to formulate a formal relationship through WCFA and STFC which we will offer support through raising awareness of Football for the Disabled in our local community. Football development comes in many forms, and for me to see mixed English and Dutch youth teams playing football on a Sunday afternoon tops it for me. What a great exchange program, I have seen some, but not all, of the thanks and the praise which has been fourth coming. I would like to thank Pete and Nigel and all other members of the club who made this a success, and would also like to say "thank you" to all the WBTFC parents who hosted Dutch players. Our objectives for the next quarter consist of: 1) Launch Community Football, 2) Establish the FDO activities, 3) Look at the introduction of U20 / U17 / U18 teams, 4) Complete the web site development, messages boards & links into Disabled football, 5) Host Woman's & Girls football meeting, agree objectives, 6) Commence with the re work of the development plan for the 2009/10 season.

Andy Walduck – Club Development Officer

Community Soccer has a new look:

With WBTFC now supporting football in the Community I'm please to announce the creation of Community Football which will replace what was Community Soccer, a small change in the name, but big differences behind the scenes. Community Football will now provide feeds into our youth section as well as offer presence into local schools and will be supported by the football club. It's going to be a great combination going forward. Our launch date is scheduled for July please watch out for our communication.

I began working for Community Soccer aged 15 as an assistant coach on the holiday courses and Monday night sessions at Noremarsch School and the Lime Kiln Leisure Centre, it was my first experience as a coach and started me off on my eventual career path. I progressed to taking my own groups as one of the senior coaches until I was 20. I also worked alongside Andy Amos with a very successful Wootton Bassett Town F.C. youth side winning a number of competitions including becoming the first ever Wootton Bassett Town team to win the County Cup. After leaving WBTFC in November 2006 to pursue other avenues, I'm very happy to be returning back to the Community Team and to Wootton Bassett Town F.C. and to be able to again give something back to the community in which I grew up and have been a part of.

Matt Laurence - Head Coach Community Football

Sponsor Focus: Topping & Van Gerwen are chartered accounts who have supported WBTFC by offering accountancy support through Dave Topping who some of you may know. Topping & Van Gerwen provide a professional, reliable and friendly service to Sole Traders, Partnerships and Limited Companies. Covering Business start-ups, Accounts preparation, Personal and business tax planning and advice, Management accounts, Payroll services, Self assessment Tax Returns, Book-keeping and VAT.

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What's On?

1st Team Pre season Home games

Tues	14/7	Rylands Way	19:30	Carterton Town
Sat	18/7	Rylands Way	11:00	Supermarine
Sat	25/7	Rylands Way	11:00	Melksham
Sat	1/8	Rylands Way	10:30	Wroughton
Tues	4/8	Rylands Way	19:30	Swindon Town

Community Football Launch - July Date TBA

