



# Lingfield Youth FC

## End of Season Newsletter



Issue 2 - July 2013

### Message from the Club

#### Secretary:

Welcome to the Club's end of season newsletter looking back over one of the wettest seasons in memory when Wellington boots would have been more appropriate than football boots.

Judging by the Managers comments on their team's displays over the season, the children have progressed and developed their game across all age groups. Learning to work together as a team and instilling a Never Give Up attitude will not only serve them well on the football field, but also throughout their lives as well. Congratulations to all our players for a fantastic season.

I would also like to draw your attention to our new Mission Statement on page 2 that represents the core values of our Club.

Finally I want to say a big thank you to the Managers, Coaches, Committee members and all the parents who give up their own time to make this Club a success. Without these volunteers there would be no Club. Have a great summer.

Dan

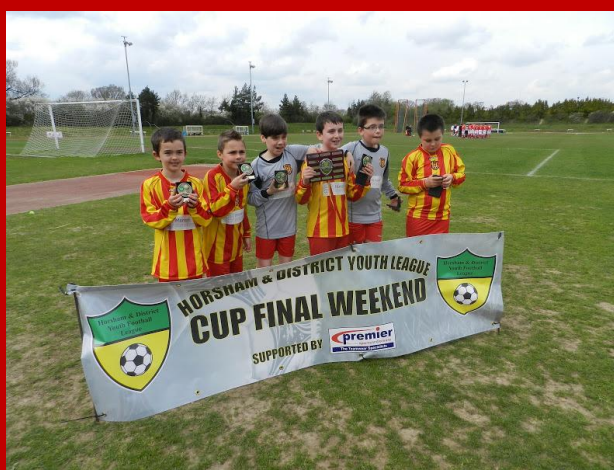
## Sportsmanship Award Winners

Two of our Mini Soccer teams won the Sportsmanship Awards this season for their age groups and collected them at the Cup Finals weekend.

- The U8's scored a massive 99.17 score out of a possible 100!
- The U10's (Red) Scored 97.50 to hold onto the award they also won last season.



The U8's celebrating with their awards



U10's (Red) with their awards.

Overall our Mini Soccer teams performed well when being marked for their sportsmanship with the U10's (Yellow) coming a very close second with the U10's (Red) with 97.00 and the U9's coming tenth with 97.60.

### **Football Quote:**

"Behind every kick of the ball there has to be a thought."



The Dutch  
Master, Dennis  
Bergkamp

### **Congratulations**

U9's Coach Mark Coates successfully passed the Level 2 FA Coaching badge this season. A big personal commitment is required to achieve this badge, I'm sure this will have a positive impact on the U9 squad over the coming years.

### **Know your Committee**

#### **Chairman**

Peter Goodbody

#### **Club Secretary**

Dan Girt

#### **Treasurer**

Kevin Ellis

#### **Child Welfare**

Colin Williams

#### **Youth Football Coordinator**

Chris Rance

#### **Mini Soccer Coordinator**

Alan Erskine

#### **Membership Secretary**

Nick Street

#### **Communications**

David Antino

## **U11's are Tournament Experts**



U11's with the Trophy at Tonbridge School

The U11's continued where they left off last summer. After winning two tournaments last year they quickly got off the mark again this year by winning the Ockley Acorns Tournament at the end of April without conceding a single goal.

This was quickly followed up by another great display in the Crowborough Athletic Tournament where they reached the final, but sadly lost on penalties when extra time could not separate the teams.

The U11's then marched into a 5 team mini- tournament organised by the Southern Counties Elite Football Team at Tonbridge School and walked away with another trophy, undefeated following 3 wins and a draw.

## **Help Urgently Required!**

Grassroots football survives on volunteers, and here at Lingfield we have a great group who are dedicated to provide the opportunity for our children to play football.

Looking ahead to next season, it is imperative that volunteers from the parent group of our current squad of U6's (U7's from September) come forward and manage the team.

I must stress that this does not have to be one person, the more volunteers to share the workload makes it easier for everyone involved.

Support and training will be provided by the Club to anyone willing and able to put themselves forward to enable this squad to progress and develop. Without this commitment the squad will not be able to move forward which will be a great shame.



# Lingfield Youth FC Mission Statement



To provide the opportunity for the young people of Lingfield and surrounding areas to play football in an environment that is safe, enjoyable and allows them to develop and improve to the best of their ability.

We will encourage the development of football within our community through our 5 **GOALS** which are:

## 1) **G**rowth

- To strive for continuous development to enable our Club to grow stronger.

## 2) **O**ppportunity

- To provide the opportunity for children within the local community to play football, regardless of age, sex, religious beliefs or ethnicity.

## 3) **A**chievement

- To provide all players with the chance to attain personal achievements built on the values of teamwork and respect. We will support our Managers and Coaches to develop their skills on our journey to football excellence.

## 4) **L**ead

- To lead by example. The Committee, Managers and Coaches will actively demonstrate leadership and integrity to influence a positive motivation and moral impact on all Club members.

## 5) **S**portsmanship

- We will promote and encourage the virtues of good sportsmanship across all our teams. Our players, coaching staff and supporters will treat opponents and officials with respect and to ensure that fair play and a family atmosphere are prevalent at all our matches.

Through living our **GOALS** we will strive to progress our players through the Club and play for the senior teams.



# It's just like watching.....Lingfield?



Word has spread across Europe about the style and finesse of football that is being played on the fields of Lingfield by our football teams.

In an unprecedented move by the European giants Barcelona to recapture their Champions League form for the coming season, the famous stripes of Lingfield will be worn by the likes of Messi and Iniesta on their travels around Europe as they try to reproduce the football that is admired by the Lingfield faithful every Saturday morning.

# Mini Soccer Teams - Season Summary

## U5's & U6's

This season saw Lingfield Youth extend an already successful U6 recruitment programme to include for the very first time an U5 Reception age group.

Training has been lively (!) with a variety of mixed, age-specific, group and ability-based sessions giving all of the children a range of experiences in their first season with the club. Numbers peaked at 30+ children attending training and prospects look good for the U6 age group moving forward to twice weekly training and their very first matches next season.

The U5s are already looking like a very good team and I am sure the extra year of organised training will reap dividends not only for this group, but for the future generations of the club.

Well done boys and girls!

Rob

## U7's

The U7 team have had a great season despite the lack of training due to the extreme weather over most of the winter. We have gone from a 9 goal loss in the first ever game to a tight 1 goal loss despite scoring first against the same team 10 weeks later. Everyone is enjoying playing and can't wait for next season when we start playing 'real games'.

I am immensely proud of how the team have progressed and how they play as a team (as far as 7 year olds do). Some players have even learned to tie their boot laces which has meant more coaching and playing time!

Personally I take great satisfaction from the way the team has progressed and like the boys I can't wait for next season and the challenge of league games. I hope that we do well next season, but most importantly for me we play fairly and respect the opposition.

Here's hoping for a successful coming season.

Alan

## U8's

Lingfield Youth U8s have had a very good year. The squad size has doubled, and we have a team of four coaches, 2 of whom achieved FA level 1 coaching status in 2013.

With a new kit sponsorship deal with Scandia Hus the boys look very smart, if a little swamped in a strip which should last for the next 2 – 3 years. They also have new jackets (sponsored by SQS) for the occasional rainy days. On the pitch we have won many more than we lost and the games were all played in a really good spirit – resulting in us winning the U8 Sportsmanship Award – with the third highest score of all age groups.

We enjoyed playing in the three tournaments at the end of the season (East Grinstead, Ashington and Handcross). All of the boys have developed significantly through the year, both in terms of ball skills and team work, as well as their general enjoyment of football.

With 2-3 new recruits in place for next season we will have a squad of around 15, which will work well when we move up to 7 a side.

Ivan

## U9's

The U9's have had another good season of development, but as with everyone else the weather played havoc with the league fixtures. Having completed around 80% of our fixtures we have had a fairly even spread of victories, draws and losses, but this season the focus has been on team building and skill development. We have maintained an element of squad rotation during matches and that may have meant that we didn't always get the result we deserved, but again results were not the objective this season. The boys have all really worked incredibly hard and the effort put into matches, especially the tournaments at the end of the season has been wonderful to watch. Their skills have improved across all areas of the game and for those who joined us this season we have seen them integrate into the squad very well.

We have seen some of the best football yet this year. There have been some nail-biting matches and towards the end of the season one opposition squad said we were the best team they had faced all season. Praise indeed and a credit to the boys.

A huge vote of thanks must go to our coaches, Mark and Maurice, who have provided a high level of coaching and support throughout the season. The boys have responded accordingly and we will take that positive approach into next season where we will be preparing for more competitive matches. I must also thank all the parents for all their support (and patience) this season as I lost count of the number of texts I sent out on a Friday stating the Saturday game was cancelled yet again due to the weather. Let's hope we have a better time of it over the coming season!

Finally, well done to everyone.

Steve

## U10's

I am delighted to report another strong year for the U10s.

The divisions this year were very much ability based and the Yellows squad was competing in a very tough 'A' division. The pre-season began with injuries to key players and I did have concerns as to whether we had over achieved and how competitive we would be. The team however responded brilliantly and we found a healthy combination of resolute defending and counter attacking football was the way to go. The boys also developed a very handy habit of nicking goals against the run of play often getting results from games played mostly in our half! The Yellows ended with a first game record of 4-4-4 which included a 7 match unbeaten run in the middle – only losing the last two games of the season probably prevented us from a top half finish. Mid-table respectability however should not be underestimated as an achievement at this stage of development especially when considering the second game record was 8-2-2 – one of the best in the division - overall then very happy.

The Reds squad was absolutely superb – I am really running out of superlatives for this group of players. The start of the season was a nightmare for the boys with a number of players leaving the team and leaving them short at the very last minute. The response was magnificent with the team not only competing in the first game but actually winning it. This set the tone for the rest of season and whilst not all the results went our way every game was competitive and the rate of development was sensational with new found regular goal scorers all over the pitch and even a new goalkeeper! The season finished as it began with another victory followed by collecting the Sportsmanship Award for the second year running. Well done boys I am very proud of you all.

Next season will see the squad come back together into one squad as we move to 9v9. The squad is looking in good shape and with three friendlies already played and won, the prospects look very promising.

Already looking forward to next season.

Rob

# Youth Football Teams - Season Summary

## U11's

The big step up this season from mini-soccer to 11 aside football, and a memorable season it was too.

Having been placed in the A league, we knew the competition was going to be of a high standard, but we were as prepared as we could be, but to understand where the bar was we kicked off the season with a friendly

against Three Bridges with a 2-6 loss, so we were under no illusions it was going to be tough.

The squad numbers remained high with 19 registered players and 3 training only members. All the boys have continued to improve with a strong emphasis on team play, passing and rotating the squad. The first half of the season I couldn't fault, with some great results and never giving up. By December we were through to the semi's in the cup and sat 2<sup>nd</sup> in the league to Three Bridges. Memorable moments in the first half of the season definitely include the last minute goals against Steyning and Greenway in the cup to force extra time and ultimately to the penalties.

The Christmas break and a lot of postponed matches due to the weather and continual squad rotation, we seemed to lose our way a little in the middle of the season, losing to Chesworth and Cranleigh in the league and then going out in the cup. The week after going out disappointingly to Cranleigh in the cup, we faced them at home in the league. The boys tried to avenge the cup defeat and the home crowd were not disappointed. Luke's memorable long range goal took us into the break 3-1 up and then in 3 crazy 2<sup>nd</sup> half minutes after the break we were 6-1 up. Try as we might we couldn't add to the tally, but the grit and determination in this match shone through, on a very damp and dull day.

This result seemed to kick the boys on and in the last few league games, friendlies and tournaments that followed they discovered their passing game again which had served them so well earlier in the season, and by the end of the season were playing some enjoyable flowing football, but we need to work on those headers before the start of next season. So we ended the season 4<sup>th</sup> in the league (albeit tied on points with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, losing out on goal difference), and getting to the semi-finals of the cup. One point to note though the season could have finished a little differently if in a couple of matches the referees hadn't got confused and realised U11's play 30mins each way and not 35mins. We were knocked out of the cup by injury time goals in the 34<sup>th</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> minute, and we were 3-3 with Three Bridges before conceding two late goals in the 64<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> minute!!). But as I always say to the boys the referee is always right, even when he is wrong!!!

Match stats for the season, played 32, won 17, drew 3, lost 12, for 90, against 83 (which included 16 friendlies to give the whole squad as much match time as possible).

U11's Division A							
		P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Three Bridges	12	11	0	1	53	33
2	Storrington Vipers	12	7	0	5	13	21
3	Chesworth Rovers	12	7	0	5	8	21
4	<b>Lingfield Youth</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>
5	Cranleigh Comets	12	4	0	8	-10	12
6	Steyning Strikers	12	4	0	8	-22	12
7	Partridge Green	12	2	0	10	-42	6



With the league season ending we have a few tournaments lined up and so far we have finished as winners in the Ockley and Southern Counties Elite tournaments, and runners up at Crowborough.

I would just like to say a big thank-you to all the players and parents for their support throughout the season, with a special mention to Paul for always being there, David for refereeing many of our friendlies, Jem for his memorable match reports and Claudio, Dan, Dave, David, Graham, Jem, Martin, Neil, Nick, and Simon for running the line at various times over the season.

Chris

## U12's

The U12s had a successful season only missing out narrowly on promotion to B division by finishing 3rd in the league. However our record of Played 16 Won 10 Drew 2 Lost 4 with 60 goals scored and only 23 goals conceded was definitely the second best record in the league, with 2 wins against Copthorne who ultimately finished in 2nd place. Cup and friendly wins over A and B league teams proved that we are worthy of playing in a higher league next season.

Three defeats in the first five league matches (home and away against league winners Broadbridge Heath) cost us, however the team were starting to get used to each other due to the number of new players who had joined us for this season.

After this slow start the team did not look back and played some great attacking football with plenty of goals scored. A pleasing aspect of this was that during the season we had 12 different players contribute goals with Oscar Green weighing in with 22 goals in all matches. Defensively we were very solid and were ably marshalled by our Captain, James Bruce during the season.

The attitude of the boys during matches was exemplary which cannot be said for a number of our opposition teams during the season. The boys have grown into their positions during the season and the confidence of all the players increased as the positive results were a reward for the hard work that they put in during match days.

We are all looking forward to next season and for sure the team can go on from strength to strength.

Finally thanks to all the Parents for their great support during the season, and particularly Nick, Darrin, Russ, Dan and Adam who were regularly put on the spot to run the line.

### U12's Division C

		P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Broadbridge Heath	16	14	0	2	55	42
2	Copthorne	16	11	2	3	23	35
3	<b>Lingfield Youth</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>32</b>
4	Forest Row	16	9	2	5	20	29
5	Horsham Crusaders	16	6	5	5	6	23
6	St Paul's Panthers	16	7	1	8	6	22
7	Horsham Tigers	16	5	1	10	-13	16
8	Ewhurst Rams	16	2	1	13	-61	7
9	Horsham B & A	16	1	0	15	-71	3

## U14's

We entered our third year in the A division on the back of a strong yet unrewarded second season knowing that this year would probably be even more testing than the last. During the summer break we had managed to sign a couple of new players and welcomed back an ex player providing us with the extra depth in the squad that had on occasion hurt us last season.

U14's Division A							
		P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Broadbridge Heath	14	10	1	3	15	31
2	Brockham B B	14	9	2	3	15	29
3	Cranleigh Colts	14	8	4	2	19	28
4	Dorkinians	14	6	2	6	-3	20
5	Albury Eagles	14	5	2	7	0	17
6	<b>Lingfield Youth</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>16</b>
7	East Grinstead	14	2	2	10	-18	8
8	Saint Hill Blues	14	2	2	10	-27	8

The season provided a considerable number of nail biting results, 7 to be exact all of them score draws! Whilst in some regards this was very frustrating the fact that we managed to obtain these results against every team that finished above us only proved how very close we are to challenging for the top positions. What has been most noticeable in these results is the way that the team has pulled together and battled right to the end to ensure that the draw did not become a loss or the impending loss was turned into a draw. I am sure I was not the only proud parent!

As usual credit has to go to more than the boys and the help received from Darren in training sessions, most of which were cold and wet, throughout the season was invaluable. Added to this was our ever vigilant linesman Neil who carries out a job few people would do week in week out with not only enthusiasm but useful insight. Without these and the support and help from the likes of Dave and on occasion Steph the season would become a chore and that is one thing it is not. Last but not least I want to thank the parents yet again for making what can be a difficult task so enjoyable, your support both on match days but also in getting the boys to training etc is fantastic.

Paul

## U15's

Well what an exciting season for the U15's. We started the Season with 7 new signings out of a squad of 17, not really know how we would come together. As it turned out the boys really combined very well, with the more experienced lads that had played since U6 helping the new boys bed in. This year I asked the boys to take more of a role at match time and training and have more

input themselves – I believe this worked well and so I am hoping to do even less this coming season.

We changed our playing style to 3-5-1. This was to match the formation to the strengths of the individual players and our aim to play close controlled, high tempo football – trying to pressurize the opposition when without the ball and to retain possession and play 'feet ball' (not a spelling mistake!).

Training was crucial as well as fitness, and all the boys put a huge effort in to ensure that we gelled together and worked hard for each other week in week out. We encouraged the boys to play out through the fullbacks and play through the team – which seems to have worked as every outfield player managed to score though the season – although I do think a couple of the goals were crosses that went in!

The results were fantastic – we secured runners up spot in the B division and so promotion to the A Division as well as getting through to the League Cup Final!. We did lose the final against 3 Bridges but that has not dented what was a really successful season. The match against 3 Bridges also demonstrated to the boys the standard they need to play at next season, but I am sure with a few additions to strengthen the squad allied to the great team spirit the boys have will serve them well.

I am hoping that we have better luck with the weather – so I can spend less time inspecting pitches and sending last minute text!

Stefan

U15's Division B							
		P	W	D	L	GD	Pts
1	Roffey Robins	12	10	1	1	27	31
2	<b>Lingfield Youth</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>24</b>
3	Broadbridge Heath	12	6	1	5	-5	19
4	Upper Beeding	12	6	0	6	15	18
5	Horsham Sparrows	12	5	1	6	-2	16
6	Hurstpierpoint	12	5	1	6	-3	16
7	St Paul's Panthers	12	0	0	12	-52	0



## What is Respect?

Respect is a continuous FA programme, not a one-off initiative. Its goal is to create an enjoyable playing environment that allows people to play, officiate and watch football without being abused, mocked, insulted, jeered, physically assaulted, unnecessarily criticised or pushed too hard.

Sound fair enough? So why does it happen week-in, week-out at matches all over the country?

For lots of reasons people get caught up in the emotion of a match and forget that:

- Children react better to encouragement than criticism.
- Everyone's doing their best – whether a referee, coach, player or spectator.
- Children are not adults, their confidence can easily be destroyed by comments and constant pressure from the sidelines.

What's needed is everyone to take responsibility for their individual actions, verbal or physical and abide by common-sense behaviour standards.

At Lingfield Youth FC we fully support what the FA is trying to achieve and keep the fun in our football for our young players. We must all remember that pressurising impressionable children for three points is having a negative impact on their development and enjoyment of the game.

**Remember, if you lose Respect you lose the game.**



## **1st Team:**

The 1<sup>st</sup> Team finished in 6th place (7th last season) which is their best ever finish in Division 1.

This season was over 42 games whereas previous seasons were over 38 games.

We scored 102 league goals (3rd highest scorers), but the problem was at the other end where we conceded 78. We used 46 players in all competitions.

In the league we went through a bad patch in January and February losing 5 out of 6 games with some of the losses 6-0, 5-1 and 4-1, but from the start of March to the end of the season it was a different story. In that period we played 17 league games where we Won 12, Drew 4 and only lost 1 so it was some turnaround. We also did the 'Double' over that lot from down the road, East Grinstead Town!

### **Top Scorers (All competitions):**

Daryl Coleman (17), Nicky Forster (12), Harry Sintim (12), Danny Oakins (11) and Craig Pitterson (10).

### **Most Appearances (All competitions):**

Rob O'Hara (51), Dean Hamlin (48), Daryl Coleman (44), Gareth Graham (44), Craig Pitterson (41), Louis Gallagher (40).

### **League Attendances:**

The average Home league attendance was 54 with the highest v Redhill (74) and the lowest v Hailsham Town (38). Last season our average Home league attendance was 68.

### **Player awards:**

Manager's Player of the season: Dean Hamlin

Supporters' Player: Dean Hamlin

Player's Player: Rob O'Hara

Young Player: Matt Warren

Most Improved Player: Danny Oakins



## **RESERVES :**

It has not been the best of campaigns for the Reserves who suffered some heavy losses along the way and finished bottom of the table.

One highlight was the 6-5 victory over East Grinstead Town Reserves in the Challenge Shield!

The Reserves used 71 players over the course of the season.

8 players who played in U18s were called up for the Reserves, but apart from Louis Gallagher who made 6 appearances the others only made 1 or 2.

In the League Cup we went out to Redhill. After a 4-2 Home win we suffered a 7-1 defeat Away.

In the Surrey Premier Cup the we lost 2-0 at home to Merton FCs 1<sup>st</sup> Team.

In the League Challenge Shield (League format) we lost all the games apart from that 6-5 win at East Grinstead.

### **Top scorers (All competitions):**

Wayne Hogsden (10), Joel Amos (9), Dan Taylor (5), Danny Elgar (5).

### **Most appearances (All competitions):**

Wayne Hogsden (31), Dan Taylor (26), Joel Amos (26), Jack Mooney (20), Tony Langridge (20).

## **U18's :**

The U18's finished 4<sup>th</sup> out of 10 after an indifferent start to the season losing 5 of their first 7 games (All competitions). In fact they only won 1 and lost 4 of their first 5 league games and some of the defeats were 8-1, 6-0 and 6-2. We understand that Bob Bryce told his players in the early days that his target was 4<sup>th</sup> place and they thought he was mad, but they really turned their season around, so credit goes out to all of them. The U18s won 12 out of their last 19 games in all competitions and used a total of 34 players in all competitions.

In the FA Youth Cup they beat Erith and Belvedere 5-4 at Home before going out to Sevenoaks 4-1 Away. They reached the Semi-Final of the League Cup, before going down 4-3 at Home to Horley Town (South Division champions) after being 3-0 up!

Along the way they beat Westfield 3-1 at Home, Hartley Wintney 1-0 Away and in the Quarter Final beat Leatherhead 4-3 at Home after extra time.

In the Surrey U18 Cup they went down 3-0 at Home to Egham Town.

### **Top scorers (All competitions):**

Louis Gallagher (14), Darius Johnson (9), Zak Gilkes-Murray (8).

### **Most appearances (All competitions):**

Luke Killick (21), Mike Dowrick (21), Jack Barnett (20), Louis Gallagher (19), Ryan Hill (19), Zak Gilkes-Murray (19).

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to our Club Sponsors this season.....you help to make it happen!



**levey & co**



**TalkTalk**

**scandiahus**  
SWEDISH ENERGY SAVING HOMES