



Dear Member,

Firstly, I hope you're all safe and well in these difficult and challenging times. We're well aware that everyone has been in difficult circumstances but we're looking forward to welcoming you all back at Smallford as soon as we possibly can.

At Harvesters we can't wait to get back to regular football and rest assured are doing everything we can to make sure we're ready to go as soon as the restrictions are lifted and it's safe to do so. As part of this we'll be reviewing our operational practices and taking on board any changes we're advised to make so that you can enjoy football and all the benefits it brings in the safest possible way. We're hopeful that football will start up soon, at some point over the summer.

As a charity our whole aim is around bringing the community together and using football to enrich lives for everyone involved, so during this period it's been great to see some of the content on our social media channels and how we've been able to play our part, whether it's donating chocolate bars and drinks to our local key workers at the Lister Hospital or rolling out 'Harvester's Homework' to keep everyone entertained at home. I'd encourage everyone to get involved and share stories and upload videos of what they have been up as it's lovely to see. A special shout out goes to the U14's North and U12's South boys teams for their video showcasing their amazing freestyle skills! Great to see the Zoom presentation for the U14 Girls.

As we've been preparing for the start of the new season we've been overwhelmed by the response to the kit orders and the messages of support we've received. We now have the majority of the kit orders in place and we've been working on the plans for the teams for next season with the leagues and will share these with you as soon as we can.

During May we will be issuing the membership subscriptions for the next year so you can secure your place for the season ahead. As we are a charity these are set at a level to enable us to provide the best experience for you and your children whilst being able to invest in the club and keep the facilities in the best condition they can be. We have to keep the costs as tight as we can and we rely on additional fundraising, sponsorship and summer events to keep the subscriptions as low as we can. Unfortunately, we lost revenue from the summer events we had planned, so things are now tight and we will have to prioritise and make savings where we can (for example we will fix the potholes but it might mean getting a team of volunteers getting down to Smallford with some spades and pitchforks over the summer!!)

Transparency is really important for us as well and all of our finances are publicly available on the Charity Commission website and we'll also share information on our website if you are interested in seeing the costs of running the club.

We appreciate some of you may require some flexibility with the payments and we have set up more options around spreading the payments throughout the season on Pitchero to help provide this. If you are facing financial challenges, please do let us know as we'll do everything we can to support you.

Also more so than ever we would welcome any feedback and ideas around how we can grow as a club do things better - whether it be football related, improving the social side, or how we can find new fundraising activities which will help take the club forward. All these things will be more important than ever when we're back and up and running. So if you do have any ideas and would like to get involved with volunteering at the club, please drop a line to [jess.austin@harvestersfc.co.uk](mailto:jess.austin@harvestersfc.co.uk).

So from everyone at Harvesters we hope you have a great summer, stay safe and be ready to get back into football!

Kind Regards,

Mark Kelly (Chairman)