



Cuckfield Cosmos Football Club



Message from the Chairman - Summer 2021

Dear Club Member,

Welcome back to the 2021/22 season at Cuckfield Cosmos FC. We hope your families are well and enjoyed the summer break. For a second year we were unable to hold our end of season 'Presentation day' where we would have formally said goodbye to our U16 teams from last season, with some of them moving onto U18 teams and adult football in the local area. Let's hope we can all get together as a club in May 2022 and celebrate the various Cosmos successes and fun experiences.

As a club we will continue to look to provide a safe environment for the players, coaches and supporters. We will need to be flexible over the coming months as we adapt our training and match football plans to align to any changing advice and guidance from the government and the FA. If you have any concerns or input as to how the club is currently managing things, please contact me or the Cosmos Welfare team (Dan Wiscombe and Rachel Southwell).

Winter training:

Over the past 5 years we have used the facility of the Warden Park Academy 3G pitch for 'all weather' winter training. This will continue this winter and we are looking to secure further 'all weather' facilities to ensure we are able to provide each squad with training every week during the Nov-Feb period. Of course, if pitch conditions are ok, we will continue to train at Whitemans Green and Beech Farm Field throughout the winter period.

2021/2022 Season Registration fee:

In seasons 19/20 and 20/21 we halved the Cosmos annual registration fee to £60 for all players. This was due to the disrupted 2019/20 season (weather and Covid), and secondly, we assumed that 2020/21 would be further disrupted due to the current Covid-19 situation, which proved to be the case. For the 2021/22 season we have returned the annual fee to £120 and now across all age groups. This is due to our costs rising at Beach Farm Field; Warden Park have increased their charges and, as mentioned above, we are looking to secure more 'wet-weather' training facilities for all teams. You can, as in previous years, choose to pay in full or in 3 months instalments. Anyone who cannot afford this please speak directly to your manager and arrangements will be put in place to manage this.

Committee Changes

Our Club Secretary Rachel Southwell has moved to the Welfare Team with Dan Wiscombe. If you have any player/club safety or welfare questions or concerns please contact them both on welfare@cuckfieldcosmosfc.co.uk

We have a new Club Secretary Sarah Philips who is settling in well and she can be contacted on Cuckfieldcosmos@hotmail.com for any general enquiries. Sue Best will continue in the role as Cosmos Girls Club Secretary.

Club assistance and support:

The club continues to have over 500 girls and boys registered across 33 squads which makes us one of the largest youth & minor football clubs in Sussex. Many age groups have a waiting list as we need to cap each year group at about 40 players due to constraints like, car parking, training space and match pitch availability as well as the overall running and admin required to manage a club of the size of Cuckfield

Cosmos.

Running a club of this size, **all by volunteers**, is no mean task and we need to share the effort across a wider group of people. We are always looking for additional support in the areas listed below. Just sparing a few hours a week will help ensure this club continues to provide the good quality coaching and match day experiences, as well aid the areas of further club development that we are planning over future years.

Key areas of assistance include the following:

- **Car Park Marshals.** 08:30-09:15 & 10:15-10:45 each Saturday at Whitemans Green and Beech Farm Field (BFF). As previously mentioned, car parking, and poor parking, is a major issue for the club, frustrating many of us and restricting the numbers of players the club can provide football for.
- **General assistance** with areas of club development; from the provision of a training kit 'lock-up' on BFF, through to pitch drainage and maintenance.
- **Manager and Coaching support.** This club relies on over 100 FA qualified coaches and managers and anybody wishing to progress the required FA qualifications, which the club will fully support and sponsor, and become a coach at the club, please let us know. (We are particularly keen to encourage any experienced goalkeepers across the club to help in this important area of training and development).

We have reached the respected position that we hold as a club via great voluntary support over the years and we need to ensure this continues as we look to further improve and develop this great club.

If you are able to assist in any capacity please e-mail us on support@cuckfieldcosmosfc.co.uk

Registration for the 2021/22 season has now opened via Pitchero, if you have any problems please email our team on support@cuckfieldcosmosfc.co.uk

Reminder: Please send any general Cosmos questions to Cuckfieldcosmos@hotmail.com and any player/club safety or welfare questions or concerns to welfare@cuckfieldcosmosfc.co.uk

Mike

Mike Best
Chairman, Cuckfield Cosmos FC

August 2021