Chairman’s Message

Volunteers - Our Lifeblood

Volunteers are at the heart of our club, from managing and coaching through to the whole organisational structure. All too often, however, it is those same managers who have to do additional jobs on the Committee in order to ensure that all the cogs are there and oiled for them actually to be able to manage and coach. This is often a problem in any club and ours is no different, except that we have the additional issue that we have former managers who are still having to do some of those jobs, long after their own children have ceased playing for the Club.

It is therefore with great delight that the Committee is able to welcome Nikki Prince and Lynda Lowe, both of whom have stepped forward to assist which enabled us to have a re-shuffle and introduce some new blood and new ideas. They both attended our last Committee Meeting and their presence and input were much appreciated. Once we have dealt with the procedural elements, they will become involved as Membership Secretary and Child Welfare Officer. Matt Brown and Chris Lyons are looking to take on some of the hard work that is Jim Bristow’s remit as Club Secretary and Steve Farrell may well be taking over as Club Treasurer to step into Simon Woods’ shoes and continue the excellent work that Simon has achieved in running our accounts and finances.

Our Club Members possibly do not stop to think about what is required to run the organisation and in order to give an idea of the hard work that is undertaken, I have set out later in the newsletter a summary of those activities which are required for the Club to continue successfully. I would please ask you to run your eye over it and see if you feel that there are any areas in which you could help. Even if not from the organisational viewpoint, I would plead with you all to get involved in helping your Managers and Coaches. There are many tasks which they have to perform both during the week and on matchdays and a little help from everyone could make their lives a bit easier, so do please ask them what you can do to help.

We have a refurbished clubhouse, new floodlights, an enthusiastic playing membership and a fantastic bunch of volunteers, so let’s all do our bit to help it to continue.

David Parish
Club Chairman

Winter doesn’t mean everything stops!

It may have been cold and wet…

It may have been dark…
Pitches may have been waterlogged…

Or frozen solid…

But even in the winter, football never stops!

Since the last newsletter:
- Mini-League have played their first games
- Under 9s have expanded to two teams
- The Under 10s and Under 12s have visited Dartford FC
- The Under 11s can’t stop scoring
- The Under 12s have got to the cup final
- The Under 14s have made 5 new signings
- Under 16s have had a great cup run
- Under 18s have a senior reserves regular
What does running a club require?

Had you ever thought about how much goes on to ensure the smooth running of the club? Coaches and managers are seen for a few hours each weekend, but that is just the tip of the iceberg.

Below is a list of work requirements for the Club to function effectively, but it is not exhaustive. Some of these tasks are actual jobs in themselves!

If you feel you have a skill set or aptitude which could allow you to help, or if you are simply willing to assist, please speak to your relevant manager or let me know at david.parish@carltonline.com

The bits you see on match days...
- setting up the goals, nets, barriers, line markings etc.
- arranging catering at the Clubhouse
- ensuring physical footballing skills of players
- producing half time refreshments

The bits that happen before or after a match...
- organising referees and linesmen for games
- pastoral care of players with a wide variety of needs
- planning coaching sessions to meet the needs of players
- taking down goals and nets
- communicating match information to opposition
- reporting results to the Leagues
- taking down goal nets and general tidying up
- washing kits, bibs and drinks bottles
- cleaning clubhouse and dealing with rubbish
- recording match statistics
- writing match reports for website and local press
- marking pitches and arranging cutting as required
- communicating with leagues

Maybe you hadn’t realised these bits even happen...
- sorting out any work and repairs for clubhouse
- liaising with local Council and external organisations
- communicating with the FA and dealing with any requirements
- complying to continue our Chartered Standard Status
- dealing with Child Safety and criminal record checks
- communicating any League requirements to managers
- sorting out any disciplinary matters with Tandridge or Crowborough Leagues
- attending League Meetings
- attending monthly Club Committee Meetings
- registering all players and teams with Leagues
- researching courses e.g. coaching, first aid and child safety
- arranging courses and attendants
- maintaining own coaching
- networking with other clubs
- dealing with applications for membership and subscriptions
- looking after Club finances and expenditure including any playing or reporting fines
- researching and arranging kit orders, then collecting from suppliers
- finding and liaising with sponsors
- arranging fund raising events and communicating to members
- ordering equipment - goalposts, line marking, kits, coaching, merchandise
- compiling and editing the club newsletter
- promoting the club for new members
- sorting safety equipment including defibrillator
- communicating with locals
- dealing with any Membership, parent or player issues
- liaison with local schools
- arranging events such as Presentation Day

Even the little help you can give team managers make a big difference!
Mini-League

The club’s mini-league continues to go from strength to strength. Starting with just 8 players in our first session of the season back in September, we now have 34 players registered.

Our sessions consist of a fun warm up, followed by a couple of training drills to improve the footballing ability of our players, before ending with mini-tournament matches. It has been great to see the footballing development of our fantastically enthusiastic players!

Week in week out, whatever the weather, our players arrive with a smile on their faces and their enjoyment of the football they are playing is clear to see.

So far we have had two friendly matches against other clubs. A team of Under 8 players have played against Raw Skills in their first game. A few weeks later, this was followed by a team of Under 6 and 7 mixed players playing against Selsdon for their first game. Both opposition teams play regular league football and our teams played extremely well in their first experiences of organised match football.

Looking forward to next year, we have a strong group of year 3 players who will move on to form the new Under 9 team(s) with Ronan as their manager. The current year R, 1 and 2 players will remain in the mini-league with myself, Jon and Joe.

The mini league provides a great introduction to football in as fun a way as possible. Our emphasis is not on winning, but on enjoyment and personal football development.

Thank you to everyone who has helped and supported us in the first half of the season. The support from our parents is essential to the mini-league’s success!

Chris Heyburn
Mini-League Coordinator

Under 6s & 7s v Selsdon (above)
and Under 8s v Raw Skills (left)

Under 9s

The boys have been enjoying playing in the Crowborough League.

Training and playing well since the start of the season, with a total of 21 games played and 44 goals scored.

It’s a great squad of boys who have gelled nicely, really play for each other and have a lot of fun. They continue to learn, losing and drawing some tight matches against tough opposition as well as a fair few satisfying, hard fought wins.

Since coming back after Christmas we have entered a second team in the Crowborough League, therefore providing more game time for the boys.

Myself, Graham, Chris and all the boys are looking forward to the remainder of the season.

Peter Maynard
Under 9s Manager
Under 10s

It’s been an exciting season for the Under 10s, plenty of matches and I’m glad to say we have won more than we have lost.

We have now started the second half of the season and have been paired against some of the league’s best teams so a lot to look forward to.

Away from league matches the boys have enjoyed the visit of Julian Speroni to Bushey Croft and a trip to Dartford FC where they had training sessions with their youth coaches, a game of foot golf and the opportunity to watch a thrilling 6-1 win for Dartford.

After the half term break there is still plenty to football action to come before the season finishes.

Important dates are as follows:-

- Sevenoaks (H) - 25th Feb
- Hailsham (A) - 4th Mar
- Raw Skills (H) - 18th Mar
- Friendly v U11’s (H) - 25th Mar
- Tonbridge (H) - 1st Apr
- Crowborough League Jamboree - 22nd Apr
- Chipstead (A) - 29th Apr
- Last training - 6th May
- Langton Green Fiesta - 4th June

Gary Prince
Under 10s Manager

Under 11s

The Under 11s are having a fantastic season so far, winning 14 and losing only 2 trophy games, with 108 goals to our credit so far!

We started the season well, but we quickly identified fitness/stamina during matches was affecting us as we played on a bigger pitch. As a team, we have tackled this head-on in training and the benefits have been clear.

Prior to Christmas, victories were heavily in our favour and we have since been moved to a more competitive group, which is giving us a new challenge. Normal levels of winter sickness has impacted availability and it has been difficult since mid-December to be able to balance the team. But most impressively, even when we have had only 9 available, they have dug deep and conjured the right result.

All over the pitch, we continue to make minor adjustments to enable the players to enjoy their games and, at the same time, feel they can exert greater influence as they develop.

We are very lucky in that we appear to have an abundance of left footers, specialists and utility players. It’s a privilege to be able to see all players of all abilities make real progress.

It is really a credit to the players that they turn out week in, week out, very eager to put in their share of the work. With several new unregistered players currently training and available from next season, we will increase the squad size to both prepare for the following year and to give more flexibility for parents in what is a relentless weekend schedule.

Paul Marks
Under 11s Manager
Under 12s

The Under 12s continue to have a really positive season. Having been unbeaten for the first 3 months, the pressure of maintaining this record seem to show as we hit a drop in form throughout the month of December.

All the boys were really keen to change things around quickly, and so we continued with training regime all over the Christmas period! Their efforts on the training field have been duly rewarded, as so far in 2017, we have won 5 out of out last 6 matches; putting ourselves in a great position to contend for the Division A League title.

Also during this period, the boys played a hard fought semi final match against Wadhurst United. It was a tough physical game in snowy conditions, but the boys battled well winning the game 1-0 and securing their well deserved place in the Crowborough League Cup final.

The Cup Final will be played against Tunbridge Wells Youth on Sunday 2nd April 2017 at Hailsham FC football ground, kick off 9:30am. It should be a great day out for all the boys. Everyone is more than welcome to attend and cheer the boys on!!

As always thanks to all the boys for their efforts in training sessions and matches, and too all the parents for their continued support. Thanks also to Thierry, Dave and lan for all their efforts both on and off the pitch.

Matt Brown
Under 12s Manager

Under 14s

It has been a little frustrating for the Under 14s since Christmas, as the weather and the Tandridge League Fixture Secretary have conspired against us!

Since 11th December, we have played twice, a 1 - 0 away victory against Junior Bromleains, and another whole hearted performance from the team against 2nd placed FC Predators, culminating in a close game and ultimately unfortunate defeat.

The team continue to enjoy training on Thursday evenings under the new floodlights at Bushey Croft. The squad has also recently been bolstered by the arrival of five new signings. With a squad of 20 boys, as coaches we have been able to work on more advanced aspects of the game including patterns of play and shape.

With only a handful of league fixtures remaining this season the plan is to integrate the new signings into the team and prepare for an assault on promotion next season.

I would once again like to thank all the parents, siblings and relations for their commitment and help.

Graham Timson
Under 14s Manager
Under 16s

The Under 16s have seen much change this year. Four players from last year’s team decided to move on to new challenges during the summer. We have welcomed new faces in Will Carter, Oliver Burrows and Tom Murdoch into the team and also have been pleased to welcome back Harry Hicks and Reece Bailey who were part of the our league winning team of a couple of seasons ago.

The A division continues to represent a significant challenge with a number of very strong sides including a team of ex-academy players who currently remain unbeaten. Despite having been hampered by a couple of long term injuries, we have been competitive in the majority of our games. As we reach the half way point of the season, our league position does not necessarily reflect the nature of our performances.

The highlight of our season so far has been our success in the Surrey County Cup. This saw us beat 4 teams from across the county including a thrilling 3-2 win against Croygas just before Christmas.

Unfortunately our run came to an end in the last 16 against Epsom & Ewell, however the team should be proud of what they have achieved in this tough competition.

Recently, we have taken the momentum from the cup run into our last couple of league performances losing narrowly to the current league leaders Balham Blazers and a drawing last week with Westerham Wolves.

With a full squad now available I am optimistic for the second half of the season and have challenged the team to take their improving form forward and finish the season in the top half of the division.

Chris Lyons
Under 16s Manager

Under 18s

Despite the pressures of work and school, the Under 18s have stayed together throughout the season and have proven that youth football at this age group is viable, albeit different and at times difficult.

Finding opportunities to train together has been the biggest challenge, which coupled with only one division at this age group, containing half of last years A division teams, has made for a tough season. We are however in the mix for a mid table finish with five more league games to play.

We are also planning several end of season friendlies with teams who we have played against over many of the previous seasons, providing plenty of opportunities to play and to watch the team.

Undoubtedly the aim of this year was to enjoy a final season together and for those who want it, provide the stepping stone to our senior club.

In facilitating this, training this season has seen the Under 18s joined by many Senior reserves and third XI players at the sessions which has allowed players to adapt to the next level of the game and also allow the Senior club managers to observe some up and coming players who will now hopefully take the opportunity to play for them.

After making this step at the start of the season, playing at both levels, congratulations go to James Heyburn who has now been selected as a regular Senior Reserves’ Striker for the rest of the season, stepping up from the third XI.

I hope we will see plenty more Youth team players coming through to join the senior clubs’ new Third XI manager next season.

Gary Heyburn
Under 18s Manager
Dates for your Diary

APRIL
- Sunday 2nd April
  Under 11s v Tunbridge Wells
  Foresters, Cup Final
- Saturday 22nd April
  Under 10s in Crowborough
  League Jamboree

JUNE
- Sunday 4th June
  Under 10s in Langton Green
  Fiesta
- Saturday 24th June
  Under 7s & Under 8s in
  Tunbridge Wells Tournament

MAY
- Sunday 28th May
  Under 8s in Uckfield
  Grasshoppers Tournament

JULY
- Saturday 1st July
  Under 7s & Under 8s in
  Jarvis Brook Tournament

TO BE CONFIRMED
- Presentation Day 2017

Focus on a Sponsor

Tidal Cleans was established in 2013 in Edenbridge. We specialise in end of tenancy, commercial cleans, flat communal cleans and carpet cleaning.

I set up the company four years ago after working as a police officer in the Met (still doing this in a part time capacity) and have now built up the business working for several local commercial clients and some well established estate agents such as Howard Cundey, Martin & Co and Payne & Co.

Tidal Cleans take great pride in our work offering the best possible service and going that extra mile for every customer.

Our staff are all reference checked, fully trained and insured.

I have loved football all my life and played Saturday / Sunday league from the age of 8 until I was 21. When my eldest son Jake (8) showed an interest in football, I looked to find him a team. Oxted & District JFC appealed to me as they are a well respected, professional team. From the first training session, Jake loved it.

The coaches understand the game and implement the foundations of football well for the mixed range of children they teach.

Jake has grown in confidence and now always really looks forward to his Saturday mornings!

I was excited when the opportunity arose to sponsor the Oxted & District Mini League (ages 6-8). Tidal Cleans supports other local businesses and has a strong community feel which I feel is important when being associated with a close knit football club like Oxted JFC. I have seen the boys develop in training and look forward to seeing them improve even further.

I’m sure our relationship with Oxted will continue, and I would love to see my youngest son Leo (3) wear a Tidal Cleans sponsored shirt in a few years time!

For any enquiries please call 07795109169 or email enquiries@tidalcleans.co.uk

Dave De Waal
Director of Tidal Cleans

The Tidal Cleans sponsored Mini League kit has been popular with all the players!
Oxted & District Junior Football Club

Oxted & District JFC provides junior football for the local community from age 6. Our highly successful Mini-League caters for our youngest players, with six to eight year olds experiencing friendly football in a safe and fun environment.

An FA Charter Standard Development Club, our home ground is Bushey Croft Recreation Ground in Old Oxted, which provides a hub for all of our teams from Mini-League to Under 18s, with most teams training and playing there.

On our website you will find fixtures, results and news for all our teams, along with club contact information. Each team has its own team page, which are listed under the 'Teams' tab on the menu bar.

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Spot the Ball!

Can you tell which ball Mini-League player Freddie Garratt was striking in his recent match against Selsdon?

Check below for the answer!

ANSWER:

Ball five!