

A club update to our parents, carers and supporters

22/06/20

With the current situation we thought it would be good to provide a thorough update on club matters. There's a lot to read but please take the time over a cup of tea to get up to date.

What have the club done about the current season?

When the FA announced towards the end of March that all grass roots football needed to cease, we took the swift decision to be as fair and responsible to our players and supporters as possible. We decided to cease subscriptions for the 2019/2020 season and asked parents to cancel their direct debits. We agreed a refund policy for all overpayments. These were either credited to the relevant team pot or, considering the implications of lockdown on many families, we offered a direct refund on any request received by 31 May 2020. We received over 45 requests for refunds that were all actioned within two weeks of receipt. We hope that this gesture was appreciated and helped in some small way. We have refunded £1600 to parents and transferred a further £5600 to the relevant team pots. This money will help buy kit and equipment for teams, or fund a special final team celebration for any teams not continuing next season.

2019/20 season presentations and trophies

The coronavirus stopped our traditional end-of-season awards taking place, which was a great shame. However, it is important for us to reward all of our players for their efforts! We are still planning to present end-of-season trophies out for the 2019/20 season. Once the trophies are available your team managers will be able to either run a virtual ceremony for your team or present the trophies in person once the current restrictions are lifted. Your team manager will be in touch when the time comes.

When can we play again?

That's what all the children want to know, and we want to know too. Currently, there is still no known return for competition at grassroots level.

The FA recently announced that socially distanced training is now possible, if the relevant conditions are met. More can be found at <http://www.thefa.com/news/2020/jun/12/grassroots-covid-19-update-120620>. Some of our coaches will lead training sessions in line with these guidelines but they do so on a private basis, with the players and parents help and understanding. This is not part of the club's training provision. Unfortunately we can't support this due a lack of insurance for personal or public liability and the facilities we rent remain closed.

Can I do anything to help the club?

Yes! Get involved! As you know, we are a club that is run by volunteers. Everyone gives their time freely to help run the club as smoothly as possible. We're proud to provide such an important opportunity to help develop our local children through football. The playing aspect is only part of it, the social and life skills children learn through team sport is vital to their development.

We need more people to volunteer to help us fill some vital roles. We're appealing to parents, carers, and families of players to get involved in the following areas to help with the running of the club next season and beyond. Think you can help? Get in touch for a chat to find out more. You'll be making a huge difference to your community and having lots of laughs along the way!

Admin volunteers

Can you help us with admin tasks? These secretarial roles might include helping with our player registrations or co-ordinating our annual tournament. We also have some specialist roles like providing support to the treasurer.

Digital Officers

We currently have opportunities to help keep our website and social media up to date. Ideally we want volunteers with experience in either updating website content, and/or running social media accounts (although basic training can be provided). This is a great chance to use your existing skills to make a real impact at grassroots level, or to learn new skills to enhance your CV.

Mini Soccer co-ordinators / assistants

We run an extremely popular Mini Soccer School for children in Reception to Year 3 (U5s to U8s). We need more co-ordinators and assistants to help us run these sessions. Its incredibly rewarding and great fun. All our mini soccer team are DBS checked and qualified in FA safeguarding and First Aid.

Team Coaches

Of course, we are always looking for new coaches to get involved. This could be becoming part of an existing coaching team, or even coaching your own team. We can offer access to FA qualified coaching courses. All our coaches are DBS checked and qualified in FA safeguarding and First Aid.

Team volunteers

Team volunteers are vital in supporting our team coaches. Teams always need help with a variety of things - set up and take down the nets & corner flags, collating player availability, letting parents and carers know the details of forthcoming training and match details, or entering match results online. You might even fancy learning how to be a linesperson or referee - don't be shy; we can offer access to FA training courses.

Stay safe and keep in touch

We look forward to hearing from you, please do get in touch – as you can see there's a range of roles and you'll be making a real difference in our community. If you are interested please let your team manager know or email the club at volunteer.gryfc@gmail.com

As soon as there is greater clarity on the restart of football we will be back in touch. You can also follow our social channels for the latest club news.

Facebook: GoddyRoversYouthFC

Twitter: @GRYFC

Instagram: goddyroversyouthfc

We hope you are all doing well, and we can't wait to see the children back playing the game we all love.

Stay safe, yours in football

Godmanchester Rovers Youth FC