



Wigmore Youth FC Newsletter



www.wigmoreyouthfc.org

February 2010

What a Winter!

And it may not be over yet! We've seen the most disruption to fixtures for many years, and this leads to re-arranged fixtures throughout the League. The amount of re-arranged fixtures makes things more difficult for our own fixture secretaries, let alone the age group secretaries, so can team managers remember to help them as much as possible when fixtures are being arranged, by regular and timely communication. Despite so many postponements, most teams are about half way through their season and overleaf you can hear from some of them.

Respect Programme

The FA's Respect Programme began in earnest this season, and we can all play a part in helping it succeed by taking on board and living the values that it stands for. We are gathering some feedback for the KCFA to help measure how well the programme is progressing. Early feedback suggests that, as Clubs, we could and should be doing more to ensure the right messages get out. One benchmark is the number of parents and/or carers who have completed the on-line course, available on the FA's web-site. The course can be found on the FA's web-site at the following address: www.thefa.com/respectguide and the Club would like as many people as possible to complete it. You will need to obtain a FAN number, if you don't already have one, but registration is quick and easy. This has replaced the FA Soccer Parent, which many have already completed. With more respect all round, the game should be more enjoyable.

Good News

The Club has applied for and been awarded a grant by the Football Foundation to help create 2 new teams over the next 2 years. Whilst this won't benefit existing teams directly, it will indirectly because without the grant, more Club funds would be needed, so we will be able to free up some of the existing funds for other needs. This does not mean we take things easy on raising funds though, and we should constantly strive to provide everything we can as a Club to all our members.

Easy Fund Raising

There are a couple of ways that funds can be raised for the Club which won't cost you a penny. Enclosed with this Newsletter is a leaflet which gives more details about *easyfundraising*, where most on-line purchases can add funds to Wigmore Youth, and *easysearch* where simply searching the web can also raise funds. Please take a few minutes to read through this, and the more people we can get to sign up, the more "free" funds we can raise. The Club joined this facility shortly before Christmas, and the purchases from just a couple of members raised £32.83 from just 11 transactions. Whether it's insurance, holidays, goods from Amazon or most retailers, simply going to your retailer via the *easyfundraising* web-site will result in a small percentage of what you spend being donated to Wigmore Youth. *Easysearch* is another simple way to generate funds. Simply by setting *Easysearch* as your homepage and using this search engine (which does just the same as Google or Yahoo), funds can be earned.

Team News

Under 7s

This is our 1st season of Sunday league football and the teams have so far got off to a flying start. I'm pleased to say that all players have made significant progress since joining Wigmore, particularly with their attitude, commitment and skills on the ball. Three players have already been selected to train at the Gillingham FC development centre and places were also offered at the FA Skills Centre. We are lucky enough to have a group of willing parents to help run things, Steve and Lisa who help with the coaching, Tracie and John our parent reps who recently organised a team Christmas party, Natalie and Katie who take on the administration. Without this help the U7s would not run as smoothly as it currently does. In addition we are sponsored by Darren King of Fairview Body Shop and we are very grateful to him for this. I'm sure parents will agree that all their children enjoy playing and training and the emphasis has always been about making football fun.

Ian Sanders, Manager

Under 8s

The Wigmore under 8's are having another great season, winning most of our games and gaining many positive comments for our teamwork and style of play. Our team has had to adapt slightly this season, as our league has become more physical, probably due to teams preparing for next year's competitive league. One of our best performances so far has to be our matches against the Fulham youth side, in which we won two and lost two. It could have been three wins if we hadn't been denied a blatant penalty but I suppose that's football and I'm not bitter, honest! The Fulham parents actually thought they were playing Aston Villa youth as the matches were so tough! Thanks must go to team coaches Will and

Andrew and parent reps Julie and Michelle. Thanks also to Jackie Green for keeping records during the game and Tim Sharmen, our referee.

Phil Sherlock, Manager

Under 9s

One of our main aims with the lads this season was to improve the concentration, discipline & conduct both at training & during matches. The boys have responded well to the introduction of an FA coach during some training sessions and have shown marked improvement in many aspects of their game. Their improved behaviour & conduct was rewarded by a phone call we received from the Cuxton manager to say that Wigmore were "the best behaved team they have seen this season".

There are a few games which for various reasons are worth a mention, but two in particular stand out. The first was an away game at league leaders Cuxton, who were unbeaten! This was an outstanding game of football in which every boy gave 100% & Midfielder Tariq Dawodu gave probably the best man of the match performance of the season so far. The 2nd game was in the cup against a very strong Woodcombe side. The lads combined perfectly to produce the best team performance we have seen from the boys, with each player giving his all for his team mates & for Wigmore. Unluckily (after 7 minutes of extra time!!) we drew the game 2-2 with Woodcombe equalizing with the last kick of the match.

We currently have the 3rd best defensive record in Division 1, based on goals conceded and currently we are in a strong 5th position.

We would love to be able to mention every performance by each player but that would take up the whole newsletter so we will just mention our two goalies. William Farley is an outstanding keeper and is one of the best goalies in our league and Kelan McGlynn who in a

short period of time has become a key part of the team. Both these boys are responding well to the goalkeeping coaching & continue to improve game after game.

Lee Honour, Manager

Under 10s

The Wigmore Under 10s have made an excellent start to the new season, currently sitting top of Division One, and looking forward to the Quarter finals of the League Cup. All the boys are working hard, and our two new signings have settled in great. Our goal at the end of the season is to get the squad prepared as much as we can for when we change to 11-a-side; a lot of our coaching methods and the way we teach the boys to play football is in preparation for this.

The boys went to watch the Invicta Dynamos ice hockey team play at Christmas and were invited onto the ice at the end of the game to have their photo taken with the players. Thank you to the Ice Bowl for making us so welcome!

We would like to say a big thanks to Alex Bain and the Kent Police for their generous donation of £300.

We are lucky to have a great set of parents who are willing to help whether it be collapsing goals or running the line, we really appreciate this. And not forgetting the support and hard work from all those involved with the club. We are looking forward to the rest of the season which we hope will be a successful one for all involved but especially the boys.

Richard Gregory, Manager

Under 11 Wanderers

See separate insert, including Chris Smalling summary.

Geoff Green, Manager

Under 12s

I would like to start by wishing everyone a belated Happy New Year.

We have had a fantastic first half of the season, currently sitting in top spot of Division 1 and in the quarter finals of the League Cup. It would be hard for me to single out any players who have played better than the others, because they have all done fantastic this season. They play well individually but, more importantly, they play well as a team and with so much confidence. It really is enjoyable to watch some of the football we play. If we keep up the hard work I can see a great season ahead of us. I would like to thank Peter Walsh and Tim Knaust who help me run things, and all the other parents who continue to show support not just for their own son, but for the team as a whole. Keep up the good work.

Neil Kember, Manager

Under 13s

Excellent progress has been made with the U13's Team after a few hiccups earlier in the season. We are very pleased with our home record - only one defeat at home since the beginning of the season! This, in itself, speaks volumes of how far the Team has come. We are blessed with a superb group of boys who all come from different backgrounds, different schools and different abilities but seem to gel together without asking. One of our old members who was seriously injured 2 seasons ago has remained loyal and we have the pleasure to welcome him back during the latter part of this season. Our team trains at the Anchorians Astroturf every Tuesday evening and we have to say that our training has improved in all directions. The trainers are fully committed and the parents are very supportive as a whole. We have integrated the "respect programme" at our home matches and so far everybody has adhered to it. It is left for us to say many thanks to Royal Mail for sponsoring us and a huge thank you to all of our boys, trainers and parents who have helped greatly to improve our

abilities and our results. Also for the support we are shown by our Club. We look forward to continuing as part of Wigmore Youth FC next season.

Detlef Hofmann, Manager

Under 14s

After having finished second in Division 2 last season, we knew we faced a tougher season in Division 1. Our early aim was to establish ourselves as a team that would stay in the top division, and we started with a deserved 2-1 win over last season's third placed side, Cobham Colts. Rather than keep the momentum up, and with a team dropping out of the league, we found we were having frequent weekends where we had no game. This has been a continuous theme through the season so far, exacerbated by the adverse weather, but to their credit, the boys have gone from strength to strength and are currently sitting top of the division with a 100% league record, and in the quarter final of the League Cup. Our only defeat this season came in the Kent Cup against a strong Cray Wanderers side from the Kent League. Even though we lost the game 4-2, we were unlucky and probably had more of the play and chances than Cray. Having played 6 league games now, we have 8 left to play, and if the boys play as well in those as they have in the first 6, we should be in for a great season. Whatever happens, we have established ourselves as a strong division 1 team, so well done to everyone.

Dan Jones, Manager

Every Little Helps

Another way of helping your team and Club is by collecting the Tesco Schools and Clubs vouchers, which starts at the beginning of March. Team managers can appoint someone to collect the vouchers on behalf of the team, so why not volunteer if you want to help out. All vouchers collected should be passed to Jo Gregory in the Under 10s, who is administering this for the whole Club. Jo will keep a record of how many each team has raised, and when the collecting has

completed team managers will be able to see what they can get that would be of use.

Summer Tournament

The Club will be holding its annual summer tournament over the usual Bank Holiday at the end of May, i.e. 29th and 30th May. Invitations have been sent out, but please try and encourage other teams to enter. The schedule for the weekend will be the same as last year, i.e. U8s, U10s and U18s on the Saturday Morning, U12s, U14s and U16s on the Saturday afternoon, U7s, U9s and U15s on the Sunday morning and U11s and U13s on the Sunday afternoon.

The tournament is a key fundraising annual event, but we need volunteers to help organise the weekend, so let your manager know if you are available to help. The weekend starts on the Friday, when the venue has to be set up for the weekend, and finishes with clearing up and a few tip runs with the rubbish on the Monday. All help is appreciated and helps the event to run as smoothly as possible.

Cup Final Details

Under 9 League Cup	23/05/10
Under 9 John Leeds	23/05/10
Under 10 League Cup	23/05/10
Under 10 John Leeds	23/05/10
Under 11 League Cup	25/04/10
Under 11 John Leeds	25/04/10
Under 12 League Cup	25/04/10
Under 12 John Leeds	18/04/10
Under 13 League Cup	16/05/10
Under 13 John Leeds	09/05/10
Under 14 League Cup	09/05/10
Under 14 John Leeds	09/05/10
Under 15 League Cup	18/04/10
Under 15 John Leeds	18/04/10
Under 16 League Cup	16/05/10
Under 16 John Leeds	16/05/10
Under 18 League Cup	02/05/10
Under 18 John Leeds	02/05/10

Wigmore Teams still involved:

Under 10s – League Cup Q/F
 Under 11s – League Cup Q/F
 Under 12s – League Cup Q/F
 Under 14s – League Cup Q/F
 Under 18Ws – John Leeds Q/F
 Under 18s – League Cup Q/F

Good luck to all teams still involved.