

Junior Secretary's Report 2019/2020

Not the end to a season we would have wanted for the club, players, coaches or parents.

The fixture programme was severely impacted in early 2020, firstly by heavy rain in January and February resulting in floods and unplayable pitches and many fixture postponements, and then the outbreak of COVID19 in March meaning the curtailment of all training and games. A huge shame as I know just how important football is to all associated; whether that be the taking part, building friendship groups (or shall I dare say it in such times of political correctness) winning!

At this moment we are uncertain when we will be able to start the new season as normal, but with the cooperation with East Riding County FA we are currently taking all the necessary administrative steps to ensure that we are ready to start the season, on whatever date and in whatever format, but only when it is safe to do so.

I would like to take a moment to place on record our thanks as a club to Paul Rigby, Andy Warburton and Ben White who are leaving their coaching positions with the current U12's Sunday team. Their contribution to the team and the club should be applauded. Thank you and best wishes for the future; please stay in touch! At the same time thank you to Rhys Staines for moving from coach to manager of the team so what will be the U13's in 2020/21 season continue with minimal transitional fuss.

A further thank you to both Graham Freer and Adam Hargreaves for taking on the roles of Percy Thrower and Alan Titchmarsh (I'll let you decide who is who) and completing a huge amount of work primarily on the main mini pitch at Reckondales, but across all the pitches. Reseeding and around 2 tonnes of top soil have already gone into the pitches and they will be in tip top condition for the start of the season. Going forwards it's absolutely essential that everyone plays their part in ensuring that sensible decisions are made about overall usage and we must consider the potential postponement of fixtures when the short term gain of fulfilling a fixture is at the expense of the next 3-6 weeks of appalling bog like conditions. This is something we must get a better handle on. Some minor pitch reconfiguration should permit a dedicated 5v5 mini pitch running parallel to the beck and this will also help with rotation of training/playing space.

Unfortunately our plans to celebrate the club's centenary have also had to take a back seat but we have already started to hold tentative conversations around what we could do. Clearly until we have significantly greater relaxations of lockdown and social distancing this will not be possible, but there is a desire and appetite to pick up where we left off.

I referenced in met report at last years AGM a real need to enhance the committee function roles and disappointingly we haven't made any progress. I would like see further development of this as priority so that workload can be shared, but also additional hands on deck allows for us to press forward and maximise grant opportunities and such like.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in what has been a difficult season for evening. Football will continue as England's national game and hopefully we can start again in September 2020 with health, safety and well being of all involved in grassroots as the priority. Best wishes to you and your families and I hope that you stay safe, fit and healthy during this period of continual uncertainty.

Chris Binns, Junior Club Secretary, July 2020