

Welcome To GDYFC



Hello and welcome to the latest issue of GDYFC News.

Sunday 7th September saw an extraordinary start to the 2008/09 season, with all of our scheduled matches postponed due to waterlogged pitches! Has there ever been an entire match programme wiped out due to inclement weather conditions on the first day of the season?

However, the season is now well underway and as I write, most age groups have played a good few games and again have settled squad numbers, which is very pleasing. For this I would like to thank parents and players for your continued support and dedication to training and match days.

It is pleasing to see the numbers in the younger age groups continue to grow and for those of you who are reading the news letter for the first time, to summarise, our objective is simple, for our children to be happy and enjoy playing football in a safe and fun environment.

I am very proud to tell you that our club was voted Weetabix Youth Football League "Club of Year" for the season 2007/08. This is something that we should all be extremely proud of. It is recognition by other clubs and the Weetabix Youth League Management Committee. To receive this accolade, there are many things considered, from the administration side through to how we

conduct ourselves whilst representing our club. It is all the more pleasing, as there are many big club members from the Kettering, Corby, Wellingborough and Rushden areas, who have been around for many years, whilst we are still a young club, receiving the award in only our fifth season. Well done you!

Thank you to our sponsors, PC Carpentry & Joinery, United Pallet Network, John Bright Builders, Gist, Elsbey & Co Accountants, WH Stephens, Misco and RPM Welding Consultants, your support is very much appreciated.

I am sure many of you will be aware that back in August the FA launched the respect programme in the professional game, to raise the profile and respect towards referees. This programme also has implications for every club at grassroots level, to improve behaviours and make football a positive and inclusive experience for everyone involved. There are four key areas: erecting spectator barriers along the touchlines, allowing referees to manage the game without interference, captains taking responsibility for their team and abiding by codes of conduct set out within club rules.

As a club we have signed up to this initiative and I hope that we can all play our part in changing negative attitudes and abusive behaviour on the sidelines and on the pitch. I know, as I am sure you do, the kind of

treatment sometimes meted out not just to officials, but to players as well, by irate parents standing on the touchline, berating players, referees and coaches, whilst they are simply trying to play and enjoy a game of football.

It heartens me to say that within our club we do not suffer from such behaviour, which again is a credit to us all. In embracing the respect programme I hope we can help to make a difference and influence the behaviours sometimes exhibited by others.

For those of us that have played "the beautiful game" we all know that it is a very passionate and opinionated sport and we all see things and react differently. Of course we all want to win, but not at all costs. I believe that performance follows attitude and by acting with integrity and respect for those around us, we will make a difference. I am confident that we can take a lead. Watch this space.

Finally, thank you to the coaches and committee for the efforts and excellent work that you continue to put in. As always, if you have any suggestions, opinions or concerns, then please let us know about them. We do value your feedback.

I wish you all a happy Christmas and best wishes for 2009.

Enjoy the game.

Kevin Howes - Chairman

A View From The Touchline



Over the past couple of months I have been getting up on a Sunday morning and going to watch kids football, sometimes an eleven-a-side game, sometimes a mini game and I must say it has been very interesting not being directly involved standing back and just watching.

Some teams have huge support from the parents. I went to one game and I counted 40 adults stood on the touch line from both teams and this was an under 13's game, but all these parents were not supporting, they were shouting and screaming at the kids, not words of support and encouragement, but critical and chastising, and not one child on that pitch looked happy.

As parents, if we're looking to develop a positive attitude in our children, we would do

well to watch our own behaviour at matches. Do we give positive encouragement, or critical judgmental remarks? Do we show a calm demeanour, or heated over-reactions to mistakes?

Do we praise participation, or match statistics, or the final score? Next time you go to a match, remember, your attitude is showing, and your kids are watching.

The other thing that I found really interesting is the types of warm up that go on these vary to no warm up to half an hour of shuttle runs, press up, sit ups, twice round the pitch, a work out that would tire a crack Royal Marine. This happens in training the kids turn up for a training session and spend the first 30, 40, 50, minutes running around doing this exercise, that exercise, and none of them touch a football. There was a great quote I found the

other day. "A great pianist doesn't run around the piano or do push ups with the tops of his fingers. To be great, he plays the piano. He plays all his life and being a footballer is not about running, push-ups or physical work generally. The best way to be a great footballer is to play." Jose Mourinho (former Chelsea Manager)

It is hard work being a coach and you can get yourself in a rut, worrying to much about the results and losing the focus of what kids football is about, and that's creating an environment where the kids have fun and learn to fall in love with the game of football.

If any of you want me to help out with a coaching session on a Saturday then let me know and I would gladly help when I can.

Cheers

Barry

Under 8's Report



We would like firstly to welcome our new player's to the club.

As you are all aware we had been struggling for players, but did manage to get enough to join the league for the first time this year. We are now a few games in and we won our first league match by a whopping 11-0. Hat-tricks galore and big smiling faces with a fantastic standard of play!! It was a day that's made us very proud! We hope that there will be many more.

The under 8's are working well as a team and showing great potential, we would like to take the credit for this and say it's our fantastic coaching, but quite clearly they are all naturally gifted.

We would also like to thank all the parents for their continued support. Kevin and Carl for their weekly help and Mark Watson for fetching and putting the goals up. Well done to all the team and here's to many more league wins!

Cher & Mark



The Under 8's at Whitworths

Under 9's Report



Hi everyone.

Firstly I'd like to pass on our best wishes to White's manager Chris who suffered a prolapsed disc in his back. Chris was in hospital for two weeks, and after a successful operation is now recuperating at home.

Hopefully he will be back on the touchline in the near future.

The season has been a stop-start affair, due to some awful weather, including floods, heavy rain and frozen pitches. Both teams have only played seven games each, which has meant it is hard for the boys to get into any rhythm. The football that has been played has been very encouraging, producing lots of goals and excitement. We have shown that we can more than hold our own at this level.

The Green's welcome Harry Tobin to the team. Harry has shown he will be a great addition. The White's welcome back Tom Gower, who has returned after a spell away.

The training has been excellent recently and very well attended. The last few weeks at the rec were very enjoyable with the boys working hard and listening and learning. The training has now moved indoors to Redwell, where the ball control and passing is really crisp (if only we could play on perfect pitches every week).

Thanks to Fred Digby, who continues to support the Under 9's with generous donations. We will be spending the money on much needed equipment for the boys.

The last training is at Redwell on Saturday 20th December, and the last league match is on Sunday 21st December. We return to training on Saturday 31st January, and the league resumes on Sunday 1st February.

Great Doddington Youth FC were named Club of the Year by the Weetabix League for 2007/8, proving this club really is the place to be. The boys won't find a better club to play for than this one. Congratulations to all players, coaches, officials and volunteers who helped to win this award.

Finally I hope you all have a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Thanks for all your support.

Rob, Mark H, Chris & Mark W



The Under 9's with the Weetabix Club of the Year trophy.

Under 12's Report



Hello everyone and welcome to the latest newsletter.

So far this season has been a bit disappointing we find ourselves bottom of the pile. One might say that this is where we are because we can't win games, this is true, but I can assure everyone this is not for the want of trying and believe me it's getting very trying.

People who have seen our games will find it hard to fathom out how we can have so much of the games yet still fail to win. Maybe there is a hex on us or just maybe we need to find our scoring boots and take our chances better.

On a positive note we are getting a regular 14-something at training every week which is brilliant, well done boys keep it up. I am quite sure our luck will change soon we just have to keep trying our hardest and the results will come.

Many thanks to the whole squad for turning up for the bowling at the beginning of October, a great night was had by all. We hope to do something similar in the new year.

I must welcome two new members to the squad, Ryan and Joe, this takes our numbers up to 19, so there is more competition for places. I will say this now, it has never been more important to turn up to

training than it is now. So as we move into Winter, just remember warm clothing at training and for matches, and on behalf of Adrian and myself, we wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Merry Christmas, Yo! Ho! Ho!

Ian & Adrian



The Under 12 squad

Under 13's Report



Well, here is my first news letter as the new manager of Great Doddington Under 13s.

I am proud to have taken over a great group of players from Barry Thorne, who is a coach I have respected for a long time. Over the past few years he has done a fantastic job.

Most of you won't know much about me other than being the dad of Charlie Moore. For my part, I played at Higham Town where I was captain of the youth side for many years until I was promoted to the adult side where I enjoyed much success at UCL level. I was a competitive player and a winner. That is what I want for my players, for them to compete and be winners.

The squad has real quality and I welcome the new players, Sam Cotter, Matt Tatum, Jack Greenachre and off course the return of Jake Gibson, a player I have long admired. I am proud of the start the players have made and the effort given. At the time of writing we have won 5 games in a row, and have scored freely. This group of players have great ability which they now need to realise and begin to win medals that players

of their quality deserve.

May the success continue.

Well done all.

Luke



The Under 12's

Under 11's White's Report



We would like to start by welcoming Thomas to the team following his move between the Under 11's teams and to thank our new team sponsors, GIST.

A well done goes out to Phil for passing his FA Coaching course recently.

This is obviously the boy's first 11-a-side season but they have all battled hard and are mastering the dreaded off side rule! It is good to see that heads don't drop and even during the hard games we have played the boys give it their best till the end. We have already found that you need a bit of luck to be successful, we have rattled the woodwork on numerous occasions and conceded goals in the last minutes of games to either draw or unfortunately lose.

In training we have spent a lot of time on passing and moving and this is now paying off in games with some good passing moves coming into play. We have also worked with the boys to play in different positions which is beneficial in the squad situation and given them their own positions to be in for set pieces.

We would both like to say well done to all the boys and by keeping up the hard work the results you deserve are coming. Thanks go out to Matt for refereeing and Alan for running the line for us and for the continued support from all the parents.

Regards,

Steve and Phil.



The Under 11 White's

Club Website: www.greatdoddingtonyfc.co.uk

Under 11's Green's Report



Hi to everyone.

First of all I would like to welcome Jeffery and Franco to our team and I hope they enjoy it as much as the rest of us!

As this is our first 11-a-side season we are doing extremely well, we have played 7 games, won 5, and lost 2, leaving us in second place in the league table.

I am very proud of the boys, but they need to fight to the last minute of every game, not going in thinking the opponents are not as good as themselves.

We are now training on a high grade 3G surface and its going very well, not getting filthy and messing up Doddington rec. We will continue to train there until the end of January, weather permitting.

Thanks for your continued support and dedication to team. Boys, keep trying hard and enjoy the remainder of the season.

Happy Christmas and New Year

Julie & Steve



The Under 11 Green's

Under 6's & 7's Report



Firstly we'd like to kick-off with a warm welcome to our new batch of players.

Hopefully the under 6's are enjoying their first steps into the game of football. The new under 7 players include some from the village and others from Wollaston, who's unfortunate break-up at this age group has enabled us to strengthen the team in terms of numbers and depth in ability. This has allowed us to be more constructive during training sessions, which will hopefully prove effective during friendlies which we be arranging in the New Year

(Under 7's only, sorry but it is an FA rule).

Regarding Under 7 matches, if players don't already have them, could parents please acquire a pair of plain white shorts and socks for the upcoming friendlies, we will supply the green shirts.

We will be looking to move indoors for a number of weeks in the New Year, due to the usual cold spell we get. This will hopefully be held at Redwell Leisure Centre, which is ideal for ourselves size-wise, and also for parents, due to the large viewing windows. We'll let you know about this on the first outdoor

session back in the New Year.

As regards the Christmas break for the under 6's and under 7's our last training session of the year will be on Saturday 20th December and we will resume at the rec on Saturday 17th January.

So that just leaves us to say a big thanks to the kids and parents, have a great Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Cheers

Woody & Paul

Under 10's Report



It has been a busy start to the season and our whole squad deserves great praise for showing some real improvements.

We have been determined to build on our good showing in the summer tournaments, the highlight of which was the win at Burton.

In the league we have also enjoyed some success with nine victories and only one defeat so far this season. That 5-4 loss to Earls Barton was a very memorable game and we were very unlucky not to win, but most pleasingly the quality of football on display was a credit to both teams. Perhaps the highlight so far was the early 3-1 victory over a very strong Vicarage Farm side, but more important has been the steady improvement in our training sessions.

We welcome two new players with Tom Percival and Levar Thomas both adding to our already impressive squad, but at the same time

we say farewell to William Seaton-Burn and wish him every success.

It has been a real pleasure to see all our players developing a strong bond, as well as supporting each other on the pitch, some real friendships have developed off it.

We remain focused on developing all our players in preparation for next season's move to 11-a-side games, and we have been very pleased with the commitment and hard work shown by all our players this season. There is a long way to go but we are building a good squad ethic and we have no doubt the lads will continue to rise to the challenge and enjoy their football. Lastly a very sincere thank you to all the mums and dads who support us and help with transport and setting up and collecting equipment, in particular Bob and Steph. There is



The Under 10's

always a good turnout come rain (and there's been plenty of that) or shine and your support is greatly appreciated.

Mark, Paul and Dave

Be Green - Recycle



Could all those who are still in possession of last seasons kits, U14, U13, U11 White, please return it to your coaches in order that it can be recycled.

If you have any football boots that are now too small, rather than throw them away, can you give them / sell them to any of the children in the younger age groups who may be able to make use of them. If so let your coach know and we can look at this.

Kevin Howes - Chairman

Under 14's Report



Here we are halfway through the new season with the U14's and what a cracking start we have had, unbeaten in the league and sitting at the top of the league table.

The whole squad has worked very hard in training and in their matches to achieve this seat.

Our only defeat this season came in the County Cup where we were very unlucky to get beaten in extra time 3-2.

The League Cup is still there for the taking after going through the first round.

With the same attitude and hard work we can continue our good work into the second

half of the season and hopefully go on and win the league.

I must say a big thank you to all the parents who turn up week in week out at the matches in all weathers, to Roger Green who helps every week with training and match days and without whose support I would find my role very difficult and to Rob Digby for giving up his sunday afternoon's to ref the home matches. Many thanks to you all.

I am arranging a 'Christmas Outing' in January for the squad to go bowling - details to follow.

I'll sign off by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and hope you all enjoy yourselves

Josh



The Under 14 squad