



BEACON RANGERS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

ISSUE 3 - APRIL 2017

Hello All - and if you are new to the Club ...WELCOME!

This is the third issue of Beacon's quarterly Newsletters, aimed to keep everybody informed of key activities in and around the Club:

Pitch Development at Southowram Cricket Club

We met the West Riding County FA (WRCFA), Calderdale Council, and the representative from the Institute of Groundsmanship in March, who took soil samples etc of the two fields that Beacon have 30 year leases on at the Cricket Club. We are now awaiting the WRCFA's official report on what will be required to turn the fields into usable football pitches, and the WRCFA will also give guidance on the best approach to apply for grants.

In the meantime, here some pictures of the 'clean up' exercise that many of you helped with in February:



What a wonderful day that was, with the Football Club, Cricket Club, and St Anne's Scouts all working fantastically together to really make a difference. There will be more of this in the future, so watch this space ...

Spring / Summer Training

Having successfully 'wintered' indoors at the 3gi, we are all training back outdoors again now, at:

- Withinfields Primary School (ages up to U10's), and
- Long Lane (U11's)

Both fields require ongoing maintenance, so we will be asking for volunteers for mowing, raking, line marking, etc as the season progresses. If you feel you could do some of this now and again, please let me know.

Easter Raffle

Many of you have offered to sell raffle tickets to friends, family, work colleagues to help raise funds for the Club, and you may by now have received some tickets to sell for the Beacon Rangers Easter Raffle. If selling tickets is not your sort of thing, no worries, but for those of you who can sell some, that would be absolutely wonderful. ALL the profits are to directly benefit the Club and the children.

Dates for Diary

There are three key dates coming up for the Club as follows:

- **30th April (Sunday) - Tour de Yorkshire**
 - The Tour cyclists will ride past Withinfields School field during the afternoon. There will be fun football activities on the field from 1pm to 4pm, along with drinks & snacks stalls. Further details to follow via your team coaches and the 'Events & Funds' WhatsApp Group.
- **19th May (Friday) - Beacon Rangers Presentation & Signing On Evening**
 - The Club's joint Presentation / Signing On evening will be held at Southowram Cricket Club on Friday 19th May, 7pm start, where the players will be recognised for their tremendous effort & attitude, and to celebrate a fantastic season. Presentation times will be staggered as follows:

U6's	U7's	U8's	U9's	U10's	U11's
7.15pm	7.30pm	7.45pm	8.15pm	8.30pm	8.45pm
 - To ensure that the Club can continue to provide the required infrastructure for the growing number of players and teams, the membership fees will be increased, albeit they will still be cheaper than many clubs in the area, and will then be frozen for the following two years.
 - The annual fee will be £144; or £12 per month (just under £3 per week). This will cover key expenditure for the Club, including: ALL training sessions (both indoor & outdoor); footballs; FA Level 1 & 2 Coaching Courses; Safeguard Training; Emergency Aid Training; Kits; Jackets; Huddersfield Junior League Registration Fees; West Riding County FA Affiliation Fees; Public Liability Insurance; Ground Maintenance; and a host of other expenditures.
- **16th June (Friday) - Beacon Rangers Annual General Meeting (AGM)**
 - The Club's AGM will be held at Southowram Cricket Club on Friday 16th June, 7pm start. This is an excellent opportunity to have a say on how your child's Club is run, and to: Suggest ideas for improvement; Raise any concerns; Offer to help; Elect next season's Committee.
 - It would be absolutely brilliant if as many people as possible came along on the evening.

Request for Helpers

What can make a HUGE difference to a grassroots football club is help from parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. And you may be surprised at what help is needed. For example:

- Sending 5 or 6 Whatsapp / Text messages a week could be a great help to the coaches.
- Serving Tea / Coffee at home games could help finance a Christmas Party for the players.
- Cutting grass and marking a pitch would take a huge weight of some people's shoulders.

If you want to volunteer to help coach or referee, that would also be fantastic, and the Club would pay for you to take FA Coaching / Refereeing badges if you were keen to take them.

If you would like to help your child's football club in any of the ways above, or with any other ideas that you may have, please do get it touch.

Thank you

Nigel Freeman

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