



# BEACON RANGERS JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

## CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

### ISSUE 4 - OCTOBER 2017

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

#### Introduction

For the first time in the Club's history, there are now over 100 children playing for Beacon. We have teams from U7s to U13s playing matches in the Huddersfield Junior Football League, and are also arranging friendlies for our Mini Kickers. On the one hand it is fantastic that so many children in our community are able to enjoy football in a safe and organised environment. On the other hand, we need to be careful to ensure that the Club continues to grow in a sustainable fashion.

Some of our teams are already 'full', and unless we can magic extra coaches to split teams further, we need to introduce waiting lists at certain age groups. Please be aware of this should any friends or relatives ask about joining Beacon. The best thing to do is to direct people to the relevant coach as opposite:

Age Group	School Year	Head Coach	
Mini Kickers	Year 1	Donna	07722 937822
Under 7's	Year 2	Nigel	07927 618225
Under 8's	Year 3	Dan	07514 765489
Under 9's	Year 4	Sean	07548 880089
Under 10's	Year 5	Jonny	07834 917074
Under 11's	Year 6	Anthony	07736 406166
Under 12's	Year 7	Craig	07932 618526
Under 13's	Year 8	Jonny	07720 922220
Nigel Freeman (Chairman) - 07927 618225			

#### Welfare

At Beacon Rangers we are committed to the welfare of all our players and volunteers therefore we subscribe to The Football Association's (The FA) Safeguarding Children- Policy and Procedure. We acknowledge and endorse The FA's identification of bullying as a category of abuse. Bullying of any kind is not acceptable at our club. If bullying does occur, all players or parents/carers should be able to tell and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly. Incidents need to be reported to the Club Welfare Officer/ Chairman/ Coach.

**Remember that children play for FUN and we ask our supporters and parents/carers to adhere to the FA Code of Conduct as below:**



- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area (this is usually the opposite of the field to the coaches)
- Let the coach do their job and not confuse the players by telling them what to do
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake - mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour

## Welcome Pack

All parents/carers should now have a copy of our Welcome Pack. This includes a reminder of the Code of Conduct for our players. This is reinforced by our coaches at training sessions and matches. The Welcome Pack includes contact details for our Welfare Officer and Chairman, and you should have access to your child's team WhatsApp group. If you haven't received the Welcome Pack or are not on the WhatsApp group please let us know.



## Policies

You can now access all our key policies through our webpage (e.g. Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying, Equality, Health & Safety, Photography, and Safer Recruitment of Volunteers). <http://www.beaconrangers.co.uk>

## Health & Safety

- Please remember that suitable clothing must be worn during training & matches. So if a child turns up in just a t-shirt when it's minus 2 degrees, shaking and crying from the cold, then the coach is within their rights to refuse to 'accept' the child onto the field of play and to send the child home with their parent / carer to warm up.
- Similarly shin pads MUST be worn for ALL training and matches. This is not because the Club love to make up rules, it is to do what we can to prevent leg-breaks.
- For those training / playing matches at Withinfields school, please note the school policies:
  - Section 4.7: "Smoking is not permitted on the premises both inside and outside the building. This includes the use of ecigarettes".
  - Section 4.8: "Dogs, other than assistance dogs, are not permitted on the school premises. This includes the external areas within the grounds and includes dogs which are being carried".

## Coaches

We don't want to turn players away from the Club, but it does nobody any favours overloading age groups when there are not enough coaches to provide the quality of coaching that a parent would expect, or having more kids on the subs bench than actually on the field of play! Plus, there are player / coach ratios to adhere to as an FA Charter Standard Club. Therefore, if anybody would be willing to help our current coaches, PLEASE shout up. And if you know of anybody who may be interested in coaching, please point them our way.

## Volunteer Helpers

The Club also needs more volunteer helpers, whether it's offering an hour a month, or more - every little helps. Please do not think that you would be 'treading on people's toes' - it's really not like that at all; the total opposite in fact. We are ALL volunteers, nobody is paid for helping, and the more helpers we have the better. The 'to do' list is never ending, and hugely varied. You don't have to know anything about football at all to help the Club, and therefore your children in the Club. For example, we need:

- Joiners
- Grass Cutters
- Line Markers
- Tea & Coffee Servers
- Social Media Helpers
- Background Admin Help
- Committee Members
- Anybody willing to offer their time

We may also need Plumbers & Electricians at some point. There is so much happening right now that we need all of the helpers opposite. **If you would be happy to co-ordinate a potential 'helpers' list - just from parents & carers of your own age group - please let the Chairman or your coach know.**

## Fields

Those of you using Withinfields School field will be aware that it has an unfortunate capacity to 'hold' water. Our arrangement with the school is that we can use the field, but need to protect it from long term damage in bad weather. The exceptionally wet weather in recent months is the reason that we have had to avoid using the field, and have made use of other areas of grass, such as Long Lane & Savile Park. The development of the new pitches at Southowram Cricket Club will help significantly, but these things take time. We have undertaken a topographical survey of the fields to determine the levels and we are currently working with a professional agronomist to design and cost various pitch options. Once we have completed this then we can move onto the next stage which is applying for grants. The FA, West Riding County FA, Institute of Groundsmanship, and Calderdale Council are all 'on board'. Nobody can guarantee a grant, but we are giving it our very best shot.

## Membership Fees

All fees should now be either paid in full, or have monthly payment arrangements in place. If for some reason this is not the case, please remedy this ASAP. A reminder of the bank details for you to pay electronically:

- Sort Code: 60-09-27
- Account Number: 77246535

There are 2 payment methods available:

- One off payment of £144, (sibling £72)
- 12 monthly payments of £12 per month, (sibling £6), by standing order
- Ref: {parent surname child surname child dob}

## Sponsors

We would like to say a big **THANK-YOU** to all our wonderful sponsors, who make the difference between just 'surviving' financially, and really developing the Club in order to offer better facilities for the children. Our next Newsletter will be dedicated to thanking these businesses in more detail. In the meantime, for those of you who don't know, our sponsors are:

- A.F. Connell Ltd
- Bannon Group
- Brightside Recovery
- Capstone Foster Care
- Crompton Mouldings Limited
- D C Motor Trading
- Eurosonix Freight Management

- Hutton & Cawood Building and Joinery Ltd
- James Jackson Halifax Ltd
- Qwirky & Co
- RA Domestic Services Ltd
- Seymour Engineering Limited
- Walker Singleton Chartered Surveyors
- +1 Sponsor, prefers to remain anonymous

## Christmas / New Year Raffle

There will be raffle tickets handed in November, to be sold during November / December, and drawn the first week back at training in the New Year. The prizes will be:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize = £100
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize = £75
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize = £50

Children can sell tickets to doting relatives over Christmas, and parents & carers who are comfortable selling tickets can do so at work, the pub, the gym, wherever. This way, it is not parents & carers handing over money all the time. The main use of the funding will be to enable us to continue with the cricket club development, as every stage of the process throws up new costs.

## Dates for Diary

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

- **12<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Sunday**



- The Beacon Rangers Committee is keen to acknowledge that for at least one day a year, there are more important things than football. It's a personal choice for parents whether to take their children to attend Remembrance Day, but we absolutely do not want anybody to say that they cannot attend Remembrance Day because they have to play a football match for Beacon. We would like everyone if possible to attend Remembrance Day at St Anne's Church, Southowram, followed by the service at the cenotaph, wearing their Beacon football shirts, and joining the parade with the Scouts. Football matches can be re-arranged around this, for example by playing on the Saturday, or on Sunday afternoon. It is acknowledged that this may not be practical, or even desirable, for all people in all age groups, but we want everybody to know that Beacon fully support and want to embrace Remembrance Day activities.

- **23<sup>rd</sup> December and 30<sup>th</sup> December - no training - Xmas Break**



## And Finally ...

We hope that those of you who attended the Pig Race Evening had a great time, the kids certainly seemed to! The next 'Beacon' Social event is likely to be in February. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Thank you

*Nigel Freeman*

Nigel Freeman  
Chairman, Beacon Rangers JFC  
07927 618225

