

GUILDFORD SAINTS FC

FA Charter Standard Development Club
2016

www.guildfordsaints.org

Can we have our ball back please.....

December 2016



Dear Members,

Welcome everyone to the 2016/17 football season with Guildford Saints FC, apologies it has taken so long to get a Newsletter out, we have had a very busy start this year.

Looking back at the end of last season, we need to say Thank you to some fantastic volunteers, some of whom have been with the Club for many years:

Sarah Parker Treasurer – **Loseley Shield Winner for Commitment to GSFC 2016**

Richard Napier U18 Manager, Mike Cuin U16 Manager, Ashley Grey U14 Vipers Manager

Gurmit Dhillon U10 Jags Manager, Beccie Hobson Kit & Equipment/U16 Girls Manager

We also said farewell to our U16 boys & Girls & U18 boys teams, we wish them all well for the future and hopefully will see some of them back at GSFC as volunteers/coaches/Referees at some point.

STOP PRESS..... apart from being named the FA Charter Development Club of the Season, we were also voted Sport Guildford Club of Year 2016 with our U12 Lions receiving a Highly Commended certificate for the Young Sports Team of the Year in recognition of the great achievements last season. Pictures on web site.

2016/17 saw an influx of new players at all age groups, a warm welcome to you and your parents, enjoy the season with us. We have increased our U8/9 & U10 age groups, now running 3 teams per age group. Due to the popularity of U8 & 9's this season these groups are now full and we are operating a waiting list for any new potential members.

Such was the success of the Girls summer training sessions run by Kevin Wilson, has meant the formation of U10 & U12 girl's teams this season. We are looking to add a further U10 girls' team into the league after Xmas. New players are still arriving, we have bolstered our U14 girls' team and are looking to start an U9 team in the near future. Many congratulations to Kevin for the success of this project.

New volunteers have joined our team this season, a BIG Thank you for becoming involved:
Andrea Thomas U10G, Justin Spary U12G, Chloe Maltby U8 Hawks, Sam Seymour U8 Jags
Alex Bahl U8 + Kit & Equipment Manager, Helen Dorkings U9 Hawks, Lada Timotijevic U9 Falcons
Tim Closs U10 Swans

Also a massive Thank You to Jason Peace (U11 Jags Manager) who has taken over the role of Treasurer.

Our coaching team has also been bolstered: We welcome Max Edwards & Will Grove.



We need your help: can you volunteer to run warm ups prior to the game or run a match day game, work alongside and be mentored by one of our Pro Coaches????? Contact us. Can you Ref on match day,???? Contact us. Courses are available which will be paid for by GSFC.....**Come on get Inspired.....you can do this.....**

On that note, following on from the excitement last December, I was invited by BBC London to sit on the panel whose responsibility it was to choose this year's BBC London Unsung Hero 2016 – We wish Michael Harris all the best and Good Luck at SPOTY 2016 – he will have a fantastic weekend.

Housekeeping: I have already sent this out previously but just a reminder: **NO dogs** allowed on any school sites we use. **NO parking** on the grass in front of Bushy Hill School – please ensure whatever ground you are attending you park considerately. **NO parking** on the access road to Merrow Cricket Club, please use the park and ride car park and access the field via gate when attending training on Saturday mornings. Anyone using the playground apparatus at Bushy Hill School does so at their own risk. These are all criteria set by the schools/organisations we hire from – please respect these requests.

Ensure your children attend training sessions on time and are collected on time.

RESPECT: Initiated by the FA, adopted by all Charter Standard Clubs. RESPECT all Refs/coaches/managers/players/supporters – make football a great place to be. Make GSFC a great place to be. More info on this scheme can be found on the FA website. All players/parents are members of GSFC and must adhere to our Codes of Conduct which can be found on our web site.

Season 2016/17: Our last training session for Saturday mornings will be Saturday 17th December. Last training session for Girls: Monday 19th December, Ladies team 21st December. Mid-week teams your last session will take place during week commencing 16th December.

Training will resume: Girls W/C 9th January 2017 same timings as before
Mid- week W/C 2nd January 2017 again same timings as before.

Saturday Sessions will resume on Saturday 7th January 2017 – we will once again move to George Abbot School astro pitches. In addition we will have the use of 2 indoor spaces for futsal training sessions. A timing schedule will be communicated to you nearer the time.

We do not break for Feb half term, all sessions will continue as usual. Training will continue until end of April 2017.

Futsal Tournament: we will once again be holding our annual Futsal Tournament at SSP on December 30th. Teams from age group categories: U9/10/11 & 13. This is an important fund raiser for the Club. We look forward to watching our GSFC teams compete – Good Luck. If anyone is able to help on the day, please let us know.



Now Team News.....



U10 Guildford Saints Swallows Report: November 2016

After their trophy winning first season last year, the U10 Swallows have carried on improving with a really positive start in Ainslie group, claiming 5 wins from their first 6 matches, including a 7-0 and a 7-1 victory. We have also witnessed some really close, excitingly unforgettable games such as a topsy-turvy 5-4 victory in which our young players showed real maturity and guts to defeat very strong opposition. It has been particularly pleasing to see the Swallows develop their pacey, passing unselfish style of football that has received compliments from opposition managers, parents and even a referee (who was also their club chairman!). The football they are playing and the camaraderie between team-mates has been an absolute joy to watch. Our thanks go to Asa for his excellent training sessions which have clearly had a major impact on our slick and organised performances on the pitch and also to our very supportive parents for their support each week. Ashley & Matt.



U10's celebrating trophy win.

PAN Teams- I am very pleased with the development of this team as they have grown from one U16's teams to currently having four teams(Lions, Eagles, Polar bears and Tigers).

They are also doing very well in their monthly tournaments, getting very good results and mainly having lots of FUN. I could not be more proud of this group of individuals as they are definitely one of the highlights of my week.

This season **the U17s** find themselves again playing in the East Berkshire league, having been promoted to division 5, playing in the U18 age group. At the present time we have won 3 and lost 6, although we have been competitive in all matches. We are a small-ish side for our present age group, and have found the physicality of our opponents challenging at times, but we are adapting as the season progresses. We have a reliable squad of 17 players, and (so far) have no problem getting a side out on a Saturday. The team is also well supported by parents, who appreciate the spirit shown by a group of players that has been together for many seasons now.

The side is now captained by goalkeeper Matt Lambert, and continues to feature one of the only girls in the country playing for a boy's team at this level, the amazing Issy Luscombe. We continue to have researchers from Brunel University attending matches to watch Issy, as part of a study into mixed sports, and they are reporting their findings to the FA, as they did last season. Our joint top scorers so far are James Foulsham and Jamie Cuin. Currently 7th in the league table, a mid-table finish would be a respectable achievement for us this season.

The U13s Lions are off to a flier once again. Played 10, won 9 and drawn 1 with 50 goals scored. Last season will be unforgettable, going the whole season unbeaten in the league and cup and being nominated for Guildford Young Team of the Year was a real honour. The question was whether this season we could get anywhere close to that achievement this season. We are currently

top the Surrey Youth League Championship table 10 points clear. In addition the boys are successfully through to the 4th round of the Surrey County Cup.

We were a bit concerned at the start of the season about how we would make the transition from the SPL, which the team had outgrown, to the SYL but team have adjusted magnificently. What is more pleasing than the results is the style the boys are playing. The years of good quality coaching are now starting to reap dividends as the boys are all comfortable in possession meaning we can build patiently from the back and then strike at speed in the last 3rd of the pitch and score lots of quality goals. A real pleasure for coaches and parents to watch and the boys love playing in the team with such an exciting style of play. Well done Lions keep it going!

Steve/Axel

U8 Report: We have not had the results that perhaps our performances have deserved. At times we have passed the ball at pace and with a clear structure to our game. However we still have periods of the game where we make mistakes and get punished but it is important we use these as learning opportunities and continue to play our style of football. As a club we need to focus more on performance and how we are playing rather than the end result. I base my assessment on if each individual player is improving. If we get this right the team as a whole will be stronger and positive results will follow.

Saints U8s: The U8 boys started off the season with a few new good additions to the squad. The boys have continued to progress, building on the skills learnt last year and developing new techniques. They are beginning to finally find their feet and gel as a squad, using all the talent on the team to their best advantage. There have been some amazing moments at some of the games where the boys have really shown how far they have come as a team. Most importantly, they are still having a really fun time playing together.

Girls Football: Last summer we started to run free taster sessions for Girls in an effort to form teams in the younger age groups. This has led to us starting up U9, U10 and U12 girl's teams. In total we now have 45 girls playing football within the club which is fantastic. The U10's have received plaudits from other teams on how they pass the ball around the pitch and score excellent team goals. So far they have won all but one of their matches. The U12's are working extremely hard in training and making great progress technically and understanding the game and positional roles. Many of them have taken up football for the first time in May and have developed a real passion for Football which was our aim from the start. The U9's need 2-3 more player's in order to play matches so if you know of any girls who maybe interested please encourage them to come down and try a training session.

Monday's 6-7pm - Burpham Park Tennis courts

There has been a significant interest in the **u16 team** this season and we have welcomed five new players to our squad. Training sessions have moved to a Thursday evening on astro and, thanks to Coach Michael Pott's sessions, have proved very popular. We are experiencing high attendance, normally 14-18 players, and an enthusiasm to improve. There has been a mixed start to matches with a couple of easy wins, a heavy defeat and some close losses. There's also been the usual mix of opposition teams it's always a pleasure to play along with one we'd rather not see again.

U14s : Having finished a career high of 3rd in Premier Elite last season, it proved to be a hard start this time around, with the team losing its first 3 games. Having lost a few players but gained a few fantastic new ones (a big welcome to Matty and Rainell), it has taken the team a while to settle and to start getting back to its best. The boys have won their last two games (albeit against the same team),

so it is feeling much more positive now although it is clear that there are going to be no easy games this year as all teams are of a similar standard. Keep up the good work, boys, and the rewards will come. Many thanks again to dedicated volunteer Paul for giving up your time (and energy!) by agreeing to be the Coach of the team for what is the 6th year in a row.

The U9 Eagles have started the season strongly - losing only one game to date. With the addition of two new players, William Southward from the U9 Hawks and Samuel Lusale who is new to the club, the team have continued to make further progress this season, recently just missing out on promotion to the top division. The team are currently competing in their cup competition against the strongest teams and so far are performing well. Nathan Shimka continues to perform consistently week in-week out in defence whilst Tom Lecoutre and Samuel Lusale are providing each other with healthy competition for top goal scorer this season. Let's hope that continues. Good luck for the rest of the season.

U11 Jaguars have had a very tough start to the season struggling to adjust to 9 a side, winning just once so far. Plenty of work for coaches to work on.

Ladies- The Ladies team is having a great start to the season, playing fantastic football and working extremely well together. The team is now more organised, skilled and ready for any team to play against and the results have demonstrated this. I could not be happier or more proud with the work that these ladies produce week in and week out. I am excited to see where they will end up by the end of the season.

The U13 Tigers have had a fantastic start to the season, opening with convincing wins over Onslow, Oxshott Blues and beating current league leaders Oxshott Crusaders. We had a minor slip up against a Chertsey side with a very well-rehearsed offside trap. The team came back strongly though with another great win against Farnham and a couple of hard fought draws against Ashtead and Meadow Sports leaving us sitting nicely poised in third place. Tigers are through to the quarter final of the Junior Cup against Onslow in January giving us a great opportunity to get to the Semis. We have welcomed Charlie, Raffy, James and Matthew to the squad all of whom have settled in well and making significant contributions to the side. Well done to all and everyone in the squad have made significant strides since last season, which we are delighted about. Jon & Will

First term for the new **U10 Swans** has been the expected mixed bag of results - we've both won and lost games with a 9+ goal difference. Under the fantastic direction and support provided by Max they are now settling - we have 9 regular players who are starting to play with a consistent team shape. The boys always look like they are enjoying themselves - a continued emphasis on getting the basics right should yield more regular wins next year.

The Swifts (U10) have had a strong start to the season with just one defeat in competitive matches to date. The team has largely picked up where they left off last season on a trajectory of improvement which is helped by the high quality coaching input from Kevin, Mike H and Mike P and a settled squad. We are aiming to build upon the good start and move into the stronger, more competitive development groups and challenge for silverware this season.



Club Report: by Kevin Wilson – Head Coach

The start of the season has been a huge learning curve for me as our number of players and teams have increased significantly. At the same time it has been extremely exciting for the club as we continue to grow and attract new children. I believe we are unique and innovators within grassroots football as we offer children professional coaching and an extremely well ran and organised club due to the hard work of our Manager's, volunteers and committee members.

We now have 11 teams that have a professional coach with them on match day which has proven fairly difficult to coordinate. At the same time it has allowed the coaches to emphasize what has been covered in training and illustrate how it relates to a game setting. At the same time enabling us to see how each individual player is developing and what they need to continue to improve.

GSFC Futsal: The club currently has 24 player's from U8 to U11 training and learning the art of Futsal. It is a version of indoor Street Football that encourages children to be creative and imaginative with the ball. It has been a great success and has translated well to regular Football. Indeed the U10 Swallows who make up a percentage of our players have received several comments on how good their 1st touch is and how fast they pass the ball both important aspects of Futsal.

We are taking 3 GSFC Futsal teams to play in the Futsal Fever Tournament on the 18th December which will be an exciting opportunity for the player's to put into action what they have learnt. Watch this space!

I hope that all players and parents are enjoying the training experience with GSFC. I am of course open to any feedback positive or areas you feel we could improve upon. Please feel free to contact me at krazykool1010@yahoo.co.uk

A BIG Thank you to our sponsor this season: Winkworth Estate Agents – a number of team's already sporting kit bearing the Winkworth logo.

Goals for Freddie: 20th November 2016 we helped Fleet Town Girls & Ladies FC raise funds to send one of their players siblings, 2 yr old Freddie, to the USA for proton treatment for a brain tumour that cannot be treated in the UK. This campaign was supported by Surrey FA and The Surrey Primary League. GSFC pledged £1 per goal scored during matches on 20th November, we have donated the sum of £27 to the cause and sent our best wishes to Freddie and his family.



Club Sports Physio: I would like to introduce you to Emma Wilson-Wild who is fully a qualified mobile Sports Therapist. Emma has an MSc in Sports Therapy and is offering Sports Injury support and treatment to all players and parents within Guildford Saints F.C. Her knowledge and expertise goes beyond treating injuries as she is a huge advocate of injury prevention techniques designed specifically for the needs of the individual. She has vast experience of treating a variety of Sports Injuries and physical Health issues. Emma would like to offer her services at a discounted rate of 20% off the First assessment or treatment. This is only available to players or parents registered with the club so please quote GSFC10 when contacting Emma. Stuck for Christmas presents??? Sports massage, an ideal gift for all!!

Please visit her website for more info: www.sportsinjurytechniques.co.uk

Just time now for us to wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year 2017.

