



NEWSLETTER CHESHAM ATHLETIC FOOTBALL CLUB



CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I wanted to reassure you all that we are doing everything we can to keep everyone safe with the return of training and football. Whilst it is great news that we get back to playing football, we are also very aware of the current pandemic. All managers/coaches have to provide us with their plans, risk assessment and confirm how they are going to manage the social distancing where practical - accepting this is not possible when we are playing games. If anyone has any concerns, please let us know.

We mentioned in a previous newsletter that we are now a partner in the new Chiltern Hills artificial grass pitch (AGP). This started on Weds 2nd September. So over the next week or two you will be given the opportunity to start training on this facility. We do understand that for some managers/coaches and for some players, the switch to midweek will not be possible due to work or other youth activities. We can only apologise to anyone this impacts. For those who do get to use it, please check the rules on footwear and not bringing fizzy/energy drinks. We ask all users to ensure the facility is left clean and tidy after use, so please help where you can.

We also mentioned that Peter Holmes has stepped back his involvement with the club. We can only thank Pete for all he has done for the club over 20 plus years. We are pleased that Pete is still going to help out with some aspects of the club in the future.

I would like to remind everyone that we are all volunteers. So if anyone would like to help out in any way (coaching, helping with the facilities, child welfare, promoting the club, sponsorship or any other skills you have to offer) then we would really appreciate the help.

I hope the season starts Ok and you all enjoy getting back to playing football

SEPTEMBER 2020

KIT TO AFRICA

In July club treasurer Kevin Boden donated 12 bags of old unused kit to KitAid, a charity which recycles once loved football kit and distributes to underprivileged children and adults in some of the world's poorest countries. <https://kitaid.net/>

Kevin is pictured handing the kit over to charity founder, Derrick Williams MBE.

If we are lucky enough to receive any photos of our kit being worn by their new owners elsewhere in the world, we will of course publish them in our newsletter.



FANCY VOLUNTEERING?

We are always looking for parents to help out with the club. We have over 35 volunteers and need more hands to help out. We will especially be looking for people who fancy helping out with fundraising for the coming season.



FACILITIES

Moor Makeover

Although we don't own the Moor facilities, we like to keep them looking good. Over the next few weeks, some of our coaches/parents will be clearing out the shed, checking equipment, checking and replacing damaged goals and do a general clean up and refurbishment (painting) of the outside of the shed. The pitches have been marked out and are now ready for the new season.

Grange Upgrade

In preparation for the new season starting on the 13th September, we have been busy upgrading the facilities at The Grange, our club facility at the top of Nashleigh Hill. In addition to pitch marking, we repaired the "catch-ball" netting which prevents us losing balls onto the Ashley Green Road.

We have put up security cameras, more signage and are in the process of securing the perimeter boundary fencing and hedging to limit unnecessary pedestrian traffic.

Unfortunately, our goals get damaged by non-members using them. Replacing goals can cost us £2-3,000. Therefore, we need some storage for goals and other equipment. We are looking at purchasing a container which will be placed behind the trees at the top end of the fields out of sight of the houses. Goal nets sadly also get damaged through misuse so we have purchased new nets.

WELFARE VACANCY Assistant Welfare Officer

With the club growing as it is and the FA Safeguarding requirements rightfully evolving, we are looking for someone who can assist the Welfare Officer. Predominantly, it's about ensuring we provide a safe, secure and fun environment for the children to play football – this includes players, spectators, coaches and facilities. Responsibilities will include ensuring the coaches have in date, relevant qualifications and helping with any welfare matters. If you're interested, please email Tracy Sinclair - tracy.sinclair@cheshamathletic.co.uk

Safeguarding Policies – we are proud to run our club according to FA guidelines which meet the FA Chartered Standard regulations to ensure we provide a safe, secure and fun environment for the children to play football. There are safeguarding policies for players, parents/guardians and coaches that should have been distributed by the coaches. Please make sure you've read and understand these.



AGP / 3G pitch

As of September, we have access to the 3G artificial grass pitch at Chiltern Hills Academy. As a partner we have access to exclusive slots on Monday and Wednesday evenings. This will allow us to train through the winter and be a great asset to the club. Thanks to Paul Byatt our Chairman who has pioneered the club's involvement.



COVID19 GUIDELINES

The FA issued guidelines for the return of outdoor competitive grassroots football in July which means we can return to football and prepare for the start of the new season. Football activity can take place with necessary modifications in place to mitigate the transmission risk of COVID-19.

A summary of key points to consider from The FA's guidelines are listed for ease below:

- Everyone should self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms before every training session or match. If you are symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual COVID-19 infection you must not participate or attend.
- Clubs and facility providers should ensure that their facility is compliant with current Government legislation and guidance related to COVID-19.
- Competitive training is now permitted, with groups limited to a maximum of 30 people, including coaches.
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the match, and in any breaks in play.
- Players and officials should sanitise hands before and after a game as well as scheduled breaks throughout a game or training session.
- Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play.
- Youth football coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training.
- Goal celebrations should be avoided.
- Equipment should not be shared, and goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. Where possible, coaches should only handle equipment in training.
- Where possible, players, coaches and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Use of changing and shower facilities must follow government advice on the use of indoor facilities.
- Participants should follow best practice for travel including minimising use of public transport and walking or cycling if possible. People from a household or support bubble can travel together in a vehicle.
- Clubs should keep a record of attendees at a match or training session, including contact details, to support NHS Test and Trace.
- Clubs should ensure they are affiliated with their County Football Association

WEBSITE MAKEOVER

After many years the CAFC website is getting a fresh new look. We have a news feed on there for information about the club. If you have anything worth shouting about then we want to hear from you. It will also be a central hub for all things CAFC, from membership forms to updated on team news.

www.cheshamathletic.co.uk



RECRUITING

We are recruiting for reception - year 1 children. If you know anyone would you think would be interest, please let them know.



2020 SEASON RECRUITING

RECEPTION & YEAR 1 OF ALL ABILITIES FREE TASTER SESSIONS

TRAINING SESSIONS
ARE ON MONDAY
NIGHTS, 6-7PM STARTING.
STARTING 14TH SEPTEMBER
3G PITCH @
CHILTERN HILLS ACADEMY,
CHARTRIDGE LANE
CONTACT

STUART.SINCLAIR@CHESHAMATHLETIC.CO.UK
OR COME ALONG ON THE NIGHT

