



BLOXHAM FC NEWSLETTER

Dec 2009/2010



**CHARTER
STANDARD
CLUBS**



Introduction

Welcome to the Christmas/Mid-season Newsletter which we hope you will find a helpful update on what is going on in and around the Club.

With the festive break upon us most teams are now almost half way through the season and there have been some great performances to date. The U10, U12, U13, U15, U18 & Men's teams are in a position to challenge for honours in their respective leagues and we have three teams through to the later stages of County Cup competitions. Further information by team is given in the section below.

Everyone seems to have settled into the routines around the FA Respect campaign and while there will be continual discussion about how much difference a barrier actually makes, the fact that spectators are now used to standing back from the pitch does mean players are potentially less intimidated and the 'linos' (sorry Referee Assistants) can at least operate without tripping over spectators.

Away from the pitches, the Club's website continues to be well used with most teams regularly submitting up to date reports on games – if you are not a regular user please take a look at www.bloxhamfc.co.uk.

Thank you for your continuing support. On behalf of everyone associated with the Club, Seasons Greetings to you all and a Happy New Year.

Stuart Haden
Chairman

Club News

Storage Facility Takes Shape.

After a slight delay waiting for the roller shutter door to arrive, the new storage facility at the Jubilee is nearing completion and when put into operation in the New Year will enable the Club to store all its equipment in one place and mean that the changing rooms can be used solely for their intended purpose. Thanks to Steve Gandy and Tony Grossi for their work in making this project happen.

Jubilee Pitch Investments Beginning to Show Benefit

The investment in the new goals at the Jubilee has undoubtedly meant less wear and tear of the goalmouth areas in between matches, and this along with the continued maintenance programme has meant that the pitches remain in good condition and certainly better than in recent years at this point in the season. The good quality playing surfaces have been commented on by more than one visiting team over the last month.

The Club has erected one of the permanent goals away from the normal pitch areas to enable the local community to have a goalmouth for 'kick abouts'.

New Kit Sponsors

The Under 13 team have a new kit sponsored by Matthews Skip Hire and the Under 16 have a new kit sponsored by Charter Community Housing. The Club really appreciates their support in funding these new kits. Thanks also to RBS for their further contribution through their Community Support Fund.

Committee Positions

While it almost goes without saying that more volunteers are always required to help run the Club, there are a couple of positions that have become vacant or about to become vacant that need to be filled going forward.

- i) **Club Development Officer** – after two very productive years in the role Steve Gandy has had to relinquish the position through business commitments and a successor is needed to take up the Development Plan already in place.
- ii) **Club Welfare Officer** – after 3 years keeping us all up to date and advising on numerous circumstances, Pud Hawkins has indicated she will be 'retiring' at the end of the current season. It is obligatory to have someone in this role so we are looking to fill this as soon as possible. The Club will fund the necessary training.

If you would be able to support the Club in these or in any other roles, please contact either Stuart Haden or Ian Holroyd. We have been fortunate in recent years to have an active Committee running the Club, but this will only continue with new blood and new ideas so if you can spare a few hours a month to help support the Club, please give us a call. Contact details:

Chairman, Stuart Haden 01295 261817 : stuartreferee@hotmail.co.uk
Secretary, Ian Holroyd 01295 720715 : ianjtholroyd@aol.com

www.bloxhamfc.co.uk

Please visit the club website for all club news, contacts, results, fixtures etc .

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/bloxhamfc>

please use this link when shopping online its free & easy to use



BLOXHAM FC NEWSLETTER

Dec 2009/2010



Subscriptions

The second instalment of £45 is due in January. Please make payment to your team manager asap when we return after the break (cheques payable to Bloxham FC). Please remember if a subscription is unpaid at the end of January a player will not be eligible to play for his team until payment is received by the Club Treasurer.

Team reviews

Under 7's

The Under 7 squad has been together for nearly six months and continues to grow in numbers and skills. They have recently experienced their first 'friendly games' against Combe and are now keen for more. We train on Saturday afternoons at the Jubilee – if you know anyone who is keen to come along, please ask them to call me, Ian Leonard, on 01295 721900.

Under 9's

The Under 9s have had a tough introduction to League football this season, but have performed admirably with great spirit and have had lots of close games. Highlights have included George's wonder goal against Chasewell, dribbling round each of the opposition players at least twice; Sam's brace of goals in the fightback against Spencer; Harry setting the standards for his team as captain; Henry rattling the crossbar against Middleton with a long-range free kick; Edward becoming a regular goalscorer; Joe being Mr. Reliable in defence; the tough tackling of Ellie, Lauren and Vicky; Ben's adaptability in goal and on pitch; the enthusiasm and improvement of Benedict and Matthew; and too many saves to mention by goalkeeper Dan.

Our initial League season will draw to a close in January, following which we should have a supplementary Cup competition - details to follow next year! Well done to all the players for their hard work in the season to date.

Under 10's.

As we draw to the winter break Bloxham Under 10's can be proud of their season so far. We presently sit fourth in the league having won 6, drawn 1 and lost 2 but stats only tell half the story. The team has developed throughout the season and have, on occasions, played a passing game more akin to an 'A' league team. They continue to support and show consideration for each other and these qualities will hold them in good stead for the rest of the season as they push for promotion. The parents and managers are just thankful for the fact that there are no play offs!!!

Under 11's

As we are now getting into the second half of the season, the under 11 team find themselves bottom of the A league. This is the first season where the pitch is full size and much bigger goals. So there has been a lot to learn, playing 11 players together, understanding positions, different rules such as offside and getting throw-ins correct. It's a big step up for the players from moving up to youth football from mini soccer. There has been some encouraging performances throughout the season, some results don't reflect the games. But with every game the players are learning and improving more. They are starting to understand different positions and responsibilities, as well as working as a team. The most recent game was a 4-0 defeat to top of the league Tower Hill, but despite the result, the performance was impressive and gives us encouragement going into the second half of the season.

Under 12's

The Under 12's get to Xmas in 2nd place with the joint meanest defence in the 3 leagues which is a fantastic achievement. The season started slowly with 2 draws at home then 3 clean sheets really cemented our position in 2nd chasing Banbury Utd. A blip in the cup losing a game we were cruising to victory in, against Carterton really galvanised the team and a hard fought 1 – 0 victory against table toppers Banbury showed our true potential. An excellent win away at Carterton was followed by the most exciting game so far this year against Ducklington. Ducklington managed to take a 4 – 2 lead with an aggressive display but Bloxham were determined to show that superior football was the way to win games and proceeded in the 2nd half to pen Ducklington into their half and make Ducklington chase shadows with good passing and movement taking the game 4 – 5 which could easily have been many more ... excellent !!! .

Every player deserves credit for their mature performances and attitude, never knowing when they are beaten we are extremely proud of the boys.

Under 13's

Bloxham Under-13 are going through a period of transition in their first season in the Oxford Mail Boys League.

There are five new players this season, Josh Axtel, Thomas Boshier, Luke Gillingham, Charlie Roberts and Jack Watling.

The players have taken a while to adjust to the greater demands in the new league but are enjoying the new challenge against some very good teams. This is the type of competition they needed after a three-year unbeaten run.

Three players are playing regularly for the Oxford Mail Boys League representative side. They are Thomas Boshier, Lewis Reeves-Smith and Tom Smith. Nine players are also representing Banbury and District Schoolboys. They are Ed Barker, Josh Axtel, Lee Rogers, Cameron Fleming, Luke Gillingham, Baylee Cannon, Charlie Roberts, Logan Kelling and Tom Smith.

www.bloxhamfc.co.uk

Please visit the club website for all club news, contacts, results, fixtures etc .

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/bloxhamfc>

please use this link when shopping online its free & easy to use



BLOXHAM FC NEWSLETTER

Dec 2009/2010



Team Reviews (cont)

Under 15's

After a promising start to the season (winning 5 of their first 6 league matches), the boys have suffered a couple of defeats, mainly against stronger teams and once due to lack of players. They currently lie 4th (of 11) in the "A league"

However, the standard of football they have played has generally been very high - an attractive passing game, coupled with a noticeable increase in physicality.

Throughout the team, the level of skill and commitment has been raised. This is due to the boy's hard work and the excellent coaching they receive from Ben Woodcock.

Many thanks to all involved - Ben, Steve Gandy and Ian Smith - and to the parents for their help and support. Looking forward to the rest of the season!

Under 16's

The season to date has been interesting! It did not get off to a great start with two players sent off in the first 20 minutes of the opening game. The remaining 9 played exceptionally well and we only lost the game 2-0.

The sendings off were, in our opinion unfair, and we appealed against them. Whilst not successful in getting them rescinded we were able to reduce suspension periods.

As well as the suspensions, we have had a few injuries, but because our squad size was good in the first couple of months of the season, we were not affected unduly. However, in the last few weeks we have lost three players from the squad and with other unavailability we have struggled a bit more. That said we achieved our best result of the season at the end of November with an excellent draw away with a side second in the league. We hope this will lead to a run of better results to enable us to move up the league - the lads really deserve this for their efforts.

The draws were not very kind to us in the cups, and we lost the opening rounds in both competitions. After the second of the cup games we received very positive feedback. The referee wrote:

Quick email to say what a credit your players and spectators were too your clubs and yourselves today. In my 10 years of refing I've never refed a game where there has not been a bad tackle or one word of dissent.

In my experience in football the conduct of players is determined by the way they are coached, managed and the environment they play/train in. After the game today you and your assistants should be very proud.

Thanks to the lads (and parents) for earning such praise and thanks to all for their continuing commitment and support.

Under 18's

Currently 4th in the A league, and with further good results in our four games in hand we could top the table.

We have a strong squad and maybe looking to take on a couple of more players to increase the side, in case of any more injuries. We are currently also in two cup runs, reaching the quarter finals in each.

The lads have bonded well together from last seasons youth of Dave Green and my under 16s. and all are looking forward to the rest of the season.

Men's

Great start to the season so far, having only lost 1 league game. Currently sitting third in the league with games in hand over second and top. This is the best start to the season team have experienced in recent years.

We did well in the OFA cup reaching the third round and losing 3-2 to Croperdy first team, which we were unlucky to lose. So overall a great season so far and plenty to play for in the coming months.

easyfundraising
.org.uk

(<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/bloxhamfc>)

www.bloxhamfc.co.uk

Please visit the club website for all club news, contacts, results, fixtures etc .

<http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/uk/bloxhamfc>

please use this link when shopping online its free & easy to use