



Baldock Town Youth Football Club

Welcome Guide 2009





Welcome Guide

Welcome to Baldock Town Youth Football Club

As an existing member or a new joiner welcome to one of the top youth clubs in the country!

This welcome pack will hopefully give you an insight to some of the clubs features and facilities as well as a guide to how the players will develop through the years and what you should expect from BTYFC and also what we expect from you and your child.

In this pack, you will find information on:

- Club information
- FA Respect Guidelines
- What you should expect
- What we expect from you
- Training and qualifications (level 1 and referees)
- Sponsors
- Player Development Plan
- Links to 5 year plan and website
- Medical form





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Club Information

Although there has been a Youth Football Club associated with Baldock Town F.C. in the past (some very successful, I believe) Baldock Town Youth F.C. as we know it, was founded in 1988 when Paul Kitchener and Roy Ryall got together and formed an under-14 side, ably assisted by a young player called Barry Rainbow.

The club presently has around 400 children making up 32 teams stretching from under 7 as starters to the under 17 side, some age groups have as many as 4 teams. All teams play their competitive matches in the Royston Crow League, please see <http://www.crowleague.co.uk> for more information on the league set up.

FA Respect Campaign

BTYFC are strong supporters of the FA Respect Campaign and are a FA charter club, although relatively new the FA Respect Campaign has been fully adopted by BTYFC for very good reasons:

Respect is the FA's programme to address unacceptable behaviour in football – on and off the pitch.

On average, 7,000 referees quit football every year because of the abuse they receive from players and from the sidelines. Lots of children also stop because of the attitude and actions of over-enthusiastic and pushy parents.

In response, The FA's Respect Campaign provides a series of tools for leagues, clubs, coaches, referees, players and parents



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from grassroots to elite football to ensure a safe, positive environment in which to enjoy the game.

These tools include agreed codes of conduct; in-service training for Referees, Respect club packs, spectator sideline barriers funded by the Football Foundation and ensuring captains work with referees to manage player behaviour.

The FA has also launched a free online Respect Parent Guide to highlight examples of poor behaviour and, more importantly, how it can be improved. To see the Guide for Parents and Carers, please visit the link for more details.

<http://www.thefa.com/respectguide>



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What you should expect

A safe enjoyable atmosphere in which a player can gain confidence and progress, BTYFC has enjoyed great success over the years and has expansive facilities including the ATP at Knights Templar Sports Centre which is used for winter training, we are also looking to take this further and develop a home for the youth club.

BTYFC has great relationships with most of the local schools for use of their facilities, and has a training officer to arrange up-to-date training needs to ensure each individual gets the most from the club, we also have a player development plan so everyone understands the short and long term desires for the players and club, please see Player Development Plan below.

What we expect from you

BTYFC does not have set managers or trainers available nor dedicated to each age group, we purely rely on the dedication of parents to help with training and support, as a club we offer free level 1 FA training courses* and free referee courses and would expect at least one person to undertake the FA level 1 training course per team, we cannot expand the teams and offer the best training if we do not have enough qualified coaches and referees! Each season the number of boys accepted to each age group will be based on the number of Level 1 qualified coaches available to each age group. The total number of players accepted to join BTYFC will be determined by the coaches of each year group in conjunction with the Director of Football.

Once this ceiling of players is reached then new applicants will be offered a chance to join a "waiting list". Boys/Girls who



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played or attended during the previous season will be given the option to re-sign the following year. Dates by which players should re-sign should be agreed and once this date is passed and if the full quota of players has not been reached the next player on the waiting list will be offered the chance to join.

We also expect the highest level of standards whether just a spectator or part of the team support, this encompasses the FA respect campaign and our own rules which should be read in full. We also have a strong social calendar which is arranged by our events manager to include:

- A community 5 a side weekend
- Club outings to Stevenage and Watford FC
- Christmas Disco
- Many other fund raising events

We would again expect one parent to become an Events Representative for their team, although fund raising is the main aim, it is also to keep a great team spirit and get everyone involved in different activities, please contact Bob Angus for more details.

The full club constitution is available for all on our website, please visit:

<http://www.baldocktyfc.co.uk>



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Training and qualifications (Level 1 and referees)

As explained earlier we strongly encourage parents to take up the minimum qualification which can be arranged through the club, furthermore, as there is a real shortage of referees, we would expect at least 1 to take up the free course per year.

FA rules state that each team **MUST** have at least one level 1 coach and anyone else involved in the training or events must be CRB checked, without this the team **CANNOT** operate.

Please contact Peter Berry (Director of Football) to discuss

Sponsors

BTYFC has long been supported through our own activities and fund raising events, however, the club are always in need of sponsorship for which there are packages available. The main is kit sponsorship, this offers a great way of year round advertising for any company and is essential for the long term success of our teams.

Please contact Garry Blyth or Paul Clark for more details or visit our sponsor page:

<http://www.baldocktyfc.co.uk/Sponsors.htm>

Player Development Plan

BTYFC are looking into ways of continuous improvement for both club and player. With player numbers increasing we need to ensure that children are playing in a standard that is equal to their ability. As a Standard Chartered Club we have a duty to look after the long term development of players and part of this means that managers will be asked to move players up should their ability reflect this and the opportunity to do so is available. We endeavour, at all times, to try and put the players in the right team / league at the time of joining but with players joining later



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on or mid season and also improving, this can be a challenge.

This is the same strategy followed by the club for many years, but it is probably not well advertised, in future, all new joiners will be given this information when registered to avoid any misunderstanding of the progression that is desired for player and club.

New Starters

Upon joining at under 6 to under 8 years old, all teams should endeavour to play a mixed ability principal with children learning the fundamentals of football and experiencing a wide range of positions. All training and games at this early level should focus on fun and enjoyment and children should be free to learn in a non pressured environment.

The main focus for the club is one of inclusion and that the children should play football the right way and enjoy themselves. They should be learning in a fun and safe environment and be receiving coaching from adults with a minimum of an FA Level 1 coaching badge. There should be no pressure for results and there will not be a win at all costs mentality, particularly for mini soccer.

With competitive football starting at the under 10 age group and the transition from 7 a side to 11 a side taking place at under 11, all teams need to try and have the right players at the right level as from under 8/9 age group; the longer term objective is to have at least two 11 a side squads with a minimum of 14 players by age 10 ready for the 11 a side game. At this stage, we hope to have the right players at the right level so they get maximum



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enjoyment and the club itself develops strong representation across the age groups, furthermore, after a season at 11 side, all the squads should be re-assessed by all managers and trainers in that age group to again make sure the opportunity for all is given at the right level, this should be ongoing, open-ended with information available for all as to the team and individuals progression. By doing this we hope to prevent players leaving for other clubs who could offer them the chance to play at a better standard and also prevent any player becoming disillusioned and leaving because he feels he is not at as high a level as others.

As for new players joining the teams, each will be assessed and monitored to make sure they also gain the most benefit at the right level, as a club we DO NOT look to take players from any other club, we should offer the best possible training, facilities and environment to attract new players to come on their own free will.

There is a place for every boy and girl at Baldock Town and long may this philosophy continue.

Links and information

We have tried to give you a feel for the club and its short and long term aims, more information can be found on our website <http://www.baldocktyfc.co.uk> including:

- Club constitution
- Committee members and contact details
- Club venues
- Club rules

Medical Form



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You will find within this information a medical form, this is important to fill in and return to your relevant manager before the season starts.

Individuals Forms that have NOT be returned and registered will be assumed to be clear, and no special medical conditions are applicable, it is YOUR responsibility to ensure we have correct information.

Behind the scenes for any club this size is a hard working body of people who endeavour to make football fun, safe and rewarding for all, it is of course non profit making and no one unfortunately gets paid for their efforts!

2009 has seen many changes at the club with 3 long standing members who collectively have given over 23 years of dedication looking after the results, the representation to the league, vast amounts of emails and meetings to ensure the environment is the best we can provide in what is a small town.

Therefore please accept that things are not always perfect and with so many teams and children things can sometimes take longer than we would all like, what we can assure you of is our best endeavours to make your experience at BTYFC safe and fun, and who knows with all our efforts combined we may see the next Beckham from Baldock!

www.baldocktyfc.co.uk



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