



October 2021 Newsletter

A huge welcome back to everyone on what we hope is going to be a less disrupted season this year. The weather has been relatively kind so far – let's hope that it stays that way! Looking forward to great football ahead.

RESPECT agenda

Unfortunately, we have had more poor behaviour incidents than we would have liked to have done since the start of the season from both those on and at the side of the pitch. Please remember that this is children's football and behaviour which may be the norm in the adult professional game is not at all appropriate at youth grassroots level. CYFL in particular are having massive problems recruiting and retaining referees who are, quite frankly, sick of the level of abuse that they are being subjected to. No referee means no football, and we may increasingly see games being cancelled if there is no appointed referee (currently only 40% of games are covered) and coaches are not prepared to ref due to the abuse. Please note that the club will sanction persistent poor behaviour, which may lead to playing ban for players or a touchline ban for supporters. We would be really grateful for your support with this issue – it is children's football and We Only Do Positive.

Subs

Please note that unless you are very new to the club (less than a month) subs are now overdue. You will be able to see in your My Clubhouse account if you have paid. We are all volunteers, and every second chasing in subs is a second spent not doing something constructive for the club. Non payers will be deregistered from the league and suspended from training. Please do settle subs ASAP if you have not already done so. As always, if you are struggling to pay, please get in touch in absolute confidence.

Prestbury Phantoms Spooks – Fun Football

We have long waiting lists in the U11-U13 age group, with little chance of spots in current league teams becoming available. As a club, we aim to offer grassroots football to as many children as possible. We are thus making plans to introduce “Prestbury Phantoms Spooks” covering this age group (year 6 to year 8) – a Fun Football session on a Saturday morning only, with a format of a few fun drills and a game at the end. We have new volunteers who are stepping up to organise and run this (many thanks to them!)

Please note that this would not be a pathway into the league teams and there would be no guarantee that a child would join one of our league teams after being part of the group. It would thus suit children relatively new to football or who did not want to play competitive league matches, rather than those wanting to play league matches every week. If you know someone who might be interested in this group, please ask them to get in touch. Subs are likely to be £60 for the year (pro-rated as appropriate this season depending on when it starts).

And finally..

The club will officially be 10 years old next year, so we will be starting to plan a BIG event for 2022 to celebrate, as we all deserve a bit of a knees up given the last year. If anyone wants to get involved in the planning or has some great ideas of what we could do, please e-mail jon.craxford@prestburyphantoms.co.uk