



January 2018 Newsletter

Please see below for a few bits of news for our members.

Phantoms/Panthers Quiz night – 27 January 2018

Tickets ARE NOW ON SALE for the somewhat infamous Phantoms/Panthers quiz night, with 2-8 members per team. Tickets are £6 per person, and there will be a very reasonably priced bar. The event will kick off at 8.00pm on Saturday 27th January in Prestbury Hall on Bouncers Lane, and run to 11.00pm ish. Tickets can be obtained either at the gazebo (assuming that we manage to run the gazebo between now and then!) or via Jon Craxford, Lisa Birks, Sharon Johnson, Liz Wager, Sarah Crumpler or Emma Norvill. You can contact these people direct, or just post a message on FB and someone will get tickets to you. It promises to be another ace night with great friends!

Oakwood FC

We are extremely pleased to announce that we will be bringing three Oakwood teams under the Phantoms umbrella from the start of next season (September 2018). Oakwood currently run teams at U16s, U12s and U10s who will transition across. We very much look forward to welcoming them to the Phantoms family.

U5 Academy

We are now into 2018 and thoughts have turned to our new U5 Academy! WE NEED NEW U5 COACHES. We would like to start the littlies on the first Saturday after Easter which looks like the 21st April 2018, but we can't do this unless we have enough people stepping up to volunteer. Please spread the word. Anyone interested can e-mail lisa.roberts@prestburyphantoms.co.uk for details. It would be a massive shame if we could not run the session due to lack of volunteers, so please nudge everyone that you know who might be interested!

Website

We have a new website which can be accessed at <http://www.prestburyphantoms.com/>. We are currently transitioning over from the old to the new version. Huge thanks to Tim Crumpler who has spent a considerable amount of time on this. If you have any comments on the website, or would like to see anything included, please contact tim.crumpler@prestburyphantoms.co.uk

Aviva Community Fund

Many thanks to Adam Cox for entering us and everyone who voted for our project in the Aviva Community Fund. The information for due diligence that they requested

once all the votes were in has been submitted, so we are hoping that they will be transferring funds over to us in late January. Some of these funds have already been committed to putting Chirs Harding, U7 Ghouls Manager, through the Level 2 FA 1st 4 Sport Course. This is an advanced training course providing instruction on how to effectively plan, conduct and evaluate coaching sessions in football, with 75 hours of guided learning time, and a total of 145 hours of learning prior to qualification, so a massive commitment from a volunteer. Chris will be our third coach who has gone through the advanced course, following Adam Cox and Tim Crumpler. A significant number of coaches have also gone through the Level 1 course. We are very lucky to have such amazing committed coaches within the club.

Discipline

The league have informed us that they are having ongoing issues with the abuse of referees. They are now adopting a ZERO TOLERANCE approach. Any significant abuse to referees by players, coaches or supporters is likely to result in one or a combination of yellow cards, suspensions, fines and, for older age groups, loss of points. A lot of referees are either very young (the referee course is available to anyone aged 14 or over) or new to refereeing and hence they are “cutting their teeth” in youth league. Any abuse of young referees will be considered by both the league and by the club as a safeguarding issue, and appropriate action will follow which may include suspension of supporters from the sidelines, or, in extreme cases, suspension of a member from the club. We appreciate that football is a passionate game and we love the passion, but please be an example to your children and do not shout abusive criticism at players or officials. A summary of our Charter, setting out who we are as a club and what it means to be a Phantom can be found on the website at <http://www.prestburyphantoms.com/our-charter/>

Weather changes

As the weather is now almost always cold and wet, please be aware of the need for layers, and ensure that your child has something warm to wear particularly for mid week training for the older groups, when the temperature can drop quite sharply once the sun has gone down. Please keep an eye out on FB, Teamer and mail for training cancellations. We endeavour to run as many sessions as possible even through pretty poor conditions, but if Pittville becomes water logged (and it does not drain particularly well) and we can not source alternative venues, we will have no choice but to cancel training. We are REALLY sorry about this as we hate not running sessions. We will try and give you as much notice as possible, but sometimes we can't really tell if it is playable or not until the morning of training. If you use FB and are not already a member of our closed FB group, which includes a lot of information about the club including issues such as late cancellations, please ask to join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/431248616952914/>