

Guildford Saints FC

WWW.Guildfordsaints.org

Charter Standard Development Club

Can we have our ball back Please.....

March 2007.

Welcome

Dear Member, Player, Team Manager, Parent and everyone else with an interest in Guildford Saints, the end of the season approaches with many teams still trying to catch up on postponed matches with some fixtures going into May, let's hope it's not still snowing then!

Training Dates: Last training session at St. Peter's will be 31st March 2007. As mentioned above many teams still have matches to complete so will still train but at alternative locations, please check with your Team Manager for details.

Training will re-commence at the beginning of September 2007 – can't wait!!

Quiz Champs 2007.....The Billy No-Brainers:

Thanks to the great organization by Jane Oliver all had a fantastic evening. A team consisting of parents from U9 and U11 boys had a storming 2nd half of the night to become our 2007 Quiz Champs, receiving boxes of chocolates and GSFC medals as prizes. A break half way through when the food arrived, gave us the opportunity of drawing the raffle, a huge thanks to all those who donated prizes, the table was laden with all sorts of goodies.

A special mention for our Quiz Master Steve Gotham, and his lovely assistant Sue Gotham, ensured the evening ran smoothly, although I was a little concerned Steve that a whole round had been dedicated to recognizing bird sounds! Thank heavens for the technical hitch! Thank you from all at GSFC.

Our thanks also for their help during the event: John Oliver and Gerry Black.

End of Season Team Photographs: Photographs are now ready for viewing, please log onto:

http://www.dephotos.co.uk/emAlbum/cgi-bin/pro/emAlbum.cgi?c=show_album;p=Football/Guildford%20Saints%20Team%20Photos/2007

Should anyone wish to purchase a photograph please complete the attached form. If we place our order as a Club we will avoid any postage or packing costs.

GSFC Annual 6-a-side Tournament: May 12 / 13th 2007

We are in the process of organizing our main fund raising event of the year, once again it will be held at St. Peter's school and we are inviting teams from U7 – U14 boys and U10 – U14 girls to attend our event. Jane Oliver will once again be contacting you for your help and support during the weekend, so if your children are taking part in the competition please make sure you volunteer your help to ensure our event is successful.

In the meantime we are looking for sponsors for the event: Programme Printing, BBQ, Age Group Sponsors (also entitled to advertising space in programme), match ball sponsors, advertising space in programme ¼ page, half page or full page– if you can pledge your support for any of these items then I look forward to hearing from you.

BBQ - We need your HELP - last year Linda Cairns organized our BBQ stall, unfortunately for us this year Linda will be taking part in a race during our event weekend. We therefore need someone else to take over this duty for the weekend, If you want to find out what is involved please contact Linda on 01483 560853 or contact her via our web site.

Refs: We will require a large number of Referees for the tournament, good rates of pay and perks, anyone interested please contact me.

GSFC Annual Presentation – Trophy Day: June 16th 4-7pm Bushy Hill School.

As in the past couple of years we will gather at Bushy Hill School for our annual presentation of achievement trophies. Timetable of presentations TBC. Pitches available for games, good time for the annual Mums v Dads footie match.

GSFC AGM – 22nd May 2007 8pm St. John's Church Hall.

Want to find out what has happened this season, need to raise any issues, want to know how your club will develop in the future? Then this meeting is for you, open to all members not just Managers, we look forward to seeing you.

Clandon Park Run: 21st April 2007.....it's not too late to enter, good luck to all those who are running it will be a great event.

www.allabouttriathlons.co.uk for further info please see our web site or visit www.goodrungle.co.uk

Fulham FC – Easter Courses: 2.4.07 – 20.4.07 all sorts of courses available for the

Easter break with goodies thrown in. I have some leaflets if anyone is interested, or call 0870 442 5432 for more info.

Brazilian Coaching: Easter Holiday Course: 2nd – 4th April 2007 at Bramley Cricket Club £30 for 3 days or £12/day to book please phone Chris on 02392 732108

Planet Soccer: Easter Holiday courses football and multisports. Being held at Boxgrove School and other schools around Guildford for times and prices and to book phone 01483 890500.

Surrey Youth Games: Taking place this summer, a chance to get involved with sports your do not usually play with teams taking part in various competitions log onto GBC web site for further info.

Ref Courses/Coaching Courses: A number of people have successfully completed Referee and Coaching courses this season, good luck to Shaun U12G and Suj U10B who will be starting their Level 2 course this summer. Anyone interested in attending a course to gain one of these qualifications please contact me, both Referees and Coaches are a very valuable commodity for our club. Candidates age requirements 14+. Good rates of pay for all qualified Refs. Course fees paid by GSFC.

Now a round up of our team news:

U8 Boys: Just to let you know that we have just had confirmation that the A team have won the league with 2 games still remaining.

CHAMPIONS.....

Toby Edser Offered academy position for next season. Sidney Brown has played 2 games for Southampton academy team.

C team in the cup final and are in the running along with 3 other teams to win division 6

B team has had a mixed season but are having a strong finish to the season.

A team desperately needs a goalkeeper for next season so if everyone can put the word out I would be grateful.

U9 Boys: Saints –Currently enjoying a very strong second half of the season, with the Saints now 3rd in SPL Division 1 and still in with a chance of second and even top spot. They have won 10 games in a row and have scored over 50 goals in that sequence and are also still in the Senior Cup at the Quarter Final stage, so all to play for!

United -As the first team, the United boys have performed strongly this season and with

four games to go, the United team is 2nd in SPL Division 3 and still in with an outside chance of top spot! If the form continues, SPL Division 2 next season is a strong possibility, so keep it up United!

Eagles – In their first full season together in SPL Division 6, the Eagles have worked hard to develop a good team ethic, but found consistency of results hard to come by. However they have proved in the cup to be a team for the one off game, and have just reached the Semi Final of the Junior Cup, having won their quarter final on penalties. If they can keep their nerve (and the parents) they have a great chance of winning the trophy.

Falcons – The Falcons are also in their first season together in SPL Division 6, and have enjoyed 5 wins (including beating the GS Eagles twice) and scored 29 goals in the process. Despite some difficult results, the squad continues to play with a great attitude and enthusiasm and the hard work all put into training, will show in the performances in the future.

In order to continue with the development of all four teams next season, further help is required with training and match day management. Anyone interested in helping will be giving the full support of the club and training courses in coaching are provided. If you are interested please contact either Grant, John or Paul to discuss what is involved and how you can ensure that all 46 players currently in the under 9's, can all continue to play next season!

U10 Boys: the Strikers have had a really good second half to the season, remaining unbeaten in the league in 2007. We are aiming to finish in third place in Div 2 which will be a particularly good achievement as we were only promoted last year. If the top 2 slip up then, with still 6 games to go, we could even get 2nd place, so fingers crossed!

Strikers squad: Harry Lintott (goalkeeper), Jake Newman, Edward Wallace, George Tayler, Brandon Lonslow, Archie Foy, Luke Edwards, Hugo Madden, Josh Maguire, Sam Thirlwell and Jesse Lowe

U10 - SCORCHERS. The Scorchers find themselves near the foot of the table this season, but this does not reflect the way they have played on the park.

This season has seen a vast improvement in all the boys, particularly in the way they look to play the passing game and working together as units (Defence, midfield + attack etc)

This should hold them in good stead for next season when they make the step up to 11-a-side football.

The team have managed to progress to the semi Finals of the Plate competition (Lower plate) and managed this was a fantastic 3-2 victory over Guildford City TIGERS, playing the whole of the match with only 6 players.

The draw is yet to be made to ascertain who our semi final opponents are, but if they perform like they did in the 1/4 finals there is no reason they cant make the final and go on to win it.

U11 Boys: Div 2 Strikers: Currently 5th in the division with 7 matches still to play. They are still the ONLY team to have beaten the current leaders Aldershot Girls and Boys with a fantastic score of 6-2 . The Strikers face Guildford City in the semi final of the Plate on 31st March. They had a good run in the County Cup beating Walton and Hersham 8-1, Woking Cougars 5-1, Beecholme Colts 5-0 and Roundhaw 1-0 only to be knocked out in the quarter final to Kew Park Rangers.

Div 5 Stormers: Currently 6th in the division with 5 matches still to play. The boys are up and down this season. With excellent wins over Guildford City 4-2 and Pyrford Whites 3-1 the boys are really starting to play as a team.

Dads Match U11 v U12

The annual Dads match took place last week. Sportsworld did a roaring trade in shin pads and football boots that morning and the 70's style shorts came out of the cupboard yet again. The U11 boys welcomed the chance to yell at their Dads who seemed to do all the things they tell the boys not to do! It was good entertainment watching them do flying tackles and trying to run like they used to.

The Final score was U11 0- U12 - 5. (The score does not reflect the match though!) Thanks to Simon, Kevin and their fellow team members for reminding our Dads just how old they really are.

U12 Boys: Both Under 12 Boys teams have enjoyed successful seasons... so far! The Saints lead Division One by two points in what looks to be a very tight run in to the title. They also reached the last 16 of the County Cup for the second season in a row and the Quarter Finals of the League Cup. Tom Richards is the leading scorer but regularly it's the defence of Christian Shaw, Martin Peters, Ben Turner, Ross Pearn, Alex Mattock and goalkeeper Alex Oldland who draw the laudits and new players Julien Amoruso, Ben Turner and Harry Edwards have fitted in really well this season.

The Blues lead Division Five in their first season of competitive 11 a side football and are seven points clear as they too chase a Division title. Also Quarter Finalists in their League Cup Competition they are one of the top scoring teams in the whole SPL and have, so far, scored 113 league & cup goals this season. As with the Saints, the Blues have been excellent in defence but special mention to Mike Bell, Harry Edwards, Ed Davis, Josh Henderson & Jack Craig who between them have scored 85 league and cup goals!!!

Coaches Kevin Oldland & Simon Craig have, as always, been supported by a great set of parents this season and, in particular, are grateful to Steve Gotham, Rigas Petri, Steve Chatwin their time to referee all the home Under 12 matches this season.

U14 Boys: Playing in the U14s league with a team half made up of U13s was always going to be a battle for the Saints U14 side this year. Mixed age group teams find it hard at any level, but the gap between 13 and 14 year olds is perhaps one of the most marked.

But that has not got in the way of this squad playing some excellent football and even going on a mini cup run with the help of a few byes. Credit is due to the players who, despite a season of tough games have continued to battle, train hard, and pick themselves up each week to fight again. Numerous narrow loses and recent wins in the league and cup have shown that this is a side of capable footballers, but the deck has been stacked against many of them all year by them playing out of their age group. Every player in the side should be proud of their attitude and commitment.

The management and coaching team have certainly been proud of the players and their determination. Credit is also due to Evan Cairns, the manager, and Craig Tilbury, the other half of the coaching team who, along with myself, have kept training upbeat and fun and have maintained a positive attitude in the squad despite the tough season.

For me, personally, it has been immensely enjoyable coaching a group of great lads, some of them for two years. This is my second and final season with the club and I have been lucky to have had an enormous amount of fun with a great group of players, coaches, and parents.

All going well we might even pull off a miracle and avoid the drop!

Guy Smith, U14s coach.

U9 Girls: Moving upto U10 next year and entering the SCGL to play regular fixtures, this team requires a Manager as of September 2007. Anyone Interested should either call me or speak with Jeff Stevens/Matt Parkes to find out what is involved. Level 1 courses available for anyone who requires.

Under 11 Girls: Rubies. This has been a tough year with the girls playing in the Premier Division. Results haven't gone their way with a number of defeats by the odd goal, but the girls have showed tremendous spirit always keeping things together for the whole match and enjoying playing with one another. Our best result was a 4:1 victory against Croydon who were lying third in the league. Just goes to show that when we get everything right, and perhaps get a little luck, we are a match for anyone. We still have four matches to go in the league so we hope to improve our league position.

U12 Girls: Guildford Saints Blues This has been an amazing season for all the girls. Last season was very difficult, as none of the girls had played in a football team before so the learning curve was very steep. However, they developed some great skills, which they have continued to build on this season, and a great camaraderie amongst themselves. This season they have surpassed all expectations and competed extremely well in all of their matches. At the beginning of the season they went through the first round of the league

cup by beating a team in the division above them with a winning goal in the last minute (final score 4-3). Following a tactical change by the managers, they then started winning some of their league matches too. To date they have won 5 league matches and drawn another. Those that they haven't won have generally produced quite close score lines. In their most recent match they came back from 3-1 down to win 4-3, a great show of determination and character. They are now at the stage where they can read the game more independently and are not as reliant on the directions given from the side lines. They also understand what is expected of them and know what their team mates are likely to do in certain situations. They are about to embark on a series of friendly matches at 11 a side level ready for the challenges of a different type of game next season. Their managers, Anne, Peter and Shaun are all extremely proud of them.

U13 Girls: This season has been a tough but still a very enjoyable experience for the squad of 17 girls. After starting the season with some heavy defeats against teams placed in the wrong division Saints girls put in some excellent team performances, and this paid off with a 3-0 victory over Roundshaw and then a fine 2-0 win away to Dorking. The highlight of the season has to be playing Dorking in a one off challenge cup match at Dorking F.C Meadowbank ground under floodlights and use of the facilities was just a superb experience for the girls. The match itself was so finely balanced that at 1-1 it went to extra time with Dorking edging 2-1 ahead and as Saints pushed for an equalizer our opponents pinched a third. Nevertheless the girls were proud and very loud of their efforts and so sporting to their opponents, they were a credit to the club.

U14 Girls: The U14 girls have gone from strength to strength this season and the quality of their football has improved each week. We were top of the table for a wonderful 6 week period in January and February and are now hoping to end the season in second place and looking forward to promotion next year. Best of all the girls have finally discovered how to score goals. We have scored 70 this season (the most in our league) compared to 11 last year.

Huge thanks go to Jill Newbald whose coaching skills have greatly contributed to the amazing improvement in both individual and team performances shown by the U14 girls this year.

U15 Girls: This season has been the best so far at 11-a-side for these girls. Running with a squad of only 12 has been very challenging, however from the 1st game of the season the girls have been scoring goals which were sadly lacking in previous season, we have won 3, hoping to increase that this weekend, and drawn 3. 2nd half of the season has seen better results, which we put down to the girls being match fit. Most impressive games, which have shown the character of the team, have been those in which the girls have found themselves losing at half time to go on and snatch a draw or even win. All the players have improved their skill and understanding of the game for which we give a HUGE thanks to Simon Craig for his input this season.

Ladies: What a first season the Ladies team are having. Started out with a squad of 18, some of whom had never played football before. Our first couple of matches were a very steep learning curve. However with the influx of new players, increased match fitness and awareness we have won 5 of our league games and reached the semi final of the league cup, just losing out to Reading. Hoping to finish top half of the league. The team have suffered a long list of injuries, which has meant a bare 11 for some games. Great team moral, I have admired their commitment and determination and look forward to seeing them develop further. Top scorer this season: Ulrika Boken.

We hope everyone has enjoyed the 06/07 Season. This will be the last Newsletter of the season, although you will receive items of news regarding the 6-a-side and End of Year Presentation. That leaves me to say on behalf of all our members a BIG thank you to all Managers, Coaches and Admin staff for their time, effort and dedication to all our teams.

Thanks also to our main Committee members for all their input this season: Jane Oliver-Kit & Equipment, Gerry Black – Junior Fixture Sec, Graham Hinks – Senior Fixtures Sec, Alex Forbes – Chairman/Club Development, Simon Craig – Chief Coach (& Bottle washer!)

We have to say goodbye and thank you to: Guy Smith U14 boys, job relocation abroad means travelling to training out of the question. Guy has been with the squad for 2 years and we thank him for his valuable time and commitment to Guildford Saints FC.

Steve Kelly U13G is stepping down as Manager, he will be replaced by Peter Rowles next season. Steve will still be lending a hand with the team.

Anne Woodward U12G also stepping down as Manager. Shaun Phelan will be the Manager next season, Shaun is already involved in helping the team.

Graham Hinks U18B – after many years with the Club Graham is retiring at the end of this season, his youngest son an U18. Graham was one of the key people who started the youth section of Guildford Saints and has been serving the club for a good 10 years, not only in a managerial role but also as a main committee member and for the last 2 seasons Senior Fixture Secretary. A fully qualified Referee, Graham will continue to officiate as some of our games next season.

A BIG thank you to Graham – we will miss you. That obviously means that we have a position on the committee vacant – Senior Fixture Secretary, any interested parties please contact me asap.

Happy Easter everyone, have a great summer break – enjoy the summer tournaments - see you all again in September. COME ON YOU SAINTS!

Dawn.

