

Latest news from your local football club - North Kelvin Utd

The Chairman's View



IN terms of progress the club has had an excellent season overall. Both adult teams improved significantly and the steep learning curve of children's football is being climbed steadily. Sunday coaching continues to thrive and the community coaching, which is at the heart of everything we do as a club, will continue to be a major focus. We have recruited

a new team of 2001's for next season and have applied for funding to expand the Sunday coaching sessions to new venues and hopefully more players.

In terms of workload for the committee there has never been a busier season. As the club continues to grow the workload increases and the committee and coaches put in endless amounts of hours on a voluntary basis, which is well appreciated within the club and hopefully by the parents and supporters as well.

As ever the appeal goes out, if you can spare time to get involved please do. Parents often have suggestions or want to see things happen but are then unable or unwilling to come forward and help. This is a frustrating position for all concerned. The committee and coaches could not be working any harder and if someone has a contribution to make, then step up and make it please. Please email the club at info@ngfdg.co.uk with suggestions and also suggested solutions to your requests.

The spring tournament was again a massive success. Mainly down to the excellent organisation of John Burns and helped greatly by the volunteers and coaches who make it happen. Not forgetting the young players of course who are undoubtedly the most important. We were also blessed with sunshine on the day and I had the arduous task of selling bottles of water. Big JB clearly knows my strengths!

The club has ambitious plans and will host our first ever summer coaching program this summer at North Kelvinside Pitches. We have just secured funding to provide an excellent program of both coaching and games. Full details will be posted out to each child member of the club and if you would like to register interest please email info@ngfdg.co.uk. The coaching will take place over a 3 or 4-week period, Monday to Friday from 10am – 12noon.

The club intends to continue to grow and next season we will have 8 teams playing league games and hopefully 3 Sunday coaching venues. We will continue to make our commitment to allowing as many people to play football as want to have the opportunity. The club motto "oportunitas" stands for "Fitness, Advantage and Opportunity" and we will continue to strive to provide all 3.

CLUB FUNDING

In February 2009 North Glasgow Football Development Group decided to try a pilot scheme to see if we could access more areas of funding. We got charitable status to get the ball rolling. Obviously what we would like is world domination (according to Chairman Mark Adams) but to get started we have applied to Sense Over Sectarianism to fund the Sunday sessions for the next year. The Sunday coaching sessions are a valued resource in the local community and a great way to get young children off the couch and onto a pitch.

We have been very lucky in getting our local (Canal) Ward to give us money for team strips for our new NKU 2001s team and we hope to get funding in the next round to get strips for the new adult second team.

NGFDG has its begging bowl out at the moment as we have applied for money from Awards For All (in the hope of getting funding for a Summer Camp), The Macroboberts Trust, Community Chest and various Scottish Trusts in the hope of employing a development officer for the group. This would be a major step forward to encourage and enhance the work the fabulous volunteers do at the moment. We have been given a conditional offer of £1,000 by 2014 Communities, run by The Big Lottery Fund in Scotland, but are looking to various other organisations to fund future plans, which are ambitious, so watch this space!

Dolly Grimmer

NG5K 09 EVENT



NGFDG coaches attended the NG5k 2009 event which, in its 4th year, the event was a huge success and attracted an estimated 4000 participants.

NGFDG provided a 'Beat the Goalie' competition which was extremely popular with the kids (and big kids!). We also had a stall to distribute flyers and newsletters showcasing what we offer the local community.



After approaching many of the event attendees we were encouraged by the response we received and hope to strengthen our kids' teams.

Thanks to everyone who made the day very successful and we'll look to showcase the club in more events in the future.



Afternoon Team Season Review

Afternoon Team

ANOTHER season has closed for Crosslands AFC afternoon team, which overall was an improvement on last season. We won more games reaching double figures and also scoring over 30 more goals than last season with Mark Adams as top goal scorer closely followed by Craig Gilfillian who deservedly picked up the Player of the Year title. **Not bad for a sweeper!!**

A new addition to the squad was Craig Pinnons and he topped off his debut season as the Player's Player of the Year. He deserved this award for not only being outstanding throughout the season but having to fight Gilfillian for any free kick within sniffing distance of a shot!

Looking forward to the new season as North Kelvin United, we still have a very young squad who are improving as they gain valuable experience playing at this level of football, but I am confident that if the entire squad bring the same attitude that they had last season to training and on a Saturday that we will improve again, pushing hard for promotion from Division 3B.

Lastly, this was the final season for Alex "Skip" Abercrombie as he claims to have hung up his boots for the final time. All the players wish him all the best and he'd better find some time to come and support the lads instead of trailing the missus round the shops!!



Morning Team Season Review

by John Fraser

A WINNING season saw the Crosslands Adult Morning team register a respectable sixth place league finish.

After a patchy start that saw the Morning team knocked out of the League cup in the group stage after two draws and a loss to First division Baillieston Thistle then three defeats in the first three league games, the Morning team found its feet and after a good 5-1 win at home against Bishopton Athletic, coming courtesy of 2 goals each by Alex Kay, John McMillan (who was later loaned out to a club in Cyprus) and a solo effort from Davie Kelly, went on a run which stretched through the difficult winter fixtures registering 5 wins and a draw in seven games.

The winter games saw a scoring streak for eventual Players Player of the Year Rab Donahoe who scored 10 of his 19 goals between November and February capped brilliantly by a hat trick against Dean Park and a double in a draw against Pursuers.

A busy run of 8 games in a month saw the season conclude with home and away wins over Hamilton Wanderers and Abronhill Intrans with a goal from Player of the Year Craig Stevenson capping a battling display from a tiring team.

The league was not the only signs of encouragement in the Morning team with progress past the first round of the West of Scotland Cup at the expense of Carlton Athletic and for the second year in a row a trip to the League Cup Semi Final only to be defeated by First Division Renfrew Town.

Here's looking forward to next season.



NEW WEBSITE

As you may be aware, we are currently working on renewing our club website. We hope to have it completed by the end of June/early July. It will bring you all the latest news and views concerning the club plus loads more new features.

As well as keeping up with what's been happening at the club, you'll be able to post your views on our new forum and read the Chairman's views in his weekly blog.



We'll also look to bring you more game action shots, so if you're going to watch one of our teams, bring along your camera or mobile phone and email us your pix.

We're also going to bring users a new video section, so be it actions shots from games, training or nights out - get them to us and we'll ensure everyone get to see moments of sublime skill.. or embarrassing night-out moments. (watch this space for more details).

We want everyone to feel like they're contributing to the club and believe the website will be a tremendous vehicle for transmitting views about moving the club forward. Your support is vital and any suggestions on how to improve interactivity will be much appreciated.



97s Review

As we come to the end of our first season as an eleven aside team with some of the boys playing their first ever eleven aside games. I feel we have stepped up to the challenge. Although the results haven't gone our way we have played some very good football over the season especially in our 5-1 win over Baljaffray. We also have had a lot of new players but they have all settled in well and connected well with the other boys so well done boys. I would also like to thank all our parents who drive our boys to games and back it is a massive help so thank you.

On that note I would just like to thank all the boys for their hard work over the season and hope they are looking forward to the new season.

Bobby Barratt

98s Update

So here we are at the end of what has undoubtedly been a difficult season for the 98s. There have been some low points and poor results, however along the way the players have learned a lot and still improved.

We never really got 2009 off as we would have liked after a 4-3 win against Lenzie in the lead up to Christmas capped off some good performances. After a winter break, which lasted well into February we came back rusty, and with only an hour of training a week, we struggled to really get going again and compete.

However the improvement towards the end of the season

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NKU Awards Night 08/09

28th May 2009 - Best Western Pond Hotel



AROUND 120 players, coaches and others gathered at Best Western Pond Hotel on Thursday 28th May 2009 for this year's annual North Kelvin Utd Awards Night. This was a new and larger venue for us and still there was standing room only!

Mark Adams, Chair of NGFDG, hosted the event and he was joined by guest speakers Paul Tyler (Group Treasurer NGFDG), Danny Bisland from the SFA who has been instrumental in helping the club move forward, and Bob Doris, MSP.

Mark opened the evening by welcoming everyone to the event and giving a brief introduction to the proceedings to follow.

Paul spoke about the history of NGFDG and gave notice of the upcoming 10th Anniversary Dinner being held on 29th August at Best Western Pond Hotel (tickets priced at £25) – see [advert on back page] for more information. He spoke about the continuing development of the club and the need for additional volunteer support, no matter how little can be given. (Please contact a club coach if you can help or have any fundraising ideas).

The main part of Paul's talk though was focussed on the great successes that the club has had – both on and off the pitch - together with the plans for the future of the club.

2008/09 has seen the club grow at a faster rate than ever before. One of the biggest things this season though was the first transition from 7 – 9 – 11 a side for the 1997s which was only successful through the hard work of not only the coaches but also the support of the parents and the players and the good positive attitude shown by all involved. This will be the challenge for the 1998s next season.

This year has also seen an increase in club membership, a continued improvement in the quality of facilities and coaching, successful completion of the SFA Quality Mark and acceptance of the club's application for Charitable Status. The increase in club membership means that we will be fielding 8 teams in total next season – a total of around 100 players each week representing North Kelvin Utd.

Plans for the immediate future of the club include launching an enhanced

2000s News

The fantastic effort by all involved with the 2000s this season was culminated in an unbelievably enjoyable day at the annual NGFDG tournament.

Having wonderfully displayed our passing football on the larger Wester Cleddens pitches in the last two months confidence was high and we perhaps didn't quite get the result we were after however, Harry deservedly picked up player of the tournament emphasising the strength and depth of the group of players we have. Once again the enthusiasm of all players, parents and coaches is evident so I'm adamant the team can move forward and improve next season. Can't wait!

Patrick Smith O Shea

2001s Latest

The North Kelvin United 2001 team are now raring to go. After 3 months of hard work at the red ash pitches, the latest batch of talented youngsters are looking forward to joining the East Dunbartonshire 2001 7's set up in August. These matches will be taking place on Saturday mornings and will provide a great chance for the kids to get a friendly taste of football with a more serious feel. We have also secured a let at Kelvindale Primary for a Monday night from 6pm ensuring more suitable training facilities for the team. As always we are welcoming new children to the team. For the latest updates on training times and dates, please contact Calum Hill on 07988623744 or email calumdhill5@hotmail.com



version of the website, going live sometime over the next few weeks hopefully, and running a pilot Summer Holiday coaching programme to take place over a 2-4 week period consisting of formal coaching provision and end of week tournament. More details on this will go out nearer the time. We are also putting together a funding package for both a Club Development and Football Development Officer for the club.]

Danny gave an overview of the SFA Quality Mark Scheme and what was involved in achieving it. The Scheme provides a benchmarking standard against which coaching, facilities and infrastructure of a club are measured and recorded. He reiterated that completing this was a fantastic achievement by the club and showed our commitment to continuous improvement at all levels and in all respects.

Bob concluded the evening's speeches by saying how impressed he was with the turnout for the evening and the commitment shown by parents/carers in particular in supporting their children's activities. He also advised – from his own experiences as a young Gaelic football player - on the benefits of taking part in team sports above and beyond the actual matches in terms of self-confidence and camaraderie and warned of the importance in remaining actively involved throughout teenage years.

Following the speeches, the exciting part of the evening began with the presentation of awards by Mark and Bob

First up this year was Clubman of the Year. This is awarded annually to somebody who has made an exceptional contribution to the development and activity of the club. This year's recipient was Bobby Barratt who is not only a coach of the 1997s but is also plays in one of the adult team and helps to cover other coaching sessions.

After that, presentations were made for each of the North Kelvin Utd teams for Players of the Year and Most Improved Player.

The evening was a fantastic success and showcased what is great about the club. Thanks to all those who came along and supported and to those who were involved in arranging the event. Let's make the next season even more successful.

Visit www.ngfdg.co.uk for more pictures of the award winners.

By John Burns

NGFDG 2009 Tournament

4th annual tournament hailed as great success

THE 4th annual NGFDG kids tournament was held on Sunday 31st may at the NK pitches in glorious sunshine

With 12 teams and 120 kids on show the day went off with few hitches. Right from the first whistle the standard of play on show was of good quality with great saves from the goalkeepers and great skill's and great goals from the out field players. I am sure all the spectators were just as impressed as I was.

After the first round of match's all the group's where very tight and already a few of the kids had caught the eye and where playing very well as the second round of match's got under way it was looking like Broomhill S.C in the 98's group were in control with another good victory but the other two groups 99's and 2000 still had everything to play for with Sean Halpin and Harry Bentley of NKU playing very well.

With Broomhill winning their last game they where on there way to lifting the cup but it was nice to see that they didn't have it all their own way with young Jamie Gallacher of St Joseph's having a great tournament and picking up the p.o.t.t award. Congratulations also to Rosebank and North Kelvin for their excellent



sporting behaviour.

The 99's section came down to the winner of Milngavnie and Baljaffray to see who would win the group and a local Derby to boot the game was played in Great Spirit! With missed chances and disallowed goals it seemed to have everything but in the end it was Baljaffray who came out the winners with a slim 1-0 victory.

Congratulations also to Sean Halpin of NKU picking up the p.o.t.t award and EDFC Thistle picking up the fair play award for their good sporting behaviour.

The 2000 section also came down to the last game with the winners of NKU and Westerton going on to lift the trophy. Westerton raced into a 2-0 lead with great play then NKU came roaring straight back to level at 2-2, but two late goals from Westerton clinched the match and the winner's trophy but there was some good news for NKU as Harry Bentley picked up the p.o.t.t award and well done to Summerston for lifting the fair play award.

I would like to thank all those who came along the player's coaches and spectators I hope you all had a great day and we hope to see you all again next year.

Visit www.ngfdg.co.uk for more tournament pics.



1st Team Message

by Mark Adams

I JUST wanted to take the chance to thank you all for your efforts this season, however large or small a contribution you have made.

We have a good club and this year we had the best bunch of boys we could ever ask to work with!

We have had our ups and downs over the season through errors and inconsistency and at the end of the season the table does not lie. You finish where you deserve to finish. We have improved greatly this year and scored no less than 27 league goals more than last season. We finished 8 points and 3 league positions ahead of last season and once again we have further developed the ability of players, young and old, but particularly the young ones who will get stronger and better as they get more experience.

We have of course been hard hit by injuries this season and this has undoubtedly had an effect. We can only hope to improve that situation with better training and preparation next season. With that in mind I have organised the lucozade sports team to come along to pre season and take a session to help us. Should be good!

In particular we need to thank Alex for his contribution as skipper for the season. He seems to think that hanging his boots up while he can still walk is a good idea! All I would say Alex is, when you get fed up shopping on a Saturday, you will always be welcome back at the club in whatever capacity.

We may lose 1 or 2 more as they graduate University and set off into the working world but hopefully most of you boys will get jobs locally and stick with us.

Pre season will start back most likely on Thursday 16th or Tuesday 21st July at a venue to be confirmed. We hope to see most, if not all, of you back then and of course we will require new players to improve our existing squad and for our new 2nd team which will be managed by Simon Davidson who will be assisted by Ryan McGregor and Scott McKinnon. This team will primarily be a development team where we look to give the players who need it, match experience so that they can challenge for the first team. It's a big step for the club and we hope you will support it by encouraging new players to come along and get involved.

Lastly, I must thank Ronnie and Robert for their tireless efforts and patience (which is much required when working with me) and for the huge amount of time they have contributed over the season. Well Done guys!

No doubt I upset everyone with team selection or nagging at some point or other over a season but I always try to be fair, first and foremost. When I am nagging, its because I want you to excel and improve, as I know you have the capability. My role is to make you realise that capability, so I make no apologies and hope that you are fully behind me next season, as we look to improve once again and challenge for promotion.

All the best and thanks again.

Mark



Tesco Vouchers

Many Thanks

A big thank you goes out to all of those players; volunteers, supporters and parents who helped us collect Tesco vouchers in their vouchers for schools and clubs campaign.

In total we collected 7,074 vouchers, which was a tremendous effort, and as a result we have ordered lots of new equipment such as match balls, markers, pumps, whistles and agility equipment.

Well done everyone!

98s Update

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has been clear, although coaching was slightly disrupted by the absence of Carl who broke his leg playing for the adult team. Since we have been training at Kelvin-dale primary, things are much better, there is far more productive coaching can be done outdoors at a 2-hour training session, and most of the guys seem to be listening and learning. The squad has also increased from a core of about 9 or 10 boys to 16, and all of the new players have made a positive impact.

On the whole things are looking a lot better than they did just a few months ago

There is clearly still a long way to go until we are where we could and maybe should be, however I am now confident that the recent improvement can continue into next season.

Lastly I would like to thank the parents for their support this season and ask for their continued support next season if we are to be successful. Roll on next season!

NGFDG 10TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

29th August, 7.30pm
Best Western Pond Hotel,
Great Western Road



Tickets: £25 per head

- 3 Course Meal
- Guest speakers from the world of football to be announced
- Followed by Auction, Raffle and Disco

Booking Confirmation

Contact Robert or Pauline by email
for more information or to confirm booking
10thanniversarycelebration@googlemail.com



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