



Latest news from *your* local football club

Issue 5 - APRIL 2009

NGFDG Development Plan

THE club updates its Development Plan a minimum of once a year, so that everyone can easily see and understand our origins and ambitions both short and long term. This year the club is planning to run a range of new activities and improve all aspects of the club.

These new activities include a new and much improved website, a Summer Coaching Camp, improved Multi Venue Sunday Coaching, a Mini Kickers program for 3 & 4 year olds and more ambitiously plans for a football charity shop and the appointment of a part time Club Development Officer and a full time Football Development Officer.

These plans can only improve the club for everyone and will need a lot of hard work and good fortune with funding applications. Full details of the plan can be accessed at <http://www.ngfdg.co.uk/Business%20Plan.htm>. The club would welcome any assistance that you, the reader, can offer so do not hesitate to get in touch if you can offer help or simply have a question by emailing info@ngfdg.co.uk.

Tesco Vouchers Please

NGFDG is a registered club in Tesco for Schools and Clubs 2009! Your help in collecting vouchers from Tesco will allow us to get equipment for the club that all our young players will benefit from. Vouchers are available until 7th June, just hand them to the coach of the team your child is involved with or to Scott on Sunday mornings at North Kelvinside.

Lets all do our best to collect vouchers and get our friends and family involved as well!

Patrick Smith O'Shea, NKU 2000s coach

Coaching & Training **Timetable**

MONDAY	No Coaching	
TUESDAY	Crosslands AFC (Adult teams)	Hyndland High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
	NKU '97s,	NK Pitches 6 - 7.30pm
WEDNESDAY	NKU '2000s,	John Paul Academy, 6pm - 7.30pm
	NKU '98s,	Clevedon High School/NK Pitches 5.45pm - 7pm
	NKU '99s,	John Paul Academy, 6pm - 8pm
THURSDAY	Crosslands AFC (Adult teams)	NK Pitches, 6.15pm - 8pm
FRIDAY	No Coaching	
SATURDAY	Adult Team Games	Various venues
	NKU Children team games	Various venues
SUNDAY	Community Coaching	(5 - 12 yo), NK Pitches, 11am - 12.30pm
	NKU 1998s & 2001 coachings	NK Pitches 11am - 12.30pm

CLUB FUNDING

NOW that the club has charitable status there are a great deal of improved funding opportunities available.

In order to maximise this the club has recently appointed the mother of one of our young players, Dolly Grimmer, to investigate funding streams and to make funding applications on our behalf. Her first application was successful as we were awarded £300 from the North West Area Committee towards new strips for one of the 2 new teams we hope will be operating next season. The club wish her well and hope she continues to be fortunate in all of her endeavours.

A DECADE IN THE MAKING

THIS year, 2009, is the 10-year anniversary of the formation of our first team, Crosslands AFC who entered the GDSML in August 1999. This is of course a cause to celebrate.

The club will be inviting all players, past and present to play in an anniversary game on 8th August. The match will take place at North Kelvinside pitches with a 2pm kick off. The usual festivities will ensue in a nearby local hostelry.

The club are also organising a larger event, planned for Saturday 29th August at a venue to be confirmed. We plan to have a night which offers a dinner, licensed bar and celebrity speakers and perhaps a disco to follow. Full details to be confirmed nearer the time.

Afternoon Team

FIRSTLY, thanks to Craig Gilfillan for standing in for me in November's newsletter, at last we have found something that he is actually good at! Only joking, the big man is back on form this season and is still top goal scorer.

Results since the turn of the year have not been the best with two wins out of eight, not the return we would of looked for. We have been playing some nice football without putting teams away, unfortunately, nice football doesn't win games! We need to cut out individual mistakes and concentrate for the full 90 minutes to get the season back on track.

We have proven that we are a good team this season with the 4-0 win over St Pats, moral is still good both on and off the pitch, so we must keep the positive attitude going till the end of the season.

On the player front, its good to have John Gervaise back playing (It seems like two years he has been missing, but he insists its only been six months) Robert 'Coach' Thorburn has been on holiday again!! You can't hide money! Craig Pinnons is still the softest guy in football although Nicky Uppal is giving him a run for his money recently.

Lastly will somebody please start scoring some goals to shut Craig Gilfillan up! That's all he talks about and I think you'll agree his head couldn't get any bigger!

On that bombshell, lets have a happy end to the season! Cheers

Summer Coaching

THE club has applied for funding to run either a 2-week or 4-week school summer holiday coaching camp based at the NK pitches. The plan is to offer 2 hours of football each midweek morning culminating in a tournament every Friday.

The camp will be open to all team and Sunday players as well as children from the wider community. The weekly fee is still to be confirmed and is subject to the success of our funding application. However, the 'ball park' figure would be £5-£10 per week per child which for 10 hours of football represents excellent value.

If you would like more information about the summer coaching camp or would like to reserve a place please do so by emailing info@ngfdg.co.uk.

NK Pitches

NO one it appears can escape the credit crunch as the proposed start date for the North Kelvinside Pitches upgrade has once again slipped.

After the proposed October 2008 start date proved to be too optimistic, the effects of

the credit crunch means that the latest start date of April 2009 has also now slipped. The latest news we have from C S Glasgow is that tenders for the work are currently being issued which means that a start date prior to Autumn 2009 is now highly improbable.

This is very disappointing news for the whole community not just the 130+ players and coaches in our club who are desperate for the upgrade to take place. The current state of the NK pitches leaves a lot to be desired and the upgrade is urgently required so that players and coaches can work in an environment more likely to help improve skills and increase participation.

Hopefully the management at C S Glasgow will understand just how important the pitch upgrade is to the whole North West of Glasgow and find the funds needed in order to provide the community with a facility it deserves and has been deprived of for too long.

Summer Tournament

THE club will host its 4th annual summer tournament on Sunday 31st May at North Kelvinside pitches. Kick off will be 10 am. Once again there will be 12 teams from all over Glasgow competing for a range of prizes including the Fair play award and player of the tournament at each of the 3 age groups.

Each year has been a bigger success than the last with around 200 spectators coming along last year. If you want any further information about taking part of volunteering or simply coming along to watch email info@ngfdg.co.uk.



What do we do?

THE Committee is made up of a number of positions taken up by volunteers; Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary & other Office Bearer roles, which have specific responsibilities. Currently there are 7 members of the committee who are voted in as a result of the Annual General Meeting, and hold this position for one year. Our role is to collectively manage the day to day running of the NGFDG, making and taking decisions about all aspects of how the organisation.

Although, we have work to complete each week, we meet formally bi-monthly, and cover a wide range of topics, which are shown under constitution on the NGFDG Website. In summary, it is the health and wealth of the organisation that is looked at, from how the kids Teams are progressing to reviewing what steps are needed to further improve the Adult Teams. Finance is of key importance, as the organisation costs a lot of money to run each week. We are now a registered Charity and with that comes added responsibility. It is an exciting time to be a committee member, you can help shape the way the organisation moves forward, but this is hard work.

If anyone would like to be considered to be appointed to the committee, please contact the Chairman Mark Adams. All committee positions are reviewed again in the Summer at the AGM.

Sunday Morning Coaching

THE club recently re-launched Sunday Coaching at North Kelvinside pitches after going indoors for 3 months to try and protect the young players from the poor weather. Clearly, by the improved attendance and new young players who have enrolled in March everyone concerned is glad to be back outdoors.



Head Sunday Coach Scott McKinnon is on duty every Sunday morning to answer any questions and welcome any new children who wish to get involved. Coaching sessions start at 11am and go on until 12.30pm. 50p and enthusiasm is all that's required of the youngsters who wish to come along.

Adult Team News

Saturday Morning Team

THE adult morning team have done tremendously well in reaching the GDSML Cup Semi Final for the second year running. This was a great achievement once again as they beat many higher placed teams along the way. Unfortunately they lost the semi final game narrowly.

Team manager John Burns and his squad are to be congratulated on their excellent league and cup form this season, which is a reward for lots of hard work and an excellent standard of coaching.

New Teams

THE club has two rules when it comes to the starting or continuance of North Kelvin United Adult or Children's teams. The first rule is that if there is demand for a team and coaches willing to volunteer time then we will do everything possible to facilitate a team for those who want to play in one. The second rule is that all players must attend training regularly to play in team matches.

If the club has long employed a policy of 'if you don't train, then don't expect a game' which encourages players of all ages to train regularly, staying fit and healthy in the process and improving their skills. It also teaches players about responsibility, particularly to their teammates and the club as a whole.

As a result of these policies the club has decided to start two new teams, which will be entered into formal leagues next season (2009 – 2010). There will be a 3rd adult team as we regularly have 35 – 45 players turning up for training and clearly not everyone can get a game in the existing two teams. There will also be a new children's team for boys and girls born in 2001. They are being coached by Calum Hill and Colin Dobbie and are already working hard on Sunday mornings in preparation.

NKU 1997s RAINED OFF!!

THE 97s finally got their 11 a side matches in the EDSSA kicked off, later than expected due to good old Glasgow weather.

To date we have only played 2 matches however the boys are enjoying the step up to the full size 11 a side pitches. They are progressing well and looking forward to the rest of the season. We are now trying to plan mid-week games, for the games we have missed.

We have been lucky enough to bring in 2 new boys recently. End of last year, Sean McCulloch who has settled in really well and is enjoying his training and matches. Also in the last week or so Martin Gibb has joined us, Martin is also doing well.

Paul Clinton, our college student is embracing his position as team referee and has also just completed his SFA Level 1. Well done Paul!

By Pauline & Boaby

Fundraising – the team raised over £600 when they completed the Fresh n Lo Run and the money will go towards team tracksuits.

They are on order and will be with the boys shortly. In the last couple of weeks we have raised over £100 with the Charity Footballs Cards, this will fund team kit bags. We'll at least be looking the part!

NKU 1998s - Dughall Thomson

IT'S been a bit of a mixed start to 2009 for the 98s. After a really good win in the last game of 2008 we maybe lost a bit of momentum after a prolonged winter break. After opening the New Year with a fairly heavy defeat they did well to outplay Lenzie and somehow get beat 3-1, so despite a bit of inconsistency performances are improving. The lack of a keeper in recent games has also caused disruption although Ali and John have done well when playing there.

We are now also back at NK for Sunday training which gives us more time and space to work with. There is no doubt there will be an improvement from training twice a week on a bigger pitch. The numbers have to be there for it to be worthwhile though, so right now we are looking to recruit a few more. There is still plenty work to be done but if they work as hard as they have shown they can and the parents continue to be as supportive as they have been then there is no reason why this team can't eventually go 11s.

NKU 1999s - Donny Wilson

AFTER finishing 2008 on a high, 2009 didn't start the way we would have liked, with the Xmas break and the first couple of games being cancelled our first game ended up with a 4-1 defeat to West Park. Next up was Milngavie, which also ended in a 3-1 defeat. The next couple of weeks our games were cancelled but the kids got there heads down in training, worked so hard and last Saturday (14/03/09) they got there rewards by between West Park Colts 4-1. What a difference hard work can do on the training field.

We are still looking for players in all positions so if you want to play, training is at John Paul Academy in Summerston on Wednesday from 6 to 8.

I would also like to thank the committee and the parents for all there help and support.

NKU 2000s - 'Paddy' Smith O'shea

THE majority of the boys in NKU 2000s have been playing together for a year now and this is evident in the team spirit we have and has strongly aided the integration of new players into the team. We have a large squad of young players this year and the mutual support of everyone is important to us.

While not all results have gone our way so far this year, the boys have been playing some lovely football; taking what is worked at on a Wednesday night onto the park on a Saturday morning and turning heads away from other pitches. Myself, and fellow coach David Findlay believe this is largely down to the facilities available to us this year at John Paul Academy.

The enjoyment and enthusiasm of everyone involved is plain to see. If you want to see a great example of a young team, or even a young example of a great team, get to the Science Park on a Saturday morning!

NKU 2001 - Colin Dobbie

THE year 2009 dawns a new era for a new team. The North Kelvin United 2001s coaches, Calum Hill and Colin Dobbie, will endeavour to teach the basics of football and aim to improve the players individually with an emphasis on fun and making friends.

Coach Colin currently plays and coaches for the clubs adult team Crosslands and is a certified coach. Also a certified Coach, Calum has a strong footballing background being a former youth professional for Ross County and Stirling Albion and having an Honours degree in Physiology and Sports Science. Children born in 2001 of all abilities are welcome to come along to training. Training is held on Sunday mornings at the North Kelvin side pitches from 11am till 12.30pm. The aim of the training sessions is to teach the children the basics of football and mould a team that will be able to play several friendlies in the coming months.

For more info call Colin 07812610735 or Calum 07988623744. See you Sunday!