

BLEAK HILL ROVERS

Newsletter No 9 – Autumn 2019

Welcome to our first newsletter of the 2019/20 season and a special welcome if your youngster has joined us this season.

This year we have 24 teams plus our Skills Group for youngsters in Reception or Year 1. Our two girls' teams started in the Warrington League in September and we are running a Wildcats group for girls aged 4-9 each Sunday.

The wet weather this year has caused something of a fixture pile up with many teams not having played matches for 3 or 4 weeks. Hopefully extra games will be fitted in towards the end of the season.

A big thank you to the youngsters, coaches and parents who have braved the wet weather to ensure training went ahead each week or matches were played in the wet and rain.

It is sad to see our Under 10 team fold earlier this month but I would like to thank Cathryn and Tom White and Keith Hale for all their hard work in running the team for several years.

Behaviour on and off the pitch.

As many of you know our aim is to be a community club where football can be enjoyed, irrespective of ability. Whilst we all want to win, our main focus as a club, is to give as many youngsters a game of football.

The FA are giving much more attention to the behaviour of players, coaches and parents this season and have indicated that clubs will be disciplined for unacceptable behaviour of anyone concerned with clubs. They are drawing particular attention to the verbal abuse of referees so please can I ask you to respect the decisions of referees and coaches. There have been a couple of occasions this season where we have had to ask parents to refrain from shouting at referees etc but, in general, we can be reasonably satisfied that we are trying to follow the FA's rules.

Our code of conduct which can be found on our website www.bleakhillrovers.com. It is very easy for us to get excited during a game but please have respect for our players, coaches (remember without them there would not be a game for your youngster to play!), the referee and our opponents.

Finally, please do not shout instructions to your youngster or anyone else in the team during matches. We fully appreciate it is meant to be helpful but trust the coach to do the coaching and accept that they are doing their best for all our teams.

Reception Skills Group

Due to the popularity of our Reception/Year 1 skills group, we have had to split the sessions in two. Year 1 youngsters train at 9am and Reception at 10am. If you know of anyone who wants to join us please ask them to get in touch or to come along to De La Salle on a Saturday morning.

Sponsorship

We are very grateful to the many organisations who sponsor our teams. We are looking for an organisation to sponsor our Presentation Day (see more details below) so if you know of anyone who may be interested to help us please let me know.

Girls Football-Bleak Hill Rovers Wildcats

In addition to our mixed and girls' teams. We have a Wildcats Group who meet every Sunday afternoon at 2.00 pm in De La Salle Sports Hall. If you know of any young girls who would like to join us then please ask them to contact me via the info link on our website. Girls who are in Year 3 or 4 will form the basis of our girls' team next season.

Presentation Day 2020

Plans are currently being made for our Presentation Day in 2020. It is probably going to be on the first Saturday in June and, if we can enlist the support of the two local councils, we want to try to make it a community event where local residents see over 300 youngsters playing football and not just parking outside their house.

Club Shop and website

On our website (www.bleakhillrovers.com) you will find a link to our Club Shop. This is provided by Nike and Discount Football Kits and includes items displaying the BHR badge. Please can I encourage you to look at the shop as the club benefits from anything spent through the shop.

We are adding information continually to our website so please keep checking to see what's happening. (www.bleakhillrovers.com).

We have a **Facebook** page. Watch out for Bleak Hill Rovers and if you feel able "like" and "share" the page so that we get as many followers as possible (I hope they are the right expressions as it was quill and parchment in my youth!).

Coaches

We are very lucky at BHR that we have so many coaches who are willing to give up a significant amount of their time to run one of our teams. At the moment we have over 30 qualified coaches and most teams have parents who help out with training and matches, something for which we are very grateful.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or any of the coaches if you want more information about anything or if you would like to help in anyway.

Cyril Barratt (cbarratt@blueyonder.co.uk)
Chairman