

Hurst Romans FC Newsletter

Issue No. 2

Welcome again to our newsletter.

Since Christmas we have been really busy .Our Under 7's and Under 8's and Under 11's have now finished their season and are looking forward to Spring and Summer tournaments. Reports on the teams follow:

Under 7 Blue—Liam O Brien

After a challenging first half of the season in the Hicks under 8 division, Under 7 Blue have had a really superb finish after being put into the Under 7 Division 3 table i.e. the correct division for their age. We finished second in the league - a fantastic result. We lost only one game (a very close game 1 - 2) and had a couple of 6 - 0 wins along the way.

The most nail biting match was our 4- 4 draw with Woodley Hammers B. We were 3 - 0 down at half time and equalised in the last minute of the game! All of the team have really developed over the last 9 games and are starting to think a bit more about the game i.e. passing and getting into space. It is really satisfying for the coach when I see them beginning to play flowing football! We also did very well in our end of season mini-tournament. We lost only one game (1 -2 to Twyford Comets - who top finished of the league). It was a very close game and could have gone either way.

We're really looking forward to the Summer Tournaments and also the start of next season in the Under 8s. This time round we'll be ready!

Under 8's Martin Rayner

The U8's had a fantastic first season starting in September with one team, by Xmas we had enough interest to field two teams, now known as the U8's Blue and Black team. The team were unbeaten in the run up to Xmas and won division 4, the Blue team moved into Division 3 initially with just a squad of 7, we faced teams that had defeated us during the summer tournaments but with all the additional experience, hard work and commitment from each player they remain undefeated and winners of Division 3. A big thank you to all the parents for their support.

Watch this space for details on our end of season awards....due to tournament dates and management holidays we intend to set a date in August/September for our award ceremony!!!!

James Bentley—Under 8's

What a season! It had everything....it was a 10 week party of s**, drugs, rock n roll - and that was just the parents. On the pitch we also had everything - apart from goals. It started with a 1-0 defeat and ended with, you guessed it, a 1-0 defeat. "Boring, boring Hurst" you might say but no every time those strange yellow shirts went on the pitch there was drama! Would James make that last ditch tackle? Will George get his shiny silver boots dirty? and how many times would you hear the sound of bones splintering when Henry went in for the tackle?and if you wanted goals what about the times we were involved in 8-0 thrillers, 5-0, 4-0 ok we might have lost, but we were there!

Oh yes! We saw goals. We would have seen more if it wasn't for Cameron 'the cat' agility in our goal! But the best goal was one that Hollywood couldn't have directed better. Legend now has it that Kristian was 35 yards out when he smashed it past the vixens keeper. Never before have the Hicks Development League witnessed scenes like it when the ball hit the back of the net. Parents wept, players on every pitch collapsed and at the final whistle when we had won our first match the manager was wheeled off to hospital for the night.

New signing Herbie with his cheetah like speed and Jack the hard man of midfield helped turn the season around. Things could never have been quite the same after that win. It took a week or two to come down to earth, but our last match of the season showed how much we'd learnt during the past three months. We were up against the champions the team that had beaten us 8-0 earlier in the season. But our heads had never gone down and the smiles had never been wiped off our faces. Players like Nicholas and Edward had never stopped running while once Josh had warmed up there was no stopping him. We lost 1-0, they had one chance - a free kick where our defensive wall turned to blancmange and the ball squeezed through it and over the line. But we had chances and could have shook up the world against the league champions. It ended a great season which started with smiles and ended with bigger smiles.

On and off the pitch it was a laugh, it was funand that's what it's all about. Here's to next season - I can't believe it's only a month awaywhere did the summer go!

Under 11's—Paul Squires

From new, scratch team to beginnings of two good squads is in my opinion massive progress. I am very proud of the way the boys have stuck together through both the good and bad results. I believe that with the additional benefit of the spring and summer tournaments next years U'11s will prove strong contenders in their league particularly under their new coach Martin Butler and captain Lewis Couper. Next years U'12s have the spine of a good side from goalkeeper Seb Beck , George , AJ and Sam at the back , Max in Midfield and Adam up front.

We have new players on the horizon for both sides but no names at this stage , but not without a slight hint at somebody called Ashley (Roman watch and weep).

Highlights of the season

- * Our first win - 13- 0 feast to famine in a week.
- * Our first game win in a tournament
- * Not finishing bottom of the league(a good achievement in our first season.
- * Scoring the only goal that the league champions conceded in any competition all season.
- * Toby Wrights extendable limbs ,on occasions Toby seems like elastic man , just how does somebody so small become so big when in goal. he will be the Peter Cech of the U'11s next season.
- The return of Ross Dingwall. Lost after a couple of games and now back. A real lift to the team to see him back.

Awards

- * Goal season - Lewis Couper against Caversham Trent , the league champions. From our box to theirs , solo , and a strike worthy of Jimmy Floyd Hasslebaink.
 - * Golden Boot - Josh. Spectacular goals all season including a Bechamesque chip from the halfway line. Playing in the right age group next year he will prove formidable.
 - * Most improved player - Harry Butler. became mister reliable over the course of the season. Will thrive in the right age group.
 - * Showboat of the season - Max Squires. Tackled by the Peter Crouch of U'11s football and dumped on his bottom . He got the ball in his feet , flicked it up over the defenders head , swivelled on his bottom , rolled over to get to his feet , collected the ball behind the defender and made a killer pass for Josh to finish with a goal.
 - * They shall not pass award - George and AJ. they frightened me , so what they did to the opposition. Both developed over the season and offer a solid pair of centre backs for next season.
 - * Fashion statement - Adams beanie hat. Its here , its there , its every flipping where!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
 - * Top supporter - Rishi Tugnait. Rain or shine he is there every week and at training on a Sunday. From now on a man who will play a lot as we now have his age group.
 - * New comer award - Sam. Arrived at the end of the season and suddenly we had that quiet , steady Mr dependable to support the shy and retiring duo of AJ and George . An instant success.
- Rumours
- * Man Utd tracking Seb Beck. Seen being "tapped up" in Maidenhead McDonalds. Hands off Fergie , he's too good for you.
 - * Romans U11s fans in BBC investigation. Juliet Couper and Sonia Killen named as ringleaders.
 - * Martin Butler rejects Real Madrid managers job as not "big enough" after Romans.
- Finally a big thank you to Martin for coming on board. To the stalwart parents who have been with us all the way and to all the boys for making it fun.

Shane Wyatt

Having put together U12 and U13 players, some of whom had never-
petitive football before, this was always going to be a difficult first
suffering some heavy losses things have improved
We have had support from other team managers, telling us not to keep
our 'heads up'. A poor start is the norm for a new team in it's first
are told.
However, our first t arrived on 19 March. A great draw in Bracknell. It
great to see the boys so uplifted from this excellent
At the e of going to press we are looking to our first win against a team
two points above - could be a great way to end season.
Keep pluggin away guys, your strength and confidence has grown
Thanks to to all the parents who have their boys through sunshine
rain, too many freezing Saturday mornings I know, but always
Lets go

Thank you for your **enormous**
generosity at our Christmas fundraising.

With your excellent & wonderful donation
we have been able to purchase the
following training items;

- 60 Footballs
- Training poles
- Team manager coaching courses

Each team have their own;

- Bibs
- Training cones
- Football pumps
- Kit bag
- Sponge bag




Also much needed first aid kits which fulfil
our obligations to the league's rules and
regulations.

Our whole club is now kitted out from
head to toe in the Nike shirts, shorts and
socks and each boy now has his own
fleece.

Thanking you so much from all on the
committee and of course the boys
themselves!

Football boots for sale!!!!


Louise Kendall, a mum from the
Under 7's, has given us a brilliant idea.



There are so many pair of
boots floating around shoe
cupboards that your son's have
grown out of,....please donate them to our
football club and we will advertise the
sizes etc., in each newsletter....if you
would like to purchase them then just give
us a donation!!!!

Well done, Louise!

Please arrange for your boots to be
handed to your team manager who will
pass them onto to Deborah Wyatt.
Deborah will advise as soon as they start
coming in.



Welcome to Ruth Graesser (Mum of Sam in
Under 7's) who is going to be the parent
voice on the Hurst Romans FC committee.

If you have any queries with the contents of this newsletter please do not hesitate to contact
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