



## Hurst Romans FC Newsletter No. 5 January 2006

Dear all Hurst Romans FC players and parents,

As we are well into the 2006 season we thought we should give all players and parents an update on progress on the club and all the teams. So - read on for mini match reports from our coaches as well as some additional information that we think will be of interest.

### CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE BY MARTIN R & LIAM

Hurst Romans Football Club has continued to grow beyond our expectations since the club was formed just two years ago. This success has been largely due to the continued support of the parents who get involved at training, matches and all our fund raising events, so a big thank you to all those mums and dads.

The committee feel that its the right time for the club to apply to the football association to work towards their Charter Status award.

The Charter Standard Scheme is a best practice guide that sets standards of coaching, administration and child protection for clubs working with young people and is therefore a natural progression for Hurst Romans FC. Further details can be found on the FA webpage below. If you have any questions regarding the club or our future plans please contact Martin or Liam.

<http://www.thefa.com/Grassroots/ClubDevelopment/CharterStandardScheme/Postings/2004/05/AboutTheCharterStandardScheme.htm>

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### U6s Manager: MARTIN RAYNER

At the start of the season the club was aware that the Hicks development league might start an U6 league at Christmas following numerous requests from local clubs including Hurst Romans. So we started off in September at Sunday morning training with a few of younger boys joining in with the under 7's team to gain some valuable football experience. The numbers attending training steadily grew up to Christmas when Hicks announced the U6 league would start in January. In the New Year we were off to our first match, it was 9 o'clock on the 7<sup>th</sup> Jan, absolutely freezing and trying to snow. All the boys were great playing in their hats, coats gloves and scarves even if they did look more like mini Michelin men running around than footballers.

The amount of interest at this age group has been fantastic, all the kids seem to be having Fun and their football skills are going from strength to strength in such a short period of time. Thanks to all the parents for their support at both training and matches.

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U7s  
Manager: BRIAN COLMAN

The Hurst under 7's performed exceptionally well up to Christmas, losing only one game. They just missed out on promotion, to the first division, by one place which was unfortunate after the hard work put in by all the boys. Every player in the team has improved over the past 6 months and the skill levels are increasing week on week. All the players have gained an understanding of the basic principles involved in the game and we will endeavor to build on this over the coming months and years.

The only uncertainty in the under 7's team, is that of the manager, Brian Colman. After the shock news that Mr Sven-Goran Eriksson will be leaving the England managers position in the summer, Mr Colman has received a number of calls from the FA in connection with the vacancy. To date he has refused to talk to the FA directly and has passed all responsibility on to his agent Mrs Ruth Graesser who is now in negotiations with Mr Brian Barwood the Chief Executive of the FA. Should any parents have any questions relating to this matter you should contact Ruth direct.

*('dream on' Ed.)*

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U8s  
Manager: LIAM O'BRIEN

Under 8 B

A big thank you to Simon Young, Darren Briggs and James Scales for agreeing to manage and run the Under 8 B team this year. U8B are playing in Hicks Division 4 and are starting to now find their feet. There are some good footballers and teams playing in this division so there are no easy games. The boys are beginning to make progress and we've also just recently strengthened the team with TM & GK playing regularly for them. Looks like we've also just recruited two new players, SG & JB who will start in the UBB squad once they're ready to play.

Under 8 A

Back in Sept 05, the U8A team were initially promoted from Hicks Division 3 into Hicks Division 1. The boys in this division do play some really great football for predominantly 7 year olds. Even so, we managed to hold our own in the games we played. We played 9 games in total. Drew one game 1-1, and narrowly lost the rest. At U8 level, the Hicks League have an arrangement whereby they adjust teams up and down depending on how they are competing in their particular Division. As a result the U8A team were moved down into Division 2. So far we have won two and lost two, so looks like we've found the right Division.

Training

Under 8 training for both A & B squads is Sunday 9am. We will be changing this to a mid-week early evening / late afternoon slot as soon as we get some daylight hours - probably late Feb, early March - watch this space.

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U9s - BLUE  
Manager: MARTIN RAYNER

The U9 Blue team were promoted to division 2 at the start of this season so we knew we would have to raise our game to compete at this level. The season got off to a good start, except the disappointment of the first match where our opponents didn't show up. The next few games were very encouraging with the whole team playing well together, which was reflected in the results. The effort and determination of the team throughout the season so far has been tremendous, if we are behind in a match everyone keeps working hard and gives 110%. What more can a coach ask for!

It has been rewarding to see all the players develop their individual skill which in turn boosts their confidence on the pitch. For example last season very few players would head the ball confidently, now the whole team do it regularly. The team work hard for each other, which has made the difference with us winning against some very good opponents. Well done to the whole squad and a massive thank you to all the parents and families that come along each week for their continued support, it makes all the difference.

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**U9s - BLACK**  
**Manager: JIM BENTLEY**

Plenty of questions were being asked up until Xmas about the Hurst Romans team. "Were this the same team who couldn't find the opposition goal with or without a map last season?" "Were these the same players who now realised that the ball was there to be kicked?" ...

But, thanks in no doubt to fine managerial skills, the Hurst boyz had somehow turned from the 'seven dwarfs' in to the 'magnificent seven' ... gone had J 'Sleepy' C and in his place stepped forward a gun slinging Steve McQueen. G 'Dopey' B had become hard man Yul Bryner, with slightly more hair ... and so (as I don't know any more actors or dwarves names) a new team had been born.

Goals rained in .. Jack couldn't stop scoring. A bounty of £5 for every goal scored from his grandad ensured 14 in the first four games. No one could believe their eyes. Martin Rayner, head honcho of the 'A' team was looking over his shoulder, worried that his job could be in jeopardy and sending out spies to see what Head Coach Jim Bentley and technical directors of football Eddie Coe and Damian Carbanaro had done to change the fortunes of this side. Josh mirrored the fortunes of the team. Gone had the teeth chattering, scared of the cold, 'I want to be substituted', player he was - and in his place and new boots had developed a footballer, who never wants to let go of the ball or come off the pitch.

By mid-November we were top of the table. H was stopping anyone entering our half, and alongside defensive partner JC, nothing was getting in on goal ... that was until G stepped back from midfield into defence and started talking about Pokemon card swaps. K's mum Sarah was also playing a blinder on the touchline as well, collecting the subs faster than J was scoring goals.

And even after we lost a couple of matches G started talking about wanting to score a goal ... this was an unheard of conversation in the Bentley household. I didn't even know he knew what goals were.

K and C were not only swapping the goalie shirt at half-time - but also seeing who could rake up the most miles out on the field. This despite K often turning up to play in a pair of skis after the rush and confusion of coming straight from a two hour ski lesson.... It was all good, honest toil with win after win .....

... but then Xmas came.

Obviously a time when lots of mince pies were eaten and obviously lots of lazy days in front of playstations and gameboys - which all meant it's been a rusty start to the New Year. Work commitments meant Head Coach Bentley handed the reigns over to Eddie and Damian - a couple of bad, heavy defeats ensued.

Bentley donned his sheepskin coat once again. Out came the motivational candy sticks and there it was, a hard earned 3-1 victory .. And you guessed it, G scored his first ever goal. And here is a lesson to all you parents, never promise your kid £10 to score a goal - there's never a safe bet!!!!

But really this match just showed the difference between good managers and great managers ... as many said afterwards the tactical know how of the Head Coach was really the only difference between the two sides on the day. Well, apart from some dodgy saves from C and H, and a couple more goals from J. Also it was good to hear the opposition Woodley manager reduced to instructions like I shout out: "Please someone, anyone, clear the ball .. KICK IT!!!" Hopefully this will be the springboard to finish the season off on a high ... which would be a great reward for all the great team effort on and off the pitch. It's fun to watch and fun to be involved. Thanks to everyone who helps, comes along and supports and especially BIG THANKS to the seven magnificent players out on the park.

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### U11 MARTIN BUTLER

Well its already halfway through the season and what a start we've had. Big wins, big defeats and fighting draws. We've had them all. There's never a dull moment with the under 11s. The team is really starting to take shape, with DS making the Goal Keepers shirt his own. A really solid back three made up of HB, JS, and new signing HE. In the midfield and real engine room of the team you'll find DM and LC, both players with a combination of strong running mixed in with lots of tricks. Up front JH 19 goals in 12 games speaks for itself. Also brothers AT and RT are always willing to play in whatever position when asked.

Going into the second half of the season we know now we've got nothing to fear and are capable of giving anybody a game. So lots to look forward to 10 more league games followed by my favourite time of the year the summer 6 a side tournaments.

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### U13 SHANE WYATT

U13's team update. The lads have found it tough going this season. The younger ones especially when they are up against considerably larger, more physically strong. However, fair play to them, they have never given up. There are a couple of good teams in the division and the rest are about even. The disadvantage we have is these other clubs have played together for many years and are used to the ways that they play. That said, we did manage a victory this season. Having already lost 4-2 to Reeves in a league game, we had to play them in the cup. After going a goal down, the boys fought back for a 2-1 win to progress to the cup plate competition. The date of the next round is unknown as this goes to print. Watch this space..... We would love to keep this squad together ! for next season and hopefully strengthen during the summer. That would enable us to move onward and hopefully upward. Three games and the cup left. Go for it lads and finish this season on a high!

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## NEWS ON SUMMER SEASON MATCHES/TOURNAMENTS

### **U6, U7 & U8**

Prostar Summer League

We will be entering teams at U6, U7 & U8 into the Prostar League which runs from approx end of March through to June 2006. Watch out for further details.

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### **TEAM PHOTOS**

We would like to be able to have photos taken of each of the teams in their full kit. We have secured a photographer - the interesting challenge will be to get as many of the team members together in CLEAN kit at the same time!

Your team managers will give you more information about this.

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### **BOOT SWAP!**

Please remember that we are trying to get together a 'shop' of used boots.

This will enable our growing boys to check to see if there are any boots available in their size within the club first before going out and having parents spend money!

If you could remember to hand in any boots to your Manager then we would be most grateful - please try to remember to clean them in advance. I'm sure you wouldn't want to get a pair of muddy boots in return.

So far the stock list is as follows: 12, 13, 2, 5.5 (3 pairs), 6.

Pls contact Ruth Graesser to secure your pair or if you want me to contact you should I get a specific size handed in! Voluntary donations welcome.....

Ruth: 07931 445 559 or 9341462 or [ruthgraesser@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthgraesser@hotmail.com)

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### **PARTY IN THE PARK**

What a great night we had last year! As you all know, the Party in the Park is a major fundraiser for our club & we have made sure that we have rebooked the venue, the fantastic live music and the bar!

Please make sure that you already have the following date booked in your diary for 2006:

**1<sup>st</sup> July 2006**

Tickets will go on sale nearer the date so please invite as many friends and family as you possibly can to help us have fun and raise money.

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### **A FINAL WORD OF THANKS.....**

To our marvellous sponsor Jackie Murphy from CV Freight. Thanks to Jackie we have all the kit and equipment we need to ensure we can play and compete effectively.

**GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE FOR  
THE REST OF THIS SEASON.**