



# Bedford Ladies & Girls Football Club



CHARTER STANDARD  
DEVELOPMENT CLUB



## Newsletter May 2020

Well hello from lockdown and no football.

We are all hoping that with the relaxing of the rules to allow an adult to meet a Coach for one to one training that we will soon see this relaxed to small socially distanced groups, including children. The FA aren't in a position to give us a date at the moment, when anything can be started, and we hear speculation that varies from July to December! At Bedford we want to get everything ready so that we can start as soon as we are allowed to. We expect to have at least a month for training and friendlies before the season begins, even if this means Leagues starting later than usual.

### Signing On

We will be releasing Signing on Forms for players and parents to complete this week. Each Team Manager will be collecting the forms back before passing them to Jill and Annette to register the players. These forms can be completed on-line or printed out and scanned. They will also be circulated with our Code of Conduct, which everyone agrees to abide by and our Privacy agreement.

### Payments

As we do not know when we will be able to start we cannot collect fees. If we have a reduced season we hope to be able to pro rata the fees, but can only advise when we have a start date. We are planning to be able to take a variety of on-line payments this season, including cards, so when we know we will send everyone an invoice.

### Teams Next Season

Ladies 1st – Simon

Ladies Dev – TBA

U16s – Nigel

U15s – Jim

U14s Panthers – John

U14s Blues – Bex

U13s – Kathryn

U12s – Nina

U11s Kingfishers – Shelbee

U11s Bluebirds – Louie

U10s – Martin

U9s – Joel

U8s – Zara

Minis Training – Zara, Louise, Nigel

Walking Football – Louise

Most teams will be moving up to new age group together, but we have done some realigning where groups are too large to ensure maximum pitch time and that most girls are playing at the correct age group.

Both Under 16s and Under 15s have a mixture of two age groups, so some of the U16s last season have been able to move to Ladies football the younger ones will have to play a second season at Under 16s. Nigel has agreed to continue to take the team again for 2020/1 season.

The Under 15s will be staying at that age group with Jim. This will mean that some of the players who will be 16 in the 20/21 season will move to Nigel's Team. We hope this will give everyone the best possible experience and maximise on playing time. Both teams will have enough players, but we will be recruiting some extra players and trying to encourage some old players to return. Jim, Nigel, Jill and Annette are available to discuss.

#### Awards Evening

As soon as we can with loosening of lockdown rules, we will organise the Awards Evening, although it may be outside and in the daytime. We all feel we should celebrate everyone's achievements at an event of some kind.

#### Tournament

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel our Tournament, which was planned for 20<sup>th</sup> June. This would have given us a major opportunity to raise some funds for the Club, so it's a bit of a setback financially. We plan to hold the event in June 2021, and we will be hoping everyone can help to make it a great success.

#### BLGFC New Company

We have also been changing our organisation from a Voluntary Sports Club to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). It has been an ambition to move to Charitable status for some time, and one benefit of the lockdown has meant that we have been able to focus on the work involved. It will give us some more opportunities to apply for more grants, and funding that isn't available to Voluntary Sports Clubs. We are all still volunteers, and nobody will receive any payments.

The Trustees are

Jill Upton

Annette Harrison

Martin Trinder

Kathryn Martin-Harris

If anyone would also like to be considered to be one of our Trustees please let us know and we will give you an application form.

#### Finances

Another benefit of a CIO is that we can have on-line banking and card services.

#### Kit Sponsorship

We have Bellway sponsoring U12s and U15s, Milton Earnest Care Home sponsoring U9s and the Joe Griffith's Legacy U11s Bluebirds.

We are working with companies to sponsor both Ladies teams with kit and tracksuits.

If anyone would like to sponsor a team please get in touch with Jill. Teams that had new kit last season will be expected to use it for another season.

All kit is retained by the Club so if players leave or change teams match kit, should be handed back to the Team Manager.

#### Equipment for Coaches

There is only a limited budget for this season for new balls and equipment for Coaches, so please look after balls and other equipment.