

# Chairman's Welcome 2018/19



Neil Hadley

Coxheath & Farleigh Junior Football Club





## Chairman's Message

Dear Player and Parents/Guardians

We are fast approaching the start of the new season and the summer months have been an exceptionally busy time for the Club Committee in attending meeting , sorting out pitches , together with the arrival of 2 new teams at grassroots level with the Under 8's and Under 8 Colts. To start with I would like to give our new members a brief introduction regarding Coxheath & Farleigh JFC

Founded in 1973/74 season, this year we celebrate our 44<sup>th</sup> year as a Grassroots Football Club providing football to Coxheath and the surrounding areas of Maidstone as we attract players from a wider area. I am was delighted to have been re-elected as your Chairman and I am extremely proud, passionate and very excited about leading the Club into the forthcoming 2018-19 season on the pitch as well as the new initiatives we hope to introduce throughout the Club. As a Club we should always be looking to constantly strive to improve and to have a philosophy based around the pursuit of excellence both on the field of play as well as off it. To this end I hope during my time this season to further raise the high standards this Club has off the pitch.

The Club continues to thrive, providing football coaching and playing opportunities to a large number boys/girls and this season we will have football teams at under 8, 9, 10 and 11's age groups in the Maidstone Invicta Primary League, whilst the under 12's and 15's will be competing in The Maidstone Minor League. All these teams will play, where permitted by The Kent FA, in the respective League, and Cup competitions.

For that reason CFJFC are proud as a Charter Standard Club to have our own Rising Stars   on a Saturday morning for children Age 4+ as this is the future of the CFJFC, so if you know of any aspiring footballers (boys & girls) why not bring them along and or recommend them to Coxheath & Farleigh. All training is by FA Qualified Coaches and our Club Membership Fees are exceptional low as football needs to be made "affordable" to cater for all families.

Therefore I would personally like to say “thank you” to the hard working volunteers, who on a Saturday morning give up there valuable time to develop the Rising Stars and in particular **Jodie Crane** who is responsible for the Rising Stars, and over the past 12+ months has taken it from strength to strength .

At this time of the year we are exceptionally busy sorting out Club Registrations as players come and go and I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our Registrations Secretary ( **Mark Sunnucks**) for all his recent hard work and effort in ensuring all players are registered and on The FA's Whole Game System.

Unfortunately as new teams are formed some teams fold due to the desire for boys to play Kent League Football, and or find other interests or education takes priority. We have experienced that as a club this season losing 3 teams (last year's U11 and U12's). However after 17 years in football I have learnt that some players leave and return the following year as The Kent League is not all it's made out to be or expectations and commitment levels are far greater. Whilst some players return for other reasons, some simply do not make the grade and with the numerous Academies within the Maidstone Area, whilst there encourage players to join, my experience from talking friends whose children have joined, it is my understanding that they are only interested in the elite players and other fall away and do not receive the same level of development.

I also believe that CFJFC registration fees and costs and are some of the most competitive around, compared to other teams who charged nearly £300 (plus) per season, it is the likes of such teams that are devastating " Grass Roots Football" and both the leagues and FA have to look seriously at this in order to encourage and develop children at grass roots level. At my own U15 level this summer 17 teams have folded or amalgamated this has had a significant impact on the leagues.

Please don't think I am bitter towards the Kent League or Academies, far from it I would always encourage any player to take the opportunity if it arises as you never know what may and likewise if they wish to return, the door is always open. In fact just that situation has arisen with my own U15 and I am delighted to welcome back an old player this season that will strengthen my squad.

Last season was an exceptionally successful season for CFJFC one as Chairman I was delighted to be part of and once again we live in hope this season. It is however important to remember that football especially at the younger age is all about participation, fun and enjoyment and having respect for the other teams, as without them there would be no game.

Likewise the running of a club is not straightforward and as your Chairman I am determined to take the club to another level, with the help of the Club Secretary. This in addition to myself season you Club Committee consists of:

- Neil Hadley - Chairman
- Martin Colwell – Secretary
- Jodie Crane – Treasurer
- Kerry Butler - Child Welfare Officer
- Karl Brett - Child Welfare Officer

Contact details for all committee members are available either by our website: [www.cfjfc.org.uk](http://www.cfjfc.org.uk) or other forms of social media and our Facebook Page.

It is only right that I also express my appreciation to the outgoing Treasurer (Sandy Turner) and thank her for all her hard work and effort last season.

In addition to the main club committee we are also ably supported by our Fund Raising Committee - fronted by **Becky Brett, Lisa Turner & Toni Griffith** together with a selection of other hard working mums, who regularly give up their time, as well as being supportive of Fund Raising Events, which have been very successful over the last 12 months, although we need to encourage **parents from all age groups** to be more supportive. Anyone who is interested in providing a few hours to assist them please contact us accordingly.

## **Teams/ Managers Etc:**

So we now move onto our teams for the coming season (2018/19) and the managers and their respective coaches who week in week out give up their free time on a voluntary basis to ensure that football is provide to your sons and daughters. Please respect them and treat them as they deserve to be treated and if there are any issues please don't confront them direct please contact a Committee member.

## **Saturday's:**

Rising Stars - Jodie Crane - Coxheath Village Hall – Coaches: Various

Under 8's - Ian Jeffrey – (5 a side) at Coxheath Village Hall 10:30 Kick Off

Under 8 Colts - David Turner - As Above

Under 9's - Andy Pellow – (7 a side) - As Above

## **Sunday's:**

Under 10's - David Turner – (7 a side) - Coxheath Village Hall 10:30 Kick Off

Under 11's - Karl Brett – (9 a side) - ( to be confirmed) – As Above

Under 12's - Andy Smith – (9 a side) - Coxheath Primary School – As Above

Under 12 Colts - Kaley Sage - (9 a side) - As Above

Under 15's - Neil Hadley – (11 a side) - The Beacons – 2:00 Kick Off

All parents are invited to attend training sessions (dates to be advised by managers) and match days and not simply drop your child off and provide the appropriate level of support and encouragement to both sides from the touch line. Remember with the enjoyable times comes the standing on the touch line in wind , rain , and snow and sometimes bitterly cold winds all in support of your son or daughter playing the game they enjoy and for a wonderful club.

With this is mind it is important that all Managers, Coaches, Parents, Players and Officials abide by The FA RESPECT Program, and details are available via our website or your respective team managers.

In conclusion I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all (Parents, Players, Managers & Coaches) to another season with Coxheath & Farleigh JFC especially all **new players** and their respective families and hope that you enjoy the season ahead and your time with the club. For those players who are committed to the club we offer and present awards for loyalty from U8's upwards for 4 , 7 and 11 years service.

Thank You for taking the time to read this and I am always available to answer any questions.

Kind Regards

Neil Hadley

Chairman

Coxheath & Farleigh Junior Football Club

A Charter Standard Club

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