

Chairman's Report - June 2009

At the end of another fun packed season for Writtle Minors it's always good to be able to reflect on what every one of **YOU** have achieved this season. Yes it's **YOU** all the players, parents, grandparents, managers and coaches.

There were many people who have again helped in so many ways – from helping to mark the pitches out and put the goals up last September to taking them down at the end of May. With everything in between, such as managing or helping to coach a team, send in the results, get a referee, wash the kit or mark out the pitches in all weather. As I say every year Writtle Minors would not be able to continue without the help of all those people who give up their time to make it possible. As you see there is always something to do and please do not be shy to come forward as all offers of help are gratefully received.

As well as the managers and coaches who do a great job running the teams we have many people who help to run the club, and as in most years there are going to be a few changes for next season. We have tried this year to split the role of the secretary and fixture secretary but Simon Webb is going to bring the roles back together. Helen Potton (who gave birth to her 4th child a couple of weeks ago) is stepping down as secretary after doing a great job, as is Linda Maples who has also done a fantastic job as both editor of the Minor, and her main job as Treasurer for the least 3 years which she is handing over into the capable hands of Mark Boyden. We are also getting a new boys Vice Chairman with Mark West, U9b manager, taking on the job after it being vacant for the past year.

Other people changing this year are Ian Mansfield who steps down after the merger of the three U10 teams in to two U11s for next season he was also responsible for the humour and the printing and general content of the Minor. Also ending this year is John Morgan from the U12s and John Swinney from the U16s who both have had a long relationship with the club and have had a great input in to shaping those boys for the future.

There are a number of other people to mention of course – unsung heroes working away in the background to ensure everything works smoothly for the season Sally Coughlan as registration secretary, Victoria Free as welfare officer and Kevin Free as training co-ordinator, also Steve Frostick as the summer school and U6s U7s co-ordinator as well as Pip Baker who will continue for some years to come with the training of those youngsters until we can entice and appoint parents as the next generation of managers and coaches to take the kids through.

The Girls teams, lead admirably as ever by Rob Ellis as (girls) vice Chairman, with Ken Ellis as girl's secretary and helped by all their managers and coaches, with Tony Palmer as a great goalkeeper coach for both the boys & girls.

This year, for one year only, we are changing the fun day to be from the girls age groups, but going forward from next year we are giving it to an age group every year so if you are that years U10s you will be planning the tournament. This is as we do for the sponsored walk – every year the U12s organise it so they know at the beginning of the season what is required of them. Which reminds me, if anyone still has the sponsored walk money please pass in to your manager or to me. We are also still collecting TESCO VOUCHER, but need those ASAP.

As ever we need to look to the future and the first of our port-a-cabins is just awaiting a controller for the drains so should be up and running in the very near future and we are still looking for another one that will be right for us. We have also been given the go ahead by the Parish Council for the astro turf surface. However we (WSSC and Writtle Minors) have to find grants to enable it to be built. We are also going to have the field earth quaked over the summer and several bags of seed over it where it is still quite bare. This is due to it only being the end of the second season and some heavy use over the year. So I hope it will all ready for another season, so we can do it all again in September.

Cheers

David Beckett
Chairman WMFC