

Bromborough Basketball Club

An England Basketball 3 Star Club

www.bromboroughbulldogs.org.uk



Established 1995



Newsletter February 2012

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Great fun at Christmas Karting

Thanks to those who turned up in December. I think we all had a great time and thanks especially to Heather for organising it all. The pictures I took are on the Bulldogs' Facebook page

www.facebook.com/pages/Bromborough-Bulldogs/91454369165 or simply search for Bromborough when you are in Facebook.

North Wales Registration

The deadline is now passed for player registrations, which means that only those who completed the BasketballWales individual registration forms and provided photographs can play during the rest of the season. However, we will continue to register and play new players the under-12s. We will register them so that they are insured to play, even if the rules of the league say we will concede the game. If we win on the night everyone can celebrate. However, for the older age groups, we will only play the players who are already registered.

Note that we will continue to register all players with England Basketball and that these players will be eligible for the tournaments at Wirral Grammar School for Boys and for friendlies.

Facebook and Twitter: please sign up

Over a year ago we made a statement that club news would be available via the web site, with most updates via Facebook and Twitter. I have posted on the Bulldogs' Facebook wall and Tweeted via @brombulldogs almost every week since; often several times per week.

The suggestion to move to Social networking came from a parent and no-one objected. There is a link to each of Facebook and Twitter from our web site <http://www.bromboroughbulldogs.org.uk/> and it is clear that some members are aware of postings that I make there. However, a recent survey of the 96 people who like the Facebook site, revealed that less than 20 are current members or their parents. The same is true for the Twitter account, though it's not the same 20. Between them they account for less than 50% of members.

It is clear from comments made that some members, their parents and their grandparents look at one or the other, even though they are not following us on Facebook or Twitter. However, after a year of doing it – and with the majority of “back office” administration falling to me and to Heather – the harsh message to parents and members goes as follows:

- Facebook is just too easy for me to use
- I haven't got time to produce newsletters like this very often
- Neither Heather nor I have the time to set up and keep updating E-mail distribution lists
- Texting to distribution lists from my 'phone eats into my texting allowance and also requires my time to manage those distribution lists.

Many parents have I-phones and most kids have BlackBerrys. These – and almost every other Smartphone available – have both a Facebook and a Twitter “app.” Facebook is very accessible via the internet.

If you have serious philosophical objections to the use of Social Networking sites, please raise them with me directly between 7:15 and 7:30 on a Monday or call me.

North Wales League 2009-10 and 2010-11 Under 16 Playoff winner
Wirral League 2006-7: under-14 Playoff winners. North Wales League 2008-9 Under 16 Champions and Playoff winner
Wirral League 2005-6: under-11 League runners up, under-14 Playoff winners, under-16 play-off runners up.
Ellesmere Port under-11 League Winners & Play-off Champions 2004-5
Ellesmere Port Under-14s League Runners-up 2004-5
KBH Mini-Basketball Division 1 Runners-up 2002-3 and 2003-4
Merseyside Cup Runners Up 2003-4
Commended for our Junior Development Programme, North West Sports Awards 2002.
North Wales Division 3 Champions 2000-2001
Merseyside Division 2 Championship and Cup “Double” 2001-2
Clwyd Cup Runners Up & Junior League Champions 1998-99
North Wales Handicap Cup Winners 1999-2000

North Wales Fixture Changes

The North Wales League rearranged a lot of fixtures in January in order to avoid the exams season. One outcome was that the under-16s don't play until February 28th, another is that both the under-14s and under-18s finish their regular seasons in March, but the under-16s have games in April and May. The play-offs will hopefully be on either the weekend of May 19/20 or May 26/27.

All fixtures are under the appropriate team's page on the Bulldogs' web site and have also been recently updated on the North Wales League web site <http://www.northwalesbasketball.com>.

Wirral Tournaments

In order that we can play decent length games on the main court in the **under-16s**, we will only play one boys' team and one girls' team, making the last tournament another 3 team competition.

We will continue to run three teams in the **under-14s** competitions – two year 9 & below teams and the year 10 girls. This gives some of the under-12s a chance to play alongside older players. The under-14s competitions will be played on the cross-courts with 4 teams. Tournaments are on Tuesdays 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys.

March 6th Under-14s, March 13th under-16s, **March 27th under-14s.**

Developing our Members

Ali and Jen began their Level 2 Coach award at the start of February. Tash and Clayton (Level 2 Coach) and Jacob and Heather (Assistant Coach Level 1) will also begin this month. All will be mentored by Trevor.

Earlier this year we arranged for a first aid course to be run at Bebington High Sports College and seven Bulldogs and parents attended. Geraldine Phoenix and Cathy Rimmer are now available at every Monday session, meaning that Clayton, Jen and Trevor, who also renewed their qualifications, can concentrate on coaching the early Monday sessions.

Heather and Cathy attended a Safeguarding course late in 2011, ensuring that our Child Protection measures and processes are refreshed.

Now's an opportunity for our younger members and parents who want to know more about helping their children become better players.

Easter Camp and Apprentice Coach course

We are considering running a one or two day camp in the Easter holidays and also running the Apprentice Coach course. Both would be somewhere in Bebington.

Ali is keen to run **the camp, probably in the first week of the Easter holiday**. It would be subsidised for those paying Standing Order, but will be open to friends, relatives and anyone else who pays the fee. Before we plan this, book courts and buy T-shirts and prizes, we need to know how many people are interested. Please fill in and return the form below. Please write your name at the top of the form.

Apprentice Coach – in the second week of the fortnight – is suitable for any starter in coaching. Usually parents learn most about “what to teach” and teenagers learn most about “how to teach.” The course lasts around 4 ½ hours and is assessed on coaching performance during the session. Trevor will run this course; his fourth. Everyone has passed so far, including Jen, Heather, Jacob and Clayton from the current coaches.

<p>_____ would like to attend an Easter Camp in the first week of the Easter holiday</p> <p>I would prefer 1 day <input type="checkbox"/> I would prefer 2 days <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>I might bring _____ friends</p>	<p>_____ would like to attend Apprentice Coach on one day in the second week of the Easter holiday</p>
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