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Bromborough Basketball Club

An England Basketball 3 Star Club

www.bromboroughbulldogs.org.uk

Newsletter September 2016

Welcome back!

For those who have had holidays, we hope you had great ones. For those who worked on their games during the summer, (whether on holiday or not), we look forward to seeing your improved game!

New training times; including a new parents' session

Some training times were changed at the start of the summer, but our return to Wirral Grammar School for Boys on Tuesdays from 13th September and Wirral Grammar School for Girls from Wednesday 7th September means that we can make the second set of changes. These will be our training times until April 2017, apart from when the schools are closed.

We've found space for the *return of Individual Skills training* and will also be running a *Parents' Session* on the other court at Wirral Grammar School for Boys. This is to specifically address requests from parents for a basketball session at the same time as their children are training. However, these sessions will be separate.

| Age group | Mondays | Tuesdays | Wednesdays |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| Under-10s | 6:00 – 7:15pm at Bebington High School | No training | No training |
| Under-12s | 7:15 – 8:30 pm at Bebington High School | Skills training 6:30 – 8:00pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys | No training |
| Under-14s | No training | Skills training 6:30 – 8:00pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys | 6:30 – 8:00pm at Wirral Grammar School for Girls |
| Under-16s | No training | 8:00 – 9:30 pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys plus join Skills training beforehand | 8:00 – 9:30pm at Wirral Grammar School for Girls |
| Under-18s | Join Seniors training, 8:30 – 10:00 pm at Bebington High School | 8:00 – 9:30 pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys plus join Skills training beforehand | No training |
| Seniors squad | 8:30 – 10:00 pm at Bebington High School | Skills training 6:30 – 8:00pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys, join under-18s 8:00 – 9:30 pm | No training |
| Parents and returners | No training | Parents basketball 6:30 – 8:00pm at Wirral Grammar School for Boys | No training |

Annual General Meeting. Very important

2015-16 was the year that parental involvement increased and as a result, we had the Christmas party, Christmas bowling and a brilliant Presentation Night. We also got more involvement with administration on training nights. Now we need to go a step further and bring parents onto the Club Committee from the AGM in November.

Caroline has indicated that she will no longer continue as Treasurer. She has committed her own time to the club for the last two years when her daughter has not been a member. Additionally, I have always stated that the club will progress faster if we have separate Chairman and Head Coach. I see my role primarily as a Coach, so would strongly prefer to not be Chairman. It would be far better if the management of the club is led by non-coaches.

Volunteers at “the desk”

From Tuesday 13th September all new starters at the club who are in year 8 and above will be told to attend Skills training at Wirral Grammar School for Boys. Those in year 7 and below will continue to go to Bebington High on a Monday. This means we will have prospective members arriving on both Mondays and Tuesdays, so we will need a parent to help with administration in the sports hall entrance at Wirral Grammar as well. We will also hopefully have “returners” arriving at 6:30 on a Tuesday and then those under-16s and under-18s who are arriving for team training but haven’t attended Skills.

As quite a few under-12s and ex-under-12s will be attending Skills training, we could impose on the same people who help or helped on a Monday, but it would be great if we could have some new faces, so we can have a friendly face to welcome new starters. It would be great if a parent or set of parents will volunteer to organise a rota for this, which will help the coaches to start coaching and make sure everyone is safe.

Teams for the coming season

The North Wales League has decided not to run an under-12s competition this year, choosing to have coaching sessions and games on a Sunday at a venue and time yet to be announced. Unfortunately, due to holidays, work and other commitments we were not represented at the AGM at which this decision was made. As we have no coaches available on a Sunday, we intend to decline the invitation to participate in the North Wales League under-12s activities. This won’t affect Monday training and we will run our own internal competitions on some Tuesdays that will be exclusively for the under-12s and under-10s.

Now to the big news. ***We will run two under-14s squads***, encouraging more of the under-12s to join under-14 training on Wednesdays and play as under-14s.

Under-16s are unchanged from the last few years. We will enter one team, although this will be quite inexperienced, due to the coaches’ decision to promote seven year 11s directly to the under-18s.

The under-18s league returns to being a Tuesday night central venue league (CVL) at St David’s High School, Saltney. At the moment it looks like we may have no year 13s in our squad, so this is a “two-year” team.

We are to run two senior men’s teams in the Wirral League. This is due to the success of the “Return to Basketball” sessions that have been on a Monday since May and the return to the area of three ex-players. This means that this squad has gone from famine to feast. Seniors training has moved to Mondays and games will be on Mondays 8:30-10:30, unless the Wirral League decides to move to a CVL.

Badges on kits

The first batch of over 50 red kits were “badged up” at the end of August. Thanks to everyone who returned the kits that they had and to those who own their own kits for trusting us with them. The rest will be collected from Trevor during the day on Monday 12th September, so please bring kits to training before then or arrange to drop them off with Trevor.

Congratulations to our new Assistant Coaches and Activators

It’s a long time ago, but at Easter ***Calum Heslop, Orrin Hall, Harrison Jones, Mattie Evans, Matty Moore and Daniel Griffiths completed their Assistant Coach Level 1.*** Most have coached regularly since then and we hope they’ll be assisting throughout the season.

At Presentation Night they received their Level 1 certificates, along with those who had completed the Basketball Activators course a few weeks earlier: ***Alex Williams, James Kane, Harry Tharme, Tyler Oakes, Kian Bird, Jake Adeniyi and Olivia Grant.***

Wheelchair basketball with Cheshire Phoenix

One of the participants on the Assistant Coach course was Anna Jackson of the Cheshire Phoenix Wheelchair Basketball Club. She has invited us to a Phoenix wheelchair session on a Saturday to be decided. This will give members a chance to see what it’s like to play sitting down and use your arms to move around, as well as pass, shoot and dribble. Watch the website for information.

Website re-vamp

Several parents have pointed out that the website is out of date. I apologise for that. The website is meant to be static with the “live” stuff coming from the Facebook feeds and the Google calendars on the Teams pages. A parent of an ex-member set it up that way and pays someone to maintain the static part. This is being updated in early September.

As no-one uses Twitter, the Twitter feed will be removed. A new section on the Hall of Fame will be introduced and directions to all three club venues added to the Contact page.

A great Presentation Night and Charity Day

Unfortunately, we’ve got almost no photos from Presentation Night, as we didn’t have an “official” photographer and it appears that many members are camera shy! Thanks to everyone for their contributions to the food; what a great spread. We were missing a few members from year 13 and year 11, due to them taking early holidays after the exams, so we’ll try to make sure we move next year’s event back to the usual late June date. Everyone bar one has received their trophies at training through the summer.

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Under-12 | MVP Jake Adeniyi | Most Improved Daniel Holbrook | Coaches Award Liam Thomas |
| Under-14 | MVP Daniel Griffiths | Hustler Olivia Grant | Most Promising Newcomer Daniel Holbrook |
| Under-16 | MVP Calum Heslop | Most Improved Phil Peters | Top Scorer Rhys Edwards |
| Under-18 | MVP Jack Price | Most Improved Will Ashworth | Defensive Player Alex Youngson |
| Seniors | MVP Adrian Jackson | Coaches Award Mike Hayes | |
| Club | Bulldog of the Year Daniel Griffiths | Most Fun Mattie Evans | Best Attendance Daniel Griffiths |

The Charity day two days later was a brilliant event. The inaugural Hall of Fame game featured two Welsh Internationals from Bromborough, Laura and Michael Hinchliffe, who started their basketball at the Bulldogs.

After that we had a parents v kids game which went to overtime after the kids got a few extra points in the last two minutes and then the parents challenged the coaches to a game. Great fun! We raised over £100 on the day, including selling cold drinks to the footballers from the outdoor pitches.

Mandi Bird went on to complete her wing-walk during August and raised more money for Cardiomyopathy.





Emergency First Aid in Sport Course

This will happen in the next month or so at Bebington High School. All coaches should attend and attendance will be subsidised for those who are actively coaching at the club. The cost of the 3 hour course will be £30 to anyone who is not an active Bulldogs coach.

Last chance to buy red hoodies

This month is the end of our 20th year, so some sharp-eyed viewers may have noticed the change to the logo on the Newsletter. As we won't be using the 20th Anniversary logo any more, we will be stopping selling red hoodies. So this is your last chance! We have a couple in stock, which we can send to be embroidered or to have the name on the sleeve, and we will place one more order for new ones, if they are ordered and paid for before the end of September. Cost £21 per garment.

Member Name

Zip front or pocket front (please circle the one you want)

Hoodie size (please circle)

Child 9-11 Child 12-14 Adult S Adult M Adult L Adult XL Adult XXL

Name on **sleeve** or **chest** (please circle)

Name that you want on the hoodie