

Stowupland Falcons Newsletter

www.stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk



Action from the 2010 BIG 5 a-side

**New Season
New Teams
New Managers
New Players
New Team Names**

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Welcome to the new season...from the Chair

A very warm welcome to all our new Players, Coaches and Parents to Stowupland Falcons Football Club.

This season we have three new teams; an Under 8s mini soccer team coached by Mark and Trevor, a new girl's team in the Under 10 group, coached by Rachel and Jade (an ex-player for the Club) and finally the newly formed Girls Under 15s which I am delighted to say includes 3 girls from Rob Pattison's 2010-11 U15 team, There has also been an influx of new talent throughout the club over the summer as including several new boys in our Under 11 age group. No doubt there are many more new players across all our teams that I have missed, so welcome to you all.

Also new to management with the Club is Neil Gregory, who is our 1st Team manager this season, assisted by Mark Dye. This new 1st team partnership is having a great impact on the playing standard of the adult players, so we look forward to success through the season. Some of you may remember Neil from his playing days with Ipswich Town F.C under George Burley. The Reserves also continue to improve under the guidance of Mark Edgar and Fred Beaumont and we look forward to seeing our older youth players knocking on the door of the adult teams.

During the summer the FA decided that they wanted to move away from the use of A and B team names for Clubs that have multiple teams in the same age group. Some clubs have gone with animal names such as Hornets, Wasps, Lions etc. Not really an option for us with "Falcons" already in the Clubs name, so we took the decision to go with our main club colours of Yellow and Blue. Under 9, 11 & 16 age groups will be aware of the change. Hope you like the choice!!!

Unfortunately as well as welcoming new teams we have seen some teams finish. After a lot of hard work trying to recruit over the summer we had to concede that we just simply could not generate enough interest to continue running an Under 17 girls team and so sadly said goodbye to Rob Pattison and his team. Also after 6 years of the club running a very successful Under 18 team we did not get enough interest and had to withdraw from the league. Very disappointing for us all.

Our squads at Under 14 and 15 still have spaces available so if you know of any 13-15 year olds looking for a Team to join, please let myself or your team manager know as soon as possible.

It was good to see so many of you at the Signing-On Day on the 4th September. I hope you all enjoyed the event and that all the players got some vital match time into their legs before the season started. I look forward to seeing you at some of the club's social fundraising events throughout the season. Please ask your team managers for more details.

As usual if there is anything you would like to discuss with me, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Good luck to all the players, coaches and teams again this season. Work hard, give 100% every game and enjoy yourselves. I look forward to seeing the improvements on the pitch and some more silverware being presented at the end of the season.

See you on the touchline

Ian Wearing

Stowupland Falcons F.C. - Chairman

5 Things to know...

1. Our website has all the latest news, results and events, so check it out regularly
2. We have a Facebook page...feel free to leave us a message
3. If you have any questions about the Club, Social Club, ask any Manager or Committee member
4. The Social Club facilities can be used by all teams, including the kitchen and toilets on Match days
5. We're going to start using email for communicating Club events and news, so make sure you add our addresses to your address book to avoid us ending up in spam.

Welcome to our new Under 8's by Mark Strachan

After extremely successful team-building friendlies against St.Johns (twice), Debenham, Moreton Hall U9's plus a couple of great 5-a-side tournaments, the 12 boy squad kicked-off the first game of the new season with a local derby against Stowmarket Town on Sunday 11 September.

The match was very exciting for all the lads as well as Mum and Dads who were introduced to the delights of pitch-marking, goal erection and generally supporting the logistics of getting 12 boys in the right place, kitted out and in the "right frame of mind" to play their very first game of a new football season.

Hard to say who enjoyed the match against Stowmarket Town more - the boys or the parents! The encouragement and support for the boys was fantastic from both sets of supporters and both teams responded well with a really enjoyable game. Whilst the games at this level are non-competitive, it would be wrong not to mention the final score: Stowmarket Falcons Under 8s 8-0 Stowmarket Town Under 8s.

The second match of the season saw us traveling deep into the heart of Suffolk to the fantastic venue of Wattisfield where we were pitted against Walsham-Le-Willows. Both sides were equally matched and we all enjoyed some great football. It's amazing how quickly the lads have grasped the concept of passing, moving, tackling and all round team-spirit. In a hard fought game we managed to win 3-0.

Next up was a short trip to Needham Market where we were again treated to a very competitive game against a well organised Needham side. The match was very close and

produced some excellent performances right the way through the team and was a great birthday present for our Goalkeeper - Ethan Harvey. The final score was 2-1 to Stowupland.

After a break in the season's calendar, last Sunday we made the journey to Trimley. We were greeted by a large and enthusiastic set of supporters into a lovely setting with a great pitch, which had received the ideal amount of rainfall the night before to make playing conditions perfect. The lads again did the club and their parents proud with an all round team performance. They passed and moved the ball around really well and proved to be too strong for the hosts on the day, the final score 8-0 to Stowupland. I was also pleased to see some really positive feedback from the Trimley Manager on our team and I look forward to returning the compliment when we meet them later in the season.

So, in summary it's been a great start for the U8's both on and off the pitch. It's incredible to have such a strong, dedicated and enthusiastic group of young footballers from such a small catchment area. Whilst it's not competitive at this stage, this looks like a group of players who could well achieve success in future years when it does become competitive. We're close to securing a deal with a sponsor, have training organised indoors throughout the winter and have a cracking bunch of parents supporting the team and putting on refreshments for our home games!

Here's to the rest of the season....Cheers, Mark

1st team update from Mark Dye

The Stowupland Falcons First Team is now under the careful control of Neil Gregory, assisted by Mark Dye, which we hope will bring a much needed professional approach.

We started pre-season training with three sessions a week which was based on fitness, stamina, a high tempo and an understanding of the game. The sessions attracted a good turn-out including several Under 16s who accepted the invitation to train with us to give them an understanding of adult football.

We have strengthened the squad with several new signings and there is a tangible willingness from all the players to learn and improve individually and collectively.

Our first three games saw a vast improvement on last season and it was apparent we had taken what we had learnt on the training ground onto the pitch. Our passing and movement was slick with minimal touches and we looked a neat and tidy team. Without the ball we pressed high and gave our opposition less time and space to play in. Over long periods of play we looked

dangerous and in control. Unfortunately, due to sloppy mistakes and poor decision making we did not come away with the points we deserved.

Fourth placed Sproughton Sports were our next opponents, a team who had enjoyed a good start to the season with many of their players having played at a higher level. Our game plan was simple; deny them space to play, press the ball high, play with no fear when in possession and carry on in the same vein as in previous games. The first half ended with a slender 2-1 lead which was a poor return considering we had long periods of play and numerous chances. The half-time talk was simple; don't change a thing and play with the same passion as in the first half. This was not to be - indeed we did the total opposite eventually losing 4-2. It was a tough lesson which led to frustrations overflowing in the dressing room.

Thursday's training session was tough, but with a new determination evident. A cup game against John Bull from a league below provided an

opportunity to kick start our season. We went into the game with a new belief, a strong attitude and a willingness to cut out our defensive errors. A 40 yard free kick nestled into the top corner of the net which gave us a deserved lead. We enjoyed most of the play we had numerous chances to increase the score. Unfortunately a free kick from John Bull was not dealt with and resulted into an equalizer. However, instead of going into our shells as in previous weeks, our confidence grew and we battled hard, earning a well-deserved 3-1 victory.

The dressing room and the club house atmosphere was totally lifted by this victory. It was pleasing to see that Neil's knowledge and understanding of the game is being welcomed into the hearts of our players. It would be wrong to single out individuals as every player who turned out deserves a mention. There are many positives to take from the opening weeks of the season but there's still much to learn.

Mark Dye

Mark Campbell talks about Vets football.....

Welcome to Vets football. For those who are not aware of what this is, I will explain.

Norfolk and Suffolk Veterans football league was set up for players who wanted to continue playing football over the age of thirty five. Stowupland has had a team in this league since 2003.

I took on the team back in 2006 and have enjoyed back to back promotions and we are now in the Premier Division. I have been very lucky with signing on players for this team including many of our current Youth and 1st Teams coaches. We had the best possible season in 2010/11 with the team picking up four trophies - plus an additional trophy for management making it five...see photo!!!

We started the new campaign with a trip to Woodbridge Town. We lost that game 2-1, but we played well with just eleven available players. Our next game saw the start of our defence of the League Cup at home to Ipswich Park, a division four side, who we soundly beat 8-1.

Our next league game was a trip to Norwich Trafford, a team sponsored and part funded by Norwich City. With it being the hottest day of the year and having only ten available players (more excuses!) we got hammered 6-1. That was my worst defeat as a manager and it will not happen again. We will be hosting the return leg in the New Year when revenge will be the order of the day! So at present we are bottom of the league but I am



confident that we will quickly turn things round. Our next game is at Chilton for the first game in our defense of the County Cup. It's on Sunday 16th Oct. In my opinion this is the biggest derby game in these parts. Should you wish to follow our progress, you can do so via the website. Should you fancy playing, contact me or the secretary via the club website.

Fundraising Update

With the new season comes a new challenge and our fundraising team are already facing it head on. Each year the fundraising team has a target amount to raise, and this year it is £5500!!!! The money raised at our events goes direct into the club to help with running the club and helps keep our subscriptions as low as possible, which have not risen for more than 2 years now.

We are very proud of the fact that our events should be fun and allow the whole family to join in, including your friends and all the family.

So already this year the committee has organized the Signing on day and a Clairvoyant Evening and we're in the midst of now planning our Family quiz night, which was a big success last year, and will take place on November 26th. Look out for detail on our website.

As well as raising funds for the Club our fundraising also helps the teams raise funds. By helping organise and take on duties at our events the teams can earn money for their own use, be that extra kit, indoor training, or team building events. This is achieved through a "share" system which was successfully introduced last year, with many teams getting well over £100 in to their team account.

Help we receive, and the talents many of you have, can really make a difference, so even an hour of your time would be really great.

If you'd like to get involved with fund raising please give Neal Smith a call on 0772 559 1785 or email neal.smith@talk21.com or events@stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Dates for your diary

Add events@stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk to your address book if you want to make sure you get any new dates.

2011

29th October – Sports and Social Club
Halloween Fancy Dress Quiz Night, Club House

19th November – Sports and Social Club
Fundraiser – Dance with live music – Village Hall, tickets £5 available from SSC or Twig on 01449 613271

26th November – Stowupland Falcons Family Quiz night – Village Hall. £15 per team entry. See advert on page 4.

10th December – Sports and Social Club Xmas draw with Live Music. Club house

18th December – Sports and Social Club
Children's Christmas Party – register in the Social Club – ages 0-11. Club house

31st December – Sports and Social Club New Years Eve party. Club house.

Come and join in the fun at our

Family Quiz Night

on Saturday November 26th 2011
at Stowupland Village Hall

First Prize £50.00

Bar and BBQ available

Doors open at 19:00, kick-off at 19:30

Bring the kids along and they can take part in our special kids quiz while you try and answer the hard questions, or maybe they can help you!!!

Entry Fee per Team (upto 6 adults) £15

Spaces are limited, so entries on a first come basis

Register your team by emailing
events@stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk
or ring Ian Wearing on
01449 615789



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