

Somerset FA – Football Development Team

Monthly Update December



Larkhall Athletic awarded FA Charter Standard Community Club

Larkhall Athletic (Bath) has been awarded the status of FA Charter Standard Community Club by the Football Association!

This is a great achievement for everyone associated with Larkhall Athletic, including the men's, ladies' and youth sections.

Larkhall Athletic is the first club in Bath to achieve FA Charter Standard Community Club and become only the 7th club in the County to achieve the highest form of Charter Standard.

For those people unfamiliar with the FA Charter Standard, Sir Trevor Brooking, The FA's Director of Football Development, explains the purpose and significance of the scheme as follows:

"Clubs are the heart beat of football in this country, that is why The FA Charter Standard Club programme, which raises standards and recognises and rewards quality, is so important. Every player, at some stage in their career, will play in a grassroots club. We have a shared responsibility to ensure that this experience is a positive one whether they are 6 or 60.

The FA Charter Standard Programme provides recognition that clubs are well run, sustainable, with child protection and safety paramount. It also recognises the club's commitment to coaching, player and coach development, and the raising of standards of behaviour in the game, all of which are big priorities for both myself and The FA."

Congratulations to everyone connected with Larkhall Athletic on this wonderful achievement.

In – Service Training

Somerset FA is committed to offering a varied and in depth In-Service Training programme to our family of Charter Standard Clubs. We were pleased to announce that Alan Gillette who is the FA Regional Coach Development Manager facilitated a 4v4 workshop within our County on Saturday 15th December. Alan is a very experienced A-License Coach and over 30 coaches within CS Clubs attended his two hour workshop (pictured below).

"The road to coaching success is a continual path and we were pleased to see so many club coaches taking CPD seriously"



Somerset FA is pleased to announce the appointment of Keith Buller as the new Referees Development Officer

Keith (Pictured Right), who is at present the Referees Officer, joins the Development Team as from the 1st January 2008. The role is partly funded by the Football Association as part of the new national Game Strategy that recognises the importance of referees. Somerset FA's appointment is the 19th in the country of this new role for Referees.

Keith (42) lives in Bridgwater with his partner Megan who is also a Referee. He is a Registered Instructor and an Assessor within the County. Keith has been a Referee for 23 years and retired last season from the game at senior level due to long term injury. Keith brings a wealth of experience to this role with the last 14 seasons of his refereeing career spent on the Football League as an Assistant Referee and has also Refereed on the Conference League for 5 seasons. Keith said "Football has moved into a period where Referees are leaving the game at Grassroots level faster than those joining and this trend needs to be reversed! One of my main goals is to retain and recruit Referees and to make sure that more games have a qualified Referee officiating them".



Girls and Women

- Somerset Girls Football League has recruited four new under 12 teams into the league with support from the GWO. Teams include Cheddar Chimps, Shepton Youth, Wellington Wildcats and Frome Town.
- Somerset FA Centre of Excellence traveled to Exeter to play Cornwall FA Centre of Excellence. The under 12's were particularly impressive at this match with a number of the squad unavailable due to illness, however all players made up for their missing team mates.
- Wembdon, Ilminster, Yeovil Town, Keynsham Town, Fry Club, Frome Town, Bishops Lydeard and Clevedon all progress to Quarter Finals of the Somerset under 16's Girls Cup.



Investment

- Taunton Deane Borough receive £532,656.00 from the Football Foundation, in order to develop new pavilions at Galmington and Taunton Gault Playing Fields. Taunton Deane Borough Council also generated sufficient funding for the project.
- Left: Alan Hobbs, Francis Hillier and James Watkins (SFA), Jeremy Browne (MP), Steve Hughes (Taunton Deane Borough Council) and members of local user groups.

Workforce Development

- Level 2 Treatment and Injury course completed at Bridgwater College with 7 passes (5 male and 2 females)
- Level 2 Coaching Courses completed at Swiss Valley Sports Centre/Clevedon School with 3 passes (3 male)
- Coaches Association (SFACA) renewal are now due for selected members
- Coaching Courses and SFACA events now available on our website www.somersetfa.com/development/courses

Diary – January

- 4th January – Skills Centres at Bath (Bath Leisure Centre) and Taunton (Taunton School) begin
- 6th January – Level 2 Review Session at SCAT College, Taunton
- 11th January – Skills Centres at Bridgwater College begins
- 23rd January – SFACA Coaching Event at SCAT College, Topic 7-11 transition
- 27th January – Level 2 Review Session at SCAT College, Taunton
- 27th January – Level 3 Review Session at Bridgwater College
- 30th January – Club Welfare Workshop at Strode College, Street
- 30th January – Level 1 Coaching Course begins at Bridgwater College
- 2nd February – Intro to Futsal Course at University of Bath