



Lawnswood Junior Football Club Welcome Pack



ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL



Lawnswood Junior Football Club
YMCA Lawnswood
Otley Road, Leeds LS16 6HQ

Introduction

Welcome to Lawnswood Junior Football Club.

We are a FA England Accredited Junior Football Club affiliated to the West Riding FA and all our teams play in the Harrogate District Junior Football League (<https://hdjfl.co.uk>). We are based at the Lawnswood YMCA on Otley Road and we have two full size pitches, one nine a side pitch plus a floodlit 3g training pitch. We both train and play our home matches at the Lawnswood YMCA.

This pack is intended for players and parents who have joined or are in the process of joining our club and we hope it contains everything you need. However, please feel free to contact your team manager or the club if you have any questions that are not answered here. We'd also suggest you visit the club website at www.lawnswoodjuniors.co.uk for more information on our club.

Club Ethos

Our club ethos is a declaration that defines us and how we want to run as a club. It's simple and concise and can be understood by players, parents and officials.

The key goals at Lawnswood Junior Football Club are as follows:

- To provide grassroots football to children in our area from the age of 9 through to 18.
- To deliver age appropriate coaching to support long-term player and personal development based upon the FA's four-corner model.
- To offer a challenging but supportive environment where our players can make and learn from their mistakes on the pitch without fear or undue pressure. A mistake is an opportunity to learn and improve and a player not trying again due to worrying about it would be the real mistake.
- To encourage all players to try their best and make the most of their abilities.
- To play a role in and encourage our players to stay active and keep fit (we actively encourage our players to play other sports).
- To promote good behaviour and respect for others.
- To enjoy our football !!!

We as a club understand that playing for Lawnswood Junior Football club is a choice amongst many in the area and we want to be known as a well run club, supportive of its players, respectful of its opponents and officials and a great club to be part of either as a player, coach or parent supporter.



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We only do positive

At Lawnwood Junior Football Club, we follow the FA Respect guidelines and believe that these guidelines are vital to our players getting the best out of the game. We ask that any individual involved with our club as a player, parent or club official to follow these guidelines. These FA guidelines are published on our website at www.lawnswoodjuniors.co.uk/we-only-do-positive .

FA England Accreditation

We are proud to be a FA Accredited Junior Football Club. To become a FA Charter Standard Junior Football Club and maintain the accreditation, the club must meet a set of requirements set out by the FA not limited to but including the following:

- Have a disciplinary record within the FA Respect discipline threshold (if in existence for more than one season)
- Operate within a set of Club rules
- Have a Club equality policy
- Adopt the FA Respect Code of Conduct
- Have Club officials who are proud to make their environment safe, fun and inclusive for all
- Have a Club Safeguarding Policy
- Have FA Enhanced Criminal Record Checks (CRC) for all relevant officials
- At least one FA Level 1 qualified coach per team with in date first aid (IFAIF) and Safeguarding Children certificate
- Have a coach:player ratio of 1:16 or less

We are proud to meet all of these standards at our club.

Safeguarding

Nothing is more important than the welfare of players under our care. As a FA Chartered Standard club, it is a requirement to adhere to and publish the FA Safeguarding Policy, Equality Policy and Anti-Bullying policy.

These are available at www.lawnswoodjuniors.co.uk/safeguarding along with a section on how to report issues to the club or the FA. Ofcourse, we hope this is never needed but it's there if needed as are all club officials' details including our Club Welfare Officer: Ian Elliot.



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Fees

Our player registration fees for the 2025 / 26 season will be collected using the Team FeePay application which you will be given details to when you sign up with us and we are happy to offer either an annual, quarterly or monthly payment option. The most cost effective option is the annual or quarterly option where the fee is £200 either paid in full before the season starts or in quarterly £50 payments over the course of the season. There is also a monthly option of £18 per month for 12 months bringing the season cost to £216.

This fee covers the cost of pitch hire, kit, balls, training equipment, referee fees and the various other costs in running a junior football team. For a new player, this includes the cost of a complete new kit (top, shorts & socks) which will be refreshed as they grow while with us. We will never ask for additional funds from a parent or guardian for a player's kit or anything in relation to our football activities.

Our player fees are vital to keep the club running season after season and we would cease to exist without them. The club is not run for profit and everyone involved in running the club from the chairman to all the coaches and team managers are volunteers, all fees go into the running of the club.

Though these fees are important, we are not the kind of club that would remove a player from a team because a parent or guardian is unable to pay the fee for whatever reason. All we ask is that if there is an issue, let us know, either via your team manager or a club official.

Player Registration

Players must be registered with the FA as a club player before they can play for any FA England Accredited club in a league or cup match. We use a system called 'Team FeePay' to manage our player registration information and this system also handles our subscription fees. Full details of the registration process are available at www.lawnswoodjuniors.co.uk/registration though we will of course offer any assistance needed to complete the process. We ask all players and parents to agree to our club policies, details of which are also on this page.

Player details are then entered into the FA site by the club which allows team managers to produce team sheets for match day. Note this process can take up to two weeks especially at the start of a season when all clubs are registering their players for the upcoming season.



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Sponsors

If you wish to sponsor one of our teams, please speak to either your team manager or any club official. We are always grateful for any support we receive, all of which goes into the club and our football activities.

What about the Football?

Let's face it, that's why we are here and you are reading this. Our teams compete in the Harrogate District Junior Football League (<https://hdjfl.co.uk>) and we are one of the more southern clubs in the league though we play teams in North Leeds, Menston, Guiseley etc as well as a bit further afield in Harrogate and Ripon and one of two other parts of North Yorkshire. The season typically runs from the start of school term in September through to April or May though coaches will typically do some pre-season training and might get one or two friendlies arranged before the start of the season. Matches are usually on a Sunday and training schedules vary by team.

The aim as per our club ethos is to continue to improve and enjoy the journey, no team wins every game and like any club, some of our teams will do well in terms of their results, some won't. Some will get promoted, some relegated and they won't all be in the top division. The key is to keep developing, improving and enjoying the experience and all we ask of our players is that they turn up to training and matches, try their best, respect their coaches and teammates and enjoy being part of the team.

End of Season Gala

Once it's all over, the club holds an end of season gala and presentation day. This day is very important for all the players, managers and coaches as it is a day to reward everyone involved for their effort and achievements from the season.

This is typically a fun day especially if the weather is nice, with plenty of football being played including a parent and coaches game, BBQ, raffles etc.

After that, we have a summer break and then we hope you'll come back to do it all again!



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Future Team Managers

As mentioned earlier in this pack, the club is run by volunteers and would cease to function without team managers to run the teams. Team managers often start out as parents of players who enjoy the game so much they want to get involved. If that sounds like you, please get in touch.

Ask any junior team manager or coach and I'm sure they will tell you how rewarding it can be, hard work at times and the pay is lousy but a whole lot of fun and a great way to give a little back to the community.

Finally

Thank you for showing an interest in our club. If you are a player or parent / guardian of a player who has signed up: welcome and thanks for joining.

Please visit the club website at www.lawnswoodjuniors.co.uk to find out more about us. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact your team manager or the club and we will be happy to help.



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