



CLUB HANDBOOK

SEASON 2025/26

WELCOME



Welcome to Whitley Bay Sporting Club. We've created this handbook to provide you with an overview of the club and hope you find it useful.

Whitley Bay Sporting Club is one of the biggest grassroots football clubs in the North of England. Founded in 1960 under the name Whitley Bay Boys' Club, in 2015, the club changed its status to 'Sporting Club', and now has 68 teams, which includes over 1,100 players, over 200 coaches and hundreds of volunteers currently active in the running of the club.

We are a registered charity, FA Charter Standard Club and we're hoping to move towards community status in the near future. All of this means that, as a club, we operate to the highest possible standards the Football Association have set for football clubs, building a reputation that we're extremely proud of.

Not forgetting our Gareth Whittaker Development Centre, Wildcats and Squad Girls, providing children from as young as 3 years old a pathway into football, with the club carrying that journey through all the way from junior into senior football.

And last year, we were honoured to receive the Northumberland FA Club of the Year award.

Of course, none of this would be possible, were it not for our army of loyal and brilliant volunteers. The attitude and willingness to support the club shown by our volunteers is possibly best captured by our club motto "Nulli Secundus - Second to None".

Encouraging fair play and sportsmanship, we aim to develop the players of tomorrow, today, by praising performance and effort more than results.

Whilst we do not have a club facility of our own, we're proud of the relationships we have within the local community, which allow us to provide match-day and training facilities for all our teams.

Our main matchday venue is Monkseaton High School, where our home games take place on a Saturday and Sunday; and during the week, team training takes place across a number of venues: Valley Gardens Middle School, Whitley Bay High School, Rockliff Rugby Club and Marden Bridge Sports Centre.

We were really pleased to announce the introduction of a hub at Monkseaton High School last season, where you can get a drink and a snack for match days, amongst other things. We've been working hard over the past few years to get this in place, so we're delighted to see it all up and running now.

The club is run by a committee of volunteers, who meet regularly to not only oversee the running of the club, but also plan to develop and expand what the club offers to young people in our area.

There really is a genuine family feel to this club and we're incredibly proud of what we represent.

We're constantly exploring options to develop the club further, hoping to encourage local

We're constantly exploring options to develop the club further, hoping to encourage local individuals, businesses and organisations to support us as we continue to grow.

This season will see the club carry on its amazing journey, hopefully, with a bit less rain falling than there was last season.

As always, I'd like to personally thank you all for your continued support for Whitley Bay Sporting Club.

Thanks.
Rob Nixon
(WBSC Chair)



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CLUB INFO

IN THIS SECTION:

- **OUR PHILOSOPHY:** what we're trying to achieve
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- **CLUB MEMBERSHIP:** our membership information
- **CLUB FINANCES:** where the money goes
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CLUB PHILOSOPHY



Developing the players of tomorrow, today

We want to provide the best possible experience for our players and their families. We're extremely proud of our club, our reputation within the community, and what we've achieved so far.

Having a clear club philosophy allows us:

- to have clear principles to inform our practices & decisions
- to ensure a consistent offering to all players
- to build a recognized & renowned club identity

Our aim is to develop the players of tomorrow, today by:

- instilling a love of football in our children
- helping our children become better people
- helping our children become better players

We achieve these aims by following three key principles:

Coaching the person

Create learning environments based on the core values of respect, effort, fun, and use the power of football to help our children become better people.

Development-focussed & Player-centered

Prioritise the development of every individual player over the result of the game. Encourage and embrace mistakes as learning opportunities, promote the "power of practice", and empower children to make their own decisions.

Games-based practices

Use a games-based approach to practice design to help our children become better players.

We encourage all players (and supporters) to support good play and sportsmanship, irrespective of which team is playing; and we praise effort and performance more than results.

Our coaches - all of whom hold valid criminal record checks (DBS) and safeguarding certificates - are encouraged to create the right learning environment for their players, reinforcing the core values of RESPECT, EFFORT and FUN.

- **RESPECT** for coaches, officials, opponents, spectators, and each other
- **EFFORT** always try your best
- **FUN** enjoy playing the game you love

There are also opportunities for players to develop valuable skills and experience by qualifying as coaches and referees (at the appropriate ages).

As well as supporting our coaches through their FA coaching qualifications, the club also runs in-house coaching mentor sessions, ensuring our coaches have access to a wide range of up-to-date coaching resources that uphold our club philosophy, and a process that helps them develop and improve their coaching practice.



CLUB POLICIES & PROCEDURES



www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk/club-documents

Club Documents

Having the appropriate policies and procedures in place is very important to us, as they play an important role in the running of our club, helping to protect our club members and officers.

All of our club policy documents can be found via the documents section of our website.

These documents provide guidance, answer key questions, resolve ambiguities, detail best practices, and define expected standards for conduct and behaviour.

Code of Conduct

Upon signing up to club membership, we require acknowledgement that you've read and are familiar with our codes of conduct, whether you're a coach, player or spectator.

Safeguarding

Whitley Bay Sporting Club acknowledges its responsibility to safeguard the welfare of every child and young person who has been entrusted to its care and we are committed to working to provide a safe environment for all members.

A child or young person is anyone under the age of 18 engaged in any club football activity.

We subscribe to The Football Association's Safeguarding Children – Policy and Procedures and endorse and adopt the policy statement contained in that document.

Our dedicated Club Welfare Officer, Ayesha Foster, can be contacted via email...

clubwelfare@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk



CLUB STRUCTURE - COMMITTEE



Whitley Bay Sporting Club is a registered charity (charity number 1164922) and has a formal constitution, which can be found on our website. The club is run by a committee of volunteers and committee meetings take place monthly to ensure the smooth running of the club. An overview of the roles, people in position and role responsibilities can be found below.

Committee: Strategic Team

Chairman	Vice Chairs	Trustees
Rob Nixon	Chris Coughlin, Doug Morrison	Rob Nixon, Oran Robson, Doug Morrison, Chris Coughlin, Rob Stringer
<i>Oversees the running of the club, to ensure that it is run efficiently and managed appropriately. Leads club meetings and provides leadership in all areas.</i>	<i>Supports chair to oversee the running of the club and ensure that it is run efficiently and managed appropriately.</i>	<i>Trustees have the ultimate responsibility for the governance of the club and directing how it is managed and run.</i>

Committee: Management Team

Secretary Nicola Robson <i>Oversees all administrative duties the club undertakes: Memberships, Registrations, Codes of conduct, Club Documents, Coach Qualifications</i>	Treasurer Oran Robson <i>Oversees all financial aspects of the club: Payments/ Fees Club Income/ Expenditure</i>	Welfare Officers Ayesha Foster, Will Hedley <i>Oversees all club safeguarding, child welfare issues: Safeguarding DBS checks</i>	Facilities Manager Doug Morrison <i>Oversees all facilities operations: Grounds Maintenance Grounds Equipment Supported by venue leads</i>	Kit & Equipment Manager Chris Coughlin <i>Oversees kit and equipment orders & updates: Club kit Club equipment</i>
Sponsorship Manager Andrew Deans <i>Oversees sponsorship deals and fundraising for the club: Sponsorship updates Fundraising opportunities</i>	Football Officer (Mixed) Ryan Blake <i>Oversees football operations for the boys/ mixed section of the club</i>	Football Officer (Girls) Andrew Deans <i>Oversees football operations for the girls section of the club</i>	Marketing Manager Steve Gardner <i>Oversees production of club marketing collateral: Club documents Club adverts Posters Club handbooks</i>	Social Media Manager Rob Nixon <i>Schedules all club social media posts Updates to website</i>

CLUB STRUCTURE - FORMAT LEADS



We are a massive club and, due to the large number of teams and associated admin, communications and general effort it takes, not only to run and maintain our club, but also help it grow and develop, we have a number of volunteers who serve as an extension of the committee, a point of contact for their year group within the club - passing on information, instruction and, where necessary, overseeing and delegating tasks to help our club run as efficiently as possible.

Format Leads

Format Leads are an extension of the football officers and are the point of contact for Year Group Leads to go to with any related queries.

- **Development:** Shay Marley/ Ryan Blake
- **Wildcats:** Rob Nixon
- **Mini Soccer (boys/mixed):** Ryan Blake
- **Mini Soccer (girls):** Sanna Moss
- **9 v 9 (boys/mixed):** Ryan Blake
- **9 v 9 (girls):** Andrew Deans
- **11 v 11 (boys/mixed):** Alex Cox
- **11 v 11 (girls):** Andrew Deans
- **Referee mentor:** Craig Blackburn
- **Boot exchange:** Sarah Renton
- **Kit printing:** John Armstrong

Year Group Leads

Year Group Leads (YGL) are an extension of the format leads and are the point of contact for all coaches to go to from within their age group with any queries.

- **U7 Mixed:** Neil Watts
- **U7 Girls:** Sanna Moss
- **U8 Mixed:** Marc Nicholson
- **U8 Girls:** Sanna Moss
- **U9 Mixed:** Neil Spruce
- **U9 Girls:** Nic Rayner
- **U10 Mixed:** Chris Gallons
- **U10 Girls:** Barry Hogg
- **U11 Mixed:** Steven Milne
- **U11 Girls:** Scott Harrison
- **U12 Mixed:** Ryan Blake
- **U12 Girls:** Andrew Deans
- **U13 Mixed:** Chris Coughlin
- **U13 Girls:** Adelle Fereday
- **U14 Mixed:** Jamie Scott
- **U14 Girls:** Simon Macray
- **U15 Mixed:** Alex Cox
- **U15 Girls:** Chris Coughlin
- **U16 Mixed:** Mark Russell
- **U16 Girls:** Phil Welton
- **U18 Mixed:** Stephen Burnet
- **Senior Men's Team:** Nathan McKay
- **Senior Women's Team:** Jack Anderson

Interested in a volunteer role?

We're fully aware there are a lot of additional positions we could have that would help develop the club further (events coordinator, for example, or press officer, etc), so if you are keen to volunteer in a committee position, please let us know via secretary@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk

“ One of the greatest gifts you can give is your time. ”

#volunteer

CELEBRATING SUCCESS



Northumberland FA



WINNER

Whitley Bay Sporting
Club

Newcastle Flooring
Grassroots Club
of the Year
2024



CLUB MEMBERSHIP



How much is it?

Whilst remaining competitive, we believe our membership fees offer very good value for money for our members. We actively look at what other clubs' membership fees are set at and also offer various payment methods to suit everyone's situation.

Age Group	Membership Fee
Player Membership	£300 per year or 10 monthly payments of £30 £270 if paid in full before 1 September 2024
Sibling Junior Membership (U6 to U17)	£225 per year or 10 monthly payments of £22.50
Training Squad only	£150 per year or 10 monthly payments of £15

All membership payments are made online via club website www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk.

If anyone is having difficulty in paying the membership fees, please speak to your coach or our club welfare officer.

How to set it up?

Please note: In order to represent the club, all players must have a unique Football Identification Number (FAN) from the FA. This is part of a new FA directive where every player affiliated to a club must have a FAN number.

This is straightforward to do and can be done in a few minutes via this link: www.thefa.com/account/signup

The FAN number stays with the player for the full time that the player is involved in the game (playing, coaching, refereeing, regardless of club).

It's worth noting that, for young players, it's preferential if a parent sets up a FAN and the child player is linked to this.

To setup your club subscription, go to the membership section of our website at www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk and follow the on-screen instructions to set up your subscription for the season.

If you have any issues, or are having difficulty accessing, please speak to your coach.

What do you get?

Welcome to Whitley Bay Sporting Club.

- Dedicated training slot per week
- Floodlit training on 3G in winter months
- Club standard playing kit
- Club standard training top
- End of season participation trophy (U7 - U13)
- Access to subsidised goalkeeper training
- Access to a range of exclusive opportunities via club partnerships

Note: It is expected that players will wear the same shorts and socks for both matches and training.

The kit has been chosen especially with this in mind. Additional shorts and socks can be purchased via the club shop.

CLUB FINANCES



Income

Where does the money come from?

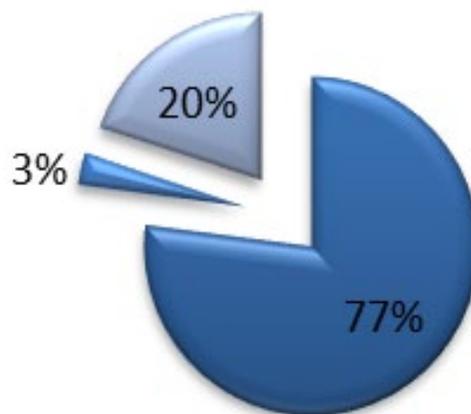
The majority of the club's income is provided by member subscription fees, with contributions, additional fees and commissions making up the rest.

Our club treasurer oversees our finances, which are verified independently by accountancy firm, Ryecroft Glenton.

77% Membership Fees

20% Contributions from grants, sponsorship, investment, coaching commission & fees

3% Additional fees from merchandise & catering sales, EoS presentation & events, income generated from pitch & facilities hire



Income for the year ended 31st May 2024:

Income from:	
Membership fees	£218,233
Sponsorship	£5,525
Grants	£20,798
Investment	£740
Merchandise & catering	£2,336
Coaching commission & fees	£29,463
End of season presentation & events	£5,425
Pitch & facilities hire	£832
TOTAL	£283,352

CLUB FINANCES

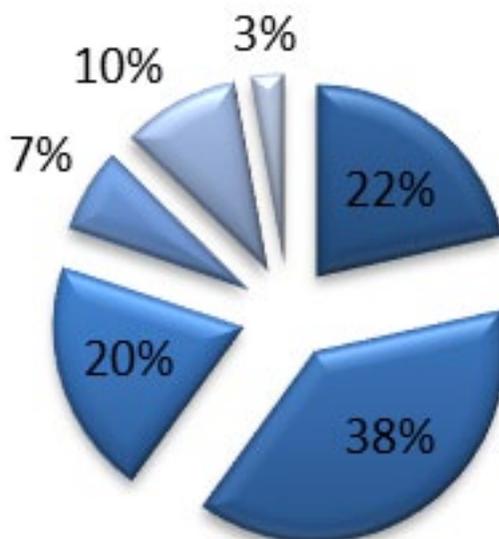


Expenditure

Where does the money go?

What the club spends is split via the six areas below:

- 38%** Pitch & Facilities Hire
- 22%** Kit & Equipment
- 20%** Support Costs
- 10%** League & Associated Fees
- 7%** Provision of Football Costs
- 3%** Coaching Fees & Courses



Costs for the year ended 31st May 2024:

Direct Costs

Pitch & Facilities Hire	£105,286
Playing Kit & Equipment	£58,963
Affiliation & League Registration Fees	£18,555
Referee, Transfer & DBS Fees	£850
Just Play, Squad Girls, Wildcats & Walking Football Costs	£12,187
Development & GK Coaching Costs	£13,556
Coaching Fees & Courses	£7,741
Caretaker Costs	£1,580

Support Costs

Depreciation	£8,610
Insurance	£2,635
Sundry expenses	£3,157
Bank and other charges	£8,815
IT Subscriptions	£3,201
Repairs and maintenance	£12,084
Trophies and awards	£6,148
Support services	£6,000
Governance costs	£3,650
Marketing (inc. website)	£758

TOTAL COSTS

£273,776

Website

www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk

Our website should contain all the information you need to get yourself familiar with the club and all club information and documentation is updated regularly.



Socials

Get social - follow us online.

We're on Facebook, Instagram and X, with Facebook being our primary social media channel.

We urge you to like, comment, share and help spread the word about our amazing club.



[whitleybaysportingclub](https://www.facebook.com/whitleybaysportingclub)



[@whitleybaysportingclubofficial](https://www.instagram.com/whitleybaysportingclubofficial)



[@whitleybay_sc](https://www.x.com/whitleybay_sc)

Club Shop

www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk

You can order all Whitley Bay Sporting Club merchandise via our club shop.

We have a wide range of club-branded clothing and accessories, including water bottles, club ties, hoodies, t-shirts, training tops, mid layers, tracksuit bottoms, shorts, coats, beanie hats, umbrellas and scarves, with plans to add more.

All goods are paid for at time of ordering (via PayPal) and delivery/collection confirmed once your order has been fulfilled.

Please note, we do not carry stock of all items, so any teamwear has to be ordered via our supplier.

For these items, we cannot guarantee delivery times, but will do our best to fulfil the order as quickly as possible.





FOOTBALL INFO

IN THIS SECTION:

- **CLUB KIT:** club kit information
- **CLUB TRAINING:** our facilities & training information
- **MATCH DAYS:** match day information
- **GARETH WHITTAKER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE:** our pathway into football
- **WILDCATS:** our pathway into girls' football
- **GIRLS FOOTBALL:** the girls wing of the club
- **MINI SOCCER:** Under 7 - Under 10
- **JUNIOR FOOTBALL:** Under 11 - Under 18
- **ADULT FOOTBALL :** our senior men's team and women's lionesses

CLUB KIT



WBSC Kit Info

Before the start of each season, managers can request kit and equipment for the season ahead. The club sets out a minimum standard of kit and equipment that each team is provided with by the club.

What each team gets

Each team is provided with the following:

- Personalized club & training kit
- A match ball at the correct size for the age group
- Training balls at a ratio of balls to registered players of 1:1
- Training cones
- A ball net/bag
- First aid kit
- Two sets of coloured bibs
- Coaching tactics white board

All equipment remains the property of the club, but it is each coach's responsibility to look after the equipment. In the event of any equipment being damaged or lost, this must be reported to the club's equipment manager for record keeping purposes and for any replacements necessary.

Our kit supplier is Joma and the club provides players with a basic kit of socks, shorts, training t-shirt, home and away tops and a midlayer.

Kit is expected to have a minimum cycle of 2 years, which means you should only expect occasional replacement shirts between cycles for new players or sudden growth spurts (in which case the outgrown shirt should be rotated to a smaller player wherever possible).

Playing kit belongs to the club, not the player. If a player leaves the club, the kit must be returned; in the case of a transfer, this will need to have taken place prior to the transfer being sanctioned in accordance with league rules.

All kit which is no longer used by our players is passed to local schools or sent to Africa for children less fortunate than our own. In the past, we have sent a substantial amount of kit to Kenya, Zambia and, more recently, the Congo. This is done in partnership with Team Kenya.



Above: our basic playing and training kit

CLUB KIT



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- Training cones
- A ball net/bag
- First aid kit



WHITLEY BAY SPORTING CLUB

BOOT EXCHANGE



Option 1: Exchange your boots for a free pair

Option 2: Choose a pair for a £5 donation

All used / unwanted boot donations are welcome too

For more info, email: bootexchange@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk

CLUB TRAINING



Training

At present, all club training is primarily centred around four venues - Valley Gardens Middle School, Whitley Bay High School, Rockliff Rugby Club and Marden Bridge Sports Centre, all of whom have been great friends to the club and with whom we have great working relationships. Our senior teams will also be training at the new facility at St Peter's Field in Wallsend, the new home of Nortumberland FA.

Our training timetable is scheduled for the period between September and end of March.

Because the club pays annual fees for use of training facilities, if teams do not require their allocation on a particular day, they should notify the other coaches via our communication network (Slack) and offer their free space to another team as the club, to ensure that we're utilising all facilities.

A copy of our training plan can be found on the following pages. For the period outside September - April, teams utilise local facilities for training and the majority of our teams tend to make use of Churchill Playing Fields in those periods.

Please note: For any teams training at Rockliff Rugby Club, there is a strict procedure on the type of footwear allowed on their facility. See below:

ROCKLIFF RUGBY CLUB 3G FACILITY

In order to maintain the 3G surface, Rockliff RFC are strict about being on the playing surface (including outside the pitch area but within the boundary) without studded footwear.

NO trainers, no astroturf trainers and no blades.

Moulded or screw-in studs, including 'hybrid' boots are fine.

Chances are, most of you will be playing with either moulded studs, or hybrid studs - this is fine.

Below is a graphic to help you check.

				
Rubber Moulded Studs	Steel Studs	Hybrid Studs / Blades	Plastic Moulded Blades	Plastic Moulded Dimpled Studs
				

CLUB TRAINING SCHEDULE 2025/26



Monday	17:30	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	
	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	22:00	
VGS						U12 Pumas													
						U11 Tigers													
						U12 Lionesses													
						U12 Tigers													
WBHS 4G	U10 Lionesses				U11 Lionesses				U15 Yellows										
	U10 Tigers																		
WBHS 3G	U13 Blues																		
Rockcliff																			U16 Blues
													U16 Whites						
													U15 Blues						
Marden																			
Wallsend																			

Tuesday	17:30	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	
	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	22:00	
VGS		U12 Whites						U14 Whites											
		U12 Yellows						U14 Yellows											
		U12 Blacks						U14 Blacks											
		U12 Reds																	
WBHS 4G							U13 Tigers						U16 Tigers						
WBSH 3G							U8 Whites						Just Play						
	U8 Blues																		
Rockcliff																			
Marden																			
Wallsend																			

Weds	17:30	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	
	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	22:00	
VGS		U13 Yellows						U16 Pumas											
		U14 Pumas						U15 Tigers											
		U14 Lionesses						U15 Lionesses											
WBHS 4G													U16 Lionesses						
WBSH 3G													U11 Whites						
Rockcliff																			
Marden																			
Wallsend																			Seniors - Mens 1st Team & A Team

Thursday	17:30	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45						
	17:45	18:00	18:15	18:30	18:45	19:00	19:15	19:30	19:45	20:00	20:15	20:30	20:45	21:00	21:15	21:30	21:45	22:00						
VGS		U10 Blues						U17 Blues																
		U11 Blues						U17 Whites																
		U11 Blacks						U18 Blues																
		U11 Yellows																						
WBHS 4G													U13 Lionesses						U14 Tigers					
WBHS 3G													U8 Yellows											
	U8 Blacks																							
Rockcliff																								
Marden																								
Wallsend																			Seniors Ladies (half Pitch)					

MATCH DAYS



Monkseaton High School

Monkseaton High School is our home venue for match day weekends.

Whilst our younger age groups play at the league's selected central venues, teams from U10 mixed and U12 girls upwards play on grass pitches.

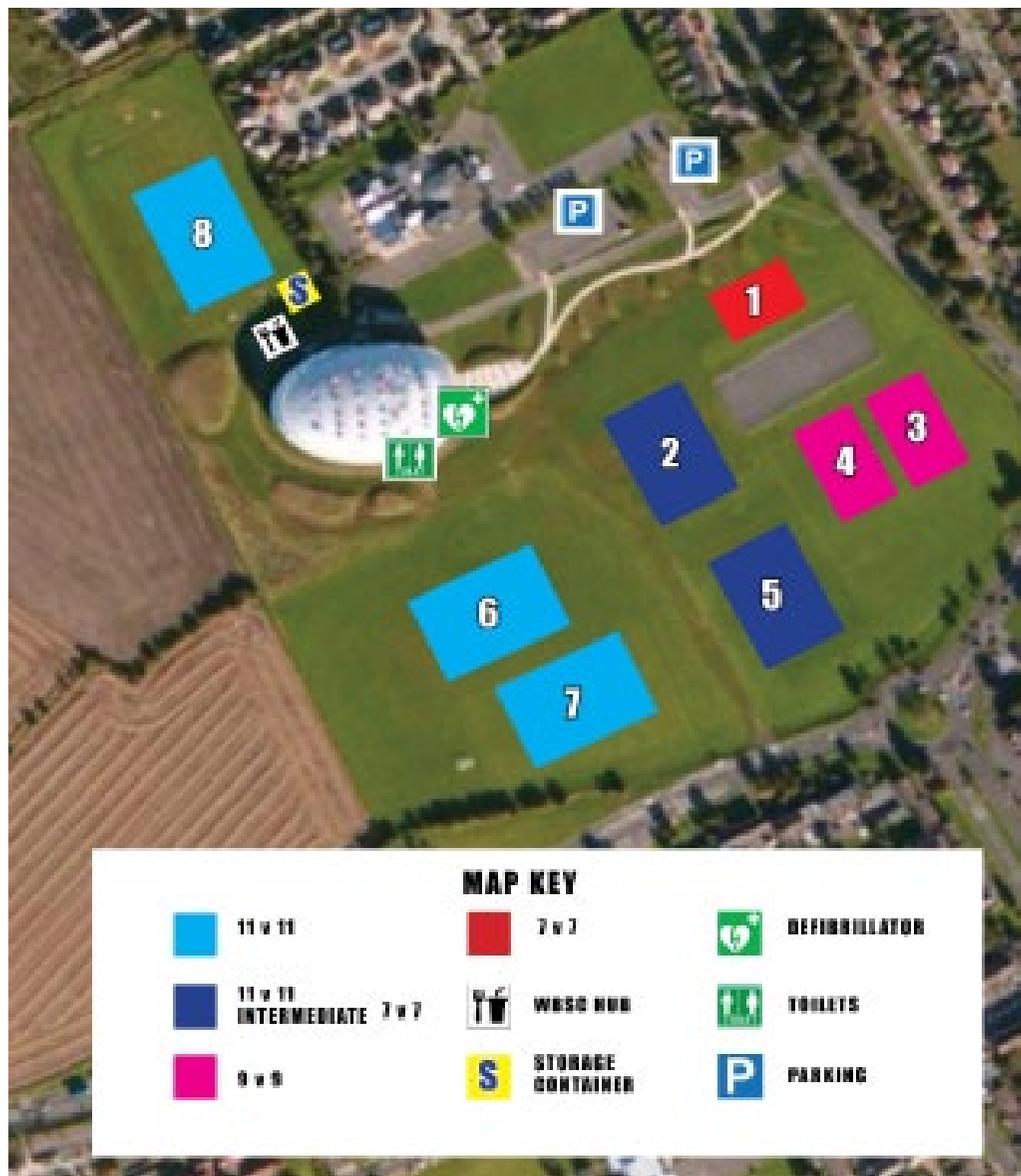
We have 8 pitches at Monkseaton High School, a container for club equipment, access to toilet facilities and there is a defibrillator on site. We're also progressing with the creation of a 'hub' at Monkseaton High School, a unit on site at the school where matchday refreshments amongst other things will be available.

Doug Morrison, our Facilities Coordinator, ensures that there is constant communication between the club and the facilities we use and it works well for all parties involved.

The club takes on the costs and responsibility for both pitch maintenance and provision of goal posts and nets, which is of additional benefit to sport in the local schools (a set of goal posts and nets costs upwards of £1,500).

On the right is a map of the pitch layout at the school.

Please note: Gates are on a timer and must not be touched or pulled. If closed, please contact a coach who will facilitate getting them open. No dogs are allowed on site and no smoking on site.





GARETH WHITTAKER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

OUR PATHWAY IN TO FOOTBALL FOR AGES 3 TO 8

GARETH WHITTAKER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE



Ages 3 - 8

Our hugely popular and successful Gareth Whittaker Development Centre is our introduction to football and serves as a useful pathway and introduction to the club.

It runs each Saturday morning at Valley Gardens Middle School 3G and is open to boys and girls of any ability, aged 3 to 8.

- 9:00am - 10:00am: Year 1 and below
- 10:15am - 11:15am: Year 2 and above

Every child will experience a stimulating, fun and age-appropriate football learning experience with coaches who specialize in this vital first steps stage.

Our Development Centre is named after the great Gareth Whittaker, who ran the development centre for WBSC for around 10 years until he passed away in September 2022.

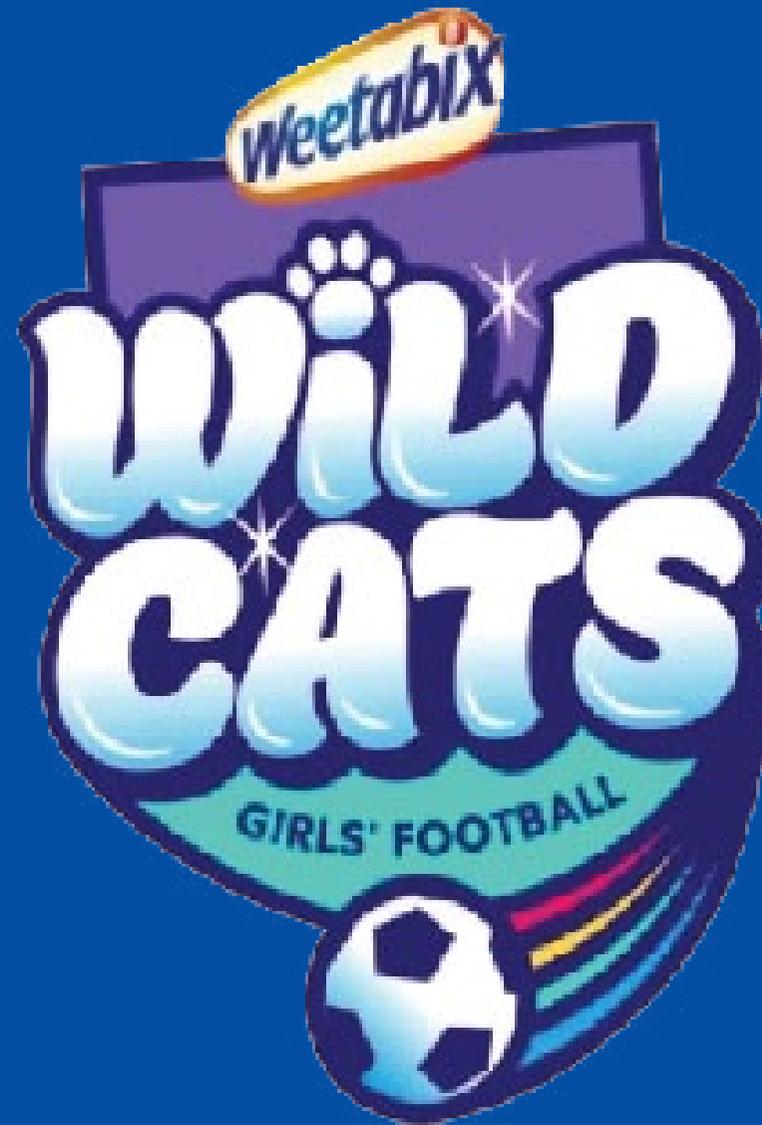
With his passing, the team have really stepped up, committed to their own development to improve that of the children they interact with each week and ensure all of the great work Gareth put in continues to serve the children attending.

With a very informal atmosphere, children are encouraged to play football with a smile on their face; and the purpose is to develop the following aspects of a child's ability:

- Ball introduction
- A child's first step to gain confidence and experience of playing in a small group
- Ball confidence
- Skills building
- Ball mastery
- Social skills development

To find out more information about our Gareth Whittaker Development Centre, please refer to our Welcome Pack, which can be found on our website www.whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk/saturday-morning-development-centre





WILDCATS

INTRODUCTION TO GIRLS' FOOTBALL FOR AGES 5-11

WILDCATS



Ages 5 - 11

As well as offering a route into football through our Gareth Whittaker Development Centre, Whitley Bay Sporting Club are proud to be an official FA Wildcats centre.

Wildcats is for girls aged 5-11 who want to get involved with football for the first time, or want the opportunity to play with other girls their own age.

At Wildcats, girls are able to play football in a fun and friendly environment which provides the perfect setting for girls to meet new friends, build confidence and have fun.

Our Wildcats sessions are run on Sundays at 9:00am at Valley Gardens Middle School 3G. Each session costs £3 per child (to cover the cost of facility hire and coaching).

To find out more about Wildcats, follow our WBSC Wildcats Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/Whitley-Bay-Sporting-Club-Wildcats>

or email wildcats@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk

More information on the FA Wildcats program can be found via the following links:

<https://www.thefa.com/womens-girls-football/get-involved/girls/fun/wildcats>

<https://womenscompetitions.thefa.com/en/Article/five-reasons-its-great-to-be-a-wild-cat-181018>





GIRLS' FOOTBALL
UNDER 7 - UNDER 16

GIRLS FOOTBALL



26 TEAMS

Girls football is played on a Saturday, at central venues up to and including Under 11, then on to grass pitches from Under 12 onwards.

We've seen the club grow from having only 4 girls teams in 2018 to now boasting 26 teams ranging from Under 7 through to Under 16, thus providing a full pathway through female football.

SQUAD INFORMATION

TEAM	COACHES	MATCHDAY VENUE
U7 LIONESSES (SUN)	Ben Carr	
U7 LIONESSES		CENTRAL VENUE
U7 TIGERS	Richard Clearly, Paul Edwards	
U8 LIONESSES	Sanna Moss, Dean McLauchlan, Aiden Phillips	CENTRAL VENUE
U8 TIGERS	Alister Clark	
U9 LIONESSES	Nic Rayner, Stuart Davidson	CENTRAL VENUE
U9 TIGERS	Neil Watts, Steve Gibson	
U10 LIONESSES	Roger Burn, Steve Imray	CENTRAL VENUE
U10 TIGERS	Barry Hogg, Chris Greener	
U10 PUMAS	Paul Jeffrey, Steph Nesbett	
U11 LIONESSES	Scott Harrison, David Blair	
U11 TIGERS	Chris Bourke, Scott Dodds	CENTRAL VENUE
U11 PUMAS	Melissa Wolfe	
U12 LIONESSES	Andrew Deans, Keiron Conway	
U12 TIGERS	Richard Chambers, Richard Brooke	MHS PITCH 3
U12 PUMAS	Steve Ross, Mark Galley	
U13 LIONESSES	Ross Thomas, David McNeill, Hayley Newport	
U13 TIGERS	Richard Hoggarth, Daren McDermott	MHS PITCH 4
U13 PUMAS	Adelle Fereday, Neil Torbet	
U14 LIONESSES	Simon Macray, Ian Costello	MHS PITCH 6
U14 TIGERS	Chris Donachie, Linda Bush, Jan Simlesa	
U15 LIONESSES	Rob Nixon, Michael Davidson, Tiernan Hawley	
U15 TIGERS	Chris Coughlin	MHS PITCH 6
U15 PUMAS	Marc Nicholson	
U16 LIONESSES	Phil Welton, Lisa Fishburn	
U16 TIGERS	Steve Gardner, Scott Simpson	MHS PITCH 7



MINI SOCCER
UNDER 7 - UNDER 10

MINI SOCCER



17 TEAMS

Mini soccer is a great introduction to football for young players. At Under 7, Under 8 and Under 9, matches generally take place at a central venue on artificial grass, where referees are provided by the league, with smaller teams (5v5 for U7/U8 and 7v7 for U9) size 3 ball, pitch sizes and goals.

At Under 10 (7v7), games begin to take place more on grass, with referees arranged by team coaches. There is no offside.

Teams are mixed and girls can play for both girls teams (Saturday) and mixed teams (Sunday).

SQUAD INFORMATION

TEAM	COACHES	MATCHDAY VENUE
U7 BLUES	Neil Watts, Andrew Lee	CENTRAL VENUE
U7 WHITES	Craig Wilson, Dan Wylie	
U8 BLUES	Marc Nicholson, Dave Knowles, Spencer McCarthy	CENTRAL VENUE
U8 WHITES	Martin Graham, Nigel Morris	
U8 YELLOWS	Chris Greener, Marc Hardingham, Chris Robertson	
U8 BLACKS	Jamie Paling, Scott Thompson	
U8 REDS	Shaun Backhouse, Chris Rawlinson, Anthony Smith	CENTRAL VENUE
U9 BLUES		
U9 WHITES	Dean Clarke, Graham Phillipson	
U9 YELLOWS	Ian Costello, Neil Bruce, Neil Munnoch	
U9 BLACKS	David Thompson, Mark Wolverston	
U9 REDS	Richard Dunham, Caroline Evans	MHS PITCH 1
U10 BLUES	Stephen Gibson, Alex May	
U10 WHITES	Paul McFarlane, Jamie Paling, Ben Stoker	
U10 YELLOWS	Chris Gallon, Callum Doyle, Dan Parkinson	
U10 BLACKS	Andrew Gillone, Daren McDermot	
U10 REDS	Chris Ilyse, Richard Anderson	



JUNIOR FOOTBALL

UNDER 11 - UNDER 18

JUNIOR FOOTBALL



23 TEAMS

Junior football is where the game format changes, and offsides are introduced. to the game. Under 11 and Under 12 teams play 9-a-side, moving to 11-a-side and fully competitive football from Under 13 upwards.

We have 24 teams representing us in junior football, all of whom play their home games at Monkseaton High School on Sundays.

SQUAD INFORMATION

TEAM	COACHES	MATCHDAY VENUE
U11 BLUES	Shay Marley, Steven Milne	MHS PITCH 3
U11 WHITES	David Knowles, Richard Taylor	
U11 YELLOWS	Tom Soulsby, Gordon Erskine, Mark Talbot	
U11 BLACKS	Ben Evans, Ben Nixon	MHS PITCH 4
U12 BLUES	Ryan Blake, John Armstrong, David Boyle	
U12 WHITES	Will Hedley, Paul Tullock	
U12 YELLOWS	Ross Hamilton, Stephen Drysdale	MHS PITCH 2
U12 BLACKS	Ross Damo, Mike Mclvor	
U13 WHITES	Julian Leighton, David Blair, Doug Morrison	
U13 BLACKS	Steve Clark, Phil Hoggarth	MHS PITCH 5
U13 REDS	Chris Coughlin, Steven Dobson, Craig Potter	
U14 BLUES	Rob Story	
U14 WHITES	John Armstrong, Matthew Laws, Oscar Berry	MHS PITCH 6
U14 YELLOWS	Rob Stringer, Jamie Scott,	
U14 BLACKS	Patrick Gray, Graham Roberts	
U15 WHITES	Michael Davidson, Ian Johnson, Paul Scope	MHS PITCH 7
U15 YELLOWS	Stephen Hicks, Barry Hogg	
U15 BLACKS		
U16 BLUES	Mark Russell, Rob Meldrum	MHS PITCH 8
U16 WHITES	Gav Stewart, Steve Clark	
U16 YELLOWS	Rich Pearce, Ed Milligan	
U18 BLUES	Stephen Burnet, Steve Morton	
U18 WHITES	Dave Massie, Ian Johnson	



ADULT FOOTBALL
OUR SENIOR MEN AND WOMEN'S TEAMS

ADULT FOOTBALL



We have two teams representing the club at adult level - our Men's Senior team and our Women's Lionesses, with home games taking place at Monkseaton High School.

Our hope is that our senior teams are the destination for as many of our younger players as possible, with the natural pathway of football at the club focussing on helping to identify and transition our U15/U16/U17 and U18 players into the senior football setup.

We encourage all our club members to get along to pitch 8 at Monkseaton High School on a weekend to cheer our senior teams on.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS



It was pretty much the perfect season for our men's senior team - Season 2024/25 Double Winners.

The lads, managed by Gary Corney, finished the season CHAMPIONS of Bay Plastics Northern Alliance Division 2, as well as winning the Bay Plastics Amateur Cup.

Throughout the course of the season they went on a 16-game win streak, including beating teams from leagues above and ultimately lifting two trophies.

Games: 41
Wins: 33
Draws: 1
Losses: 6

A real credit to our club, our senior team do it the right way. Not only is there a wonderful team spirit in the group, as well as bossing it on the pitch, our senior players have been a real credit and support to the wider club, helping out at club events, supporting the pathway into senior football for our junior players and sharing their experiences and advice to our coaches and players throughout the season.

Second to none.

Long may it continue. Good luck for this season in Division 1 of the Northern Alliance League.





ADDITIONAL INFO

IN THIS SECTION:

- **SPONSORSHIP:** all our sponsorship options
- **COACHING & DEVELOPMENT:** supporting our coaches
- **OTHER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES:** referee scheme, junior coach & more
- **CLUB EVENTS:** an overview of events throughout the year
- **PHOTO GALLERY:** a snapshot of life at the club
- **SPONSOR INDEX:** our amazing sponsors

SPONSORSHIP



Interested in being a sponsor?

Becoming a WBSC sponsor is the perfect platform for local businesses to promote themselves, associate with one of the largest grassroots sports clubs in the North of England, and to support a local grassroots charity.

Various levels of sponsorship are available and the sponsorship fee will be used to help local children play football, in addition to the benefits that a sponsorship agreement will bring to your business. Many sponsors find that their donation is repaid many times over. A sponsorship agreement will help your business to:

- Build links between your business and the local community
- Enhance your business image
- Increase local awareness of your business
- Build goodwill among the community and other local businesses
- Promote your business and attract new customers



The benefits that we offer to you as a sponsor are:

- Your logo and profile on the Whitley Bay Sporting Club website
- Your logo and profile in the Whitley Bay Sporting Club handbook
- The inclusion of a promotional sheet/material in the Whitley Bay Sporting Club membership pack
- A new sponsor announcement and exposure for your business on our Facebook group (which has over 3,000 followers)
- Invitations to Whitley Bay Sporting Club events, such as the annual presentation day or gala dinner.
- Framed shirt with your logo on to display in your office / workplace.

You can download the Club Sponsor Pack to share with potential sponsors via the club documents section of our website www.whitleybay-sportingclub.co.uk/club-documents



An overview of the sponsorship options available can be found below. Please share this sponsorship pack with any potential sponsors.

Option 1 Team Donation Donation of any amount to a team of your choice	Option 2 Accessories Club tie Beanie hat Water bottle	Option 3 Home Kit Match day top Sponsor logo on shirt
Option 4 Away Kit Match day top Sponsor logo on shirt	Option 5 1/4 Zip 1/4 zip training top Sponsor logo on top	Option 6 Midlayer Midlayer Sponsor logo on top
Option 7 Sweatshirt Training sweatshirt Sponsor logo on top	Option 8 Hoodies Choice of two hoodies Sponsor logo on top	Option 9 Tracksuit Tracksuit Sponsor logo on tracksuit
Option 10 Rain Jacket Rain jacket Sponsor logo on jacket	Option 11 Winter Jacket Winter jacket Sponsor logo on jacket	Option 12 Everything Everything that is part of Option 2 - Option 11
Option 13 Trophies Sponsorship of end of season trophies	Option 14 Additional Additional sponsorship opportunities	Option 15 Club Donation Donation to Whitley Bay Sporting Club

COACHING & DEVELOPMENT



WBSC Development Plan

As an FA Charter Standard Club, Whitley Bay Sporting Club produces an annual Football Development Plan. This comprehensive document is submitted to Northumberland FA and outlines our club and player development objectives and plans for the coming year.

This season, we will be running several 'Coach the Coach' sessions for all our club coaches, to discuss and help improve training sessions, tactics and collaboration over training exercises.

Our primary aim is to provide every player associated with the club the best possible learning environment, along with main ingredient of having FUN.

Our coaching sessions are run on the following basis:

- Coaches arrive 15 minutes before session
- Coaches have session plans with them, so players can be informed of the session
- There should be enough footballs for all players attending the session
- All sessions to start on time, regardless of number of players



Bursary Scheme

Coaches wishing to progress through the coaching badges can apply to the club for a bursary. The following conditions are to be met by both club and coach:

- The coach is interviewed by the club to ascertain whether they are suitable and a position is immediately available, or they wish to join another coach for mentoring.
- The coach obtains a clear CRC certificate PRIOR to engaging in any contact with minors.
- The coach books and pays for the course (a receipt must be presented to the club).
- The club pays 50% of the course cost upon successful completion and confirmation.
- The coach agrees to remain with the club for two full seasons following completion.
- After two years the club agrees to pay the remaining 50%.
- If the coach leaves within the two-year period they agree to repay the initial 50% bursary within one calendar month. Failure to do so will result in the club registering the debt with the FA who will suspend said coach until the debt is repaid.
- The coach becomes a member of the FA Licensed Coaches Club - a free support network. This is free and all coaches must join in order to meet our community club commitments.

OTHER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES



WBSC Referee Scheme

We encourage our players and members over the age of 14 to join our referee scheme and train to become a referee.

Refereeing is a fantastic way to learn new skills, boost your CV, support your local football community, as well as an opportunity to earn some money and get paid per game. The club will assist through putting you through the course and will provide you with a referee kit (charges will apply).

A number of our members have done this and have found it to be extremely rewarding.

We also have a dedicated referee mentor at the club to support those starting out.

To find out more, email:
secretary@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk



GWDC / Wildcats junior coach

We also encourage our players and members over the age of 14 to consider helping out at our Gareth Whittaker Development Centre or Wildcats, supporting our senior coaches in working with the young children attending.

This is a great way to develop confidence, working with young children, and our junior coaches also receive a small fee for their time and effort. From 14, coaches must complete a Playmaker course and relevant safeguarding qualifications. From 16, they require a DBS.

The majority of our junior coaches currently supporting have been through the system themselves, and it's nice for the younger kids attending to discover that their coaches were once in their position, starting out their footballing journey.

To find out more, email:
secretary@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk



Administrative volunteers

We appreciate there is a lot of talent within our playing members, some of whom may wish to carry out non-football related tasks or assignments to help with their school work or college applications.

Whilst we can't offer any financial reimbursement for this, we do encourage anyone with a particular interest, talent or skill to get in touch and we can see if there's anything we can do to support their development in a particular area, whether it's photography, social media, marketing, finance, event planning or general administrative duties or anything else.

To find out more, email:
secretary@whitleybaysportingclub.co.uk



CLUB EVENTS



Presentation Day

At the end of the season, the club hosts a presentation and fun day. This has taken place at Monkseaton High School for the past two years and is a real highlight of the club calendar.

It usually takes place in May and if you'd like to help with the organisation of next season's event, please let us know.

This day is a fun day, where players, parents and friends of the club can come together to celebrate being part of the club and enjoy themselves at the end of a long season.

All junior teams are expected to attend the presentation day.

As well as presentations, where the players wear their club shirts and ties, trophies are awarded and highlights of the season recalled.

There are a host of fun activities available to take part in, such as inflatables, assault courses and so on, as well as stalls, food and drink vans, including licensed alcohol vans. It really is a highlight of the club's calendar and details for this season's end of season presentation and fun day will be released nearer the time.

AGM

We hold an annual AGM every year, where committee members and trustees, as bound by the rules of being a charity organisation, are voted in to place. We try to have the event link up, holding a club-wide coaches meeting as part of this, followed by a social event once the formalities are out of the way.

Once the date for this year's AGM is announced, we encourage you to attend. It's nowhere near as boring as it sounds and is usually a really good night, as well as a great chance to meet other coaches and members from the club.

Coach Education Sessions

We try to put on at least three separate 'Coach the Coach' sessions for our coaches through the season, providing our coaches with an opportunity to watch a session in action, followed by a brief classroom session breaking down the football activity.

Club Photoshoot

Every season, usually around October time, our photo and trophy supplier Club Legends, hosts a Club Photoshoot - a day where all players turn up in their kit to get their photo taken. Individual and team photos are then made available for parents to purchase.

Details of this will be announced nearer the time and your team is usually given an approximate time slot where your players turn up, get snapped and leave. Very efficient process, doesn't take long, and the photos are fantastic.

There are also spillover sessions if you can't make the main day.

PHOTO GALLERY



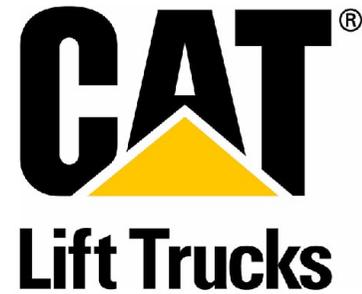
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