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RESPECT

The ArcOframe Stadium, Ruskin Drive Sports Village, St Helens, WA10 6RP

23rd July 2024

TO: ALL PARENTS, CARERS, COACHES, ASSISTANTS

RE: **PRE-SEASON UPDATE**

Hello there

Welcome to another Pilkington FC Juniors Pre-Season Newsletter, ahead of the 2024/25 campaign.

Last season saw over 300 players register with the Junior section of Pilkington FC, and whilst we've lost two of our teams at the upper age limit from last term, we welcome three more groups of U7's children into the Club for their first season, too.

This communication is intended to keep everyone updated on several key topics that affect every player and their respective families ahead of the League Season kick off in September.

Key topics covered in this message include information about registering players for the new season, monthly subs payments and a reminder about the Club's Teamwear policy.

I've also taken this as an opportunity to provide a little more detail about the team of volunteers that form the Junior Club Committee, giving everyone more transparency about who's involved behind the scenes of our Junior section.

A copy of this update will be posted on the Junior website at www.pilkingtonfcjuniors.co.uk where you'll also find more details of all our Junior Teams, along with access to key club policies and our codes of conduct.

If there are ever any questions or queries throughout the course of the season, please do get in touch via the 'Contact' page on our website and we'll endeavour to deal with your enquiry in good time.

In the meantime, please take the time to update yourself with the information contained in this newsletter.

Have a great Summer Holiday period and we'll see you all in the New Season.

Best wishes,

Darren

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PILKINGTON FC JUNIOR COMMITTEE

We'll start off this pre-season update with confirmation of some appointments that have been made over the Summer to our Junior Committee Group.

Our committee is wholly made-up of Volunteers who give up their free time to help Pilkington FC Juniors create the best possible environment for our players to play their grassroots football.

The Junior section has grown considerably over the past 5 years and that expansion has seen a significant increase in the amount of administrative tasks necessary to make things tick – from training to match-days and everything in-between. As a result, the ongoing committee was extended by four new members during the off season break.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2024/25

Chair	Darren Roberts
Club Secretary	Jamie Dickson (U18s Coach)
Junior Welfare Officer	Rachel Jones
Treasurer	Jane Roberts
Matchday Co-ordinator	Kevin Stead (U13 Pumas Coach)
Referees & Teamwear	Phil Barrigan (U12 Madrid Coach)
Other Committee Members	Greg Clare (U12 Lilies Coach)
	Dave Llewelyn (U12 Barca Coach)
	John Rees (U13 Lilies Coach)

I'd personally wish to thank all of this extended committee group for their ongoing time and commitment to helping run our Junior Section. In particular, I'd also like to formally welcome the newly appointed members Rachel, Greg, Dave and John.

Of those Summer appointments, one was particularly important as we continue our goal of improving standards across the Junior Section's Welfare and Safeguarding responsibilities.

Rachel Jones stepped forward to assume the role of Junior Welfare Officer and she brings a wealth of professional safeguarding experience to the committee.

With two children in the Junior section, Rachel has a vested interest in helping the Club maintain the most welcoming and secure environment possible for our kids.

A separate newsletter will be issued before the New Season, detailing more about the work being done in this respect, giving our parents and coaches, a clearer idea of who our Club Welfare team are and what their purpose is all about.



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PLAYER REGISTRATIONS / CODES OF CONDUCTS

Each and every player that represents Pilkington FC Juniors (under the age of 18) has to be registered with the Club by their Parent/Guardian.

This task is completed via a registration process on the Junior website.

The vast majority of our current players were registered in this way before or during the 2023/24 season however, the Club has a duty to ensure those records are updated and re-confirmed before the beginning of each new season.

Instructions on how to Register a New Player, and how to re-register a previously Registered Player are shown below.

Remember also, that an important part of the Player Registration process, is the acknowledgment of several Club Policies, which include Codes of Expected Conduct/Behavior and Consents linked to Playing Conditions, Social Media activities, etc.

Please do take the time to fully understand those Codes of Conduct and the Conditions of being a Pilkington FC Parent/Player.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW PLAYERS (PREVIOUSLY UNREGISTERED ON THE CLUB WEBSITE)

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Step 1. | Visit the junior website at www.pilkingtonfcjuniors.co.uk |
| Step 2. | Click on the 'Register' button, to register a 'Parent Account' |
| Step 3. | Complete the registration form which needs a 'live' email address |
| Step 4. | Check your emails and Verify your Email address on the link provided |
| Step 5. | Return to the website and click on the 'Account' page |
| Step 6. | Log into your Parent account using the email and password you originally setup |
| Step 6. | Click on the 'Player Registration' tab |
| Step 7. | Fully complete the Player Registration Form and submit (for each child) |
| Step 8. | You will receive an email confirming each submission |

BEFORE YOU START TO COMPLETE THE PLAYER REGISTRATION FORM, YOU WILL REQUIRE YOUR OWN FAN ACCOUNT NUMBER AND YOUR CHILD'S FAN ACCOUNT NUMBER. A FAN ACCOUNT NUMBER IS THE MEMBERSHIP NUMBER YOU WILL HAVE RECEIVED WHEN REGISTERING YOU AND YOUR CHILD WITH FA'S 'WHOLE GAME SYSTEM'.

If you need any help with registering you and/or your child with the FA, please speak to your respective team coach.

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR PLAYERS WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED VIA THE CLUB WEBSITE

- Step 1. Visit the junior website at www.pilkingtonfcjuniors.co.uk
- Step 2. Click on the 'Account' button on the Homepage
- Step 3. Log in to your Parent Account using your registered email and password
- Step 4. Your account screen should display the Children already registered
- Step 5. Beneath each registered child, is a 'Re-Register' button. Click this.
- Step 6. A registration form displaying all existing player details will appear
- Step 7. Double check the information, amending any incorrect or updated detail
- Step 8. Be sure to select the Pilkington FC team that your child plays for
- Step 9. Be sure to 'Tick' all the relevant consents and approvals (assuming you approve!)
- Step 10. After submitting the re-registration form, you will receive a confirmation email

Repeat for each child that you have in the Club.

Thank you in anticipation of your help in registering your children. Unfortunately, we cannot (knowingly) allow any player to play for the Club unless they have been duly registered by their parent/guardian.

SUBS FOR THE 2024/25 SEASON

The monthly subs figure for the 2023/24 season was £25.00 per player during the NINE months of the league season (August 23 – April 24 inc), reducing to £20.00 per player during the Off Season/Summer.

In addition, we ran a 'Siblings' policy that discounted player's monthly subs by £5.00 per player for any families that had more than one child in the Junior section.

Despite further increases in the Club's main outlay (Pitch Hire Fees across Ruskin Drive, Cowley High school, etc), we have frozen the upcoming League Season subs at £25.00 per month and will continue to run the same, existing Siblings policy.

However, this level of subs payment will now run for the whole 12 months starting August 2024. There will be no reduction in the Summer months of 2025 for teams running through to 2025/26 season. From this August onward, the Club will run a straight 12-month subscription plan, with the monthly rate reviewed each June for the subsequent season.

This will be the third League season in a row with this headline rate of £25.00 per month.

Subs will continue to be paid to your own team collector in the usual manner, and if there are any questions relating to this topic, please submit these through the Subs collector in your respective team, who in turn, will seek a response from the Club/Committee.

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PILKINGTON FC JUNIOR TEAM WEAR

The Junior Section has a two-year agreement with Kappa to supply Club teamwear, running from Summer 2023 to Summer 2025. That aligns with Shirt Sponsorship agreements with 'Pilkington Automotive' and 'Just Financial' to fund the provision of Home and Away Playing Shirts for all players during that period.

A new agreement will come into force for the 2025/26 season which may involve a change of supplier and an overhaul of how we attract sponsors to the section. That process will begin in the New Year.

I share this information to ensure that everyone is aware that any kits that are currently in circulation, or indeed, any kits or teamwear that are newly purchased, will only have one season of 'use' before any new agreement kicks in.

New player/arrivals to the Club are expected to pay £30.00 to receive full home and away playing kits.

The spirit of this arrangement is that the £30.00 pays for the shorts and socks of both strips.

The playing shirts are provided under the shirt sponsorship agreements referenced above.

If a player leaves the club, we expect the two playing shirts to be returned in useable condition.

If a player leaves the club and returns the shorts and socks in near perfect condition, the Club will consider returning the original £30.00 payment as a measure of goodwill.

Teamwear items such as raincoats, zip tops, polo shirts, base layers etc are available at cost via a Club Shop which is hosted by our suppliers at MJM Sports. Indeed, additional home and away kits may also be purchased via this shop, too.

Website: www.mjm-sports.co.uk/product-category/club-shop/pilkington-j-f-c/

Password: PILK2024

Only Club Approved Kappa Teamwear will be accepted during official Pilkington playing sessions.

If individual teams have sponsorship offers from local companies (to purchase raincoats, zip tops etc), then any such offer needs to be approved by the Committee before funds are accepted and teamwear purchased.

Any such enquiries should be directed through each respective team coach.