



## **Reigate Youth Football Club**

### **Secretary's Report for the 2022 AGM**

I would like to start by thanking the Exec committee, coaches and parent volunteers for all their hard work over the last year and also the children who come along to play football and have fun which is why we all do what we do.

### **Teams and Players**

I have been carrying out this role for the last 6 seasons and the club has grown every year. Following our break through to the U12 age group in 2016/17 we have managed to keep teams at all the age group with the exception of the current U13s and we are due to have our first team reaching the final youth age group of U18 next season.

Season	Number of teams	Number of players	Number of Schools Players From	Age groups
16/17	18	172	25	U7-U12
17/18	20	202	36	U7-U13
18/19	20	208	36	U7-U14
19/20	22	231	34	U7-U15
20/21	23	259	31	U7-U16 (excl U12)
21/22	25	294	32	U7-U17 (excl U13)

In addition to those shown above, we also run an U6 development squad which forms the basis of players who will start our new U7 teams next season.

We are particularly proud that, after starting off as a club in 2008 with 2 teams predominantly formed of children from Reigate St Mary's, we now have players from over 30 different schools.

All teams that play their matches on Saturdays play in the Epsom & Ewell Youth Football league and Sunday teams play in the Surrey Primary League.

We have waitlists running at all age groups up to the current U11, but are restricted on the addition of new teams by the availability of playing and training facilities and coach volunteers.



## **2021/22 Team Honours**

This year U12 Vipers won their league and U8 Galaxy were beaten in a very close match in the U8 EEFYFL Treasurer's Cup final. U14 Hurricanes also narrowly missed out on a place in the finals losing their semi-final on a penalty shoot out.

Well done to all involved.

## **Pitch and Training Facilities**

We now play weekend matches at 3 different venues : Priory Park (U6-U12), Merstham Rec (U12 and U14) and Perrywood (U15, U16 and U17). Whilst we can manage the current level of teams for the 9v9 and below age groups, we will likely need additional 11v11 pitch space for the 2022/23 season. This issue is exacerbated by the fact that the pitch at Perrywood is often unplayable for large parts of the winter due to being waterlogged.

Training facilities are also at a premium with pitch space being hard to come by. This has been particularly noticed during the current season with the only available playing times being less than ideal for a number of age groups.

You may be aware that South Park have raised the required funding to replace their main pitch with a new 3G pitch which will create extra midweek training facilities in the area. RFC provided an expression of interest to train at the venue as part of the planning process and we are awaiting to hear if we will be granted some training slots once built.

## **FA Accredited Status**

I am delighted to say that the Club achieved FA Charter Standard Status last April and this has been updated to the new FA Accreditation as a 2 star Accreditation.

This 2 star Accreditation has been granted on a temporary basis as the Club was close to meeting the 2 star requirements on transition to the new system. However, in order to maintain the 2 star status, the Club would need to introduce an all girl or disability team into the Club. The Club would need volunteers to take this initiative forward. In the absence of maintaining the 2 star status, the Club will fall back to being a 1 star Accredited Club.

In order to maintain this status, the Club needs to demonstrate a number of good practice administration requirements and have at least one coach from each team complete a relevant coaching course and maintain in force DBS, safeguarding and First Aid training.



### **Player Registrations for 2022/23**

Player registrations for 2022/23 are now open. We are implementing a new rule for the coming season that will require subs to have been paid, or an alternative payment schedule agreed with the Treasurer, before a player will be registered with the appropriate league. This is being introduced to cut down the amount of time that is spent following up to ensure subs payments are paid.

Teams that play in the Epsom & Ewell league (Saturday teams) are required to have a minimum number of players registered by the end of July each year and so this will require teams to stay on top of the registration progress of their team.

### **Our Long Term Vision**

As shared in the Club Newsletters, our dream for the Club is to have our own set of playing pitches and club house. Whilst we would hope to secure some form of funding to achieve this dream, this is no small feat and will require us to build a certain level of club funds and find an appropriate venue. We have kept in contact with Surrey FA and Reigate & Banstead Council so that they are aware of our ambitions in case any suitable opportunities become available.

If anyone has any expertise in securing land for this purpose, the Exec would love to hear from you.

Thank you once again for your support and we look forward to the 2022/23 season.

Stuart  
RFC Secretary