

# **FLINTSHIRE PRIMARY SCHOOLS' FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

## **Information for Parents – Season 2017/18**

### **BACKGROUND**

Flintshire Primary Schools Football Association, or Deeside Primary Schools as it was formally known, was founded in 1966 by the late Mr. Ron Bishop. The teams have always been a combination of what is considered, in the eye of the management team, the best players from all of the primary schools in Flintshire. Myself, Chris Boulton and Ian Price have had the honour of playing for Deeside / Flintshire. I can honestly say I can still remember it like it was yesterday. Over the years the Association has been renowned for producing quality players, many going on to play at the highest level. Some of these players include: Ian Rush, Tony Norman, Kevin Ratcliffe, Barry Horne, Gary Speed, Michael Owen, Danny Collins and most recently Ryan Shawcross.

### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

There are currently 9 members of the Management Team who have various roles.

The two longest serving members are Mr. Cledwyn Ashford, who has been involved with the Association since 1974 and Mr. David Nickless 'Mr. Flintshire' since 1982. David and Cledwyn have been the mainstay of the Association for over 30 years. They decided to take a 'back seat' as from 6 seasons ago, although they are still very much part of the Management Team. Although I (Mr. Andrew Jones) have been involved with the Association for twenty five years, this will be the seventh year I will be taking on the role of manager.

The management team are:

Mr. Andrew Jones	-	Manager	-	Headteacher, Leeswood C.P
Mr. Dan Williams	-	Coach	-	Teacher, Abermorrrdu Primary school
Mr. Chris Boulton	-	Coach	-	Teacher, Golftyn C.P
Mr. Steve Thomas	-	Coach	-	Sport Flintshire/ Dragon Sport
Mr. Ben Elias	-	Coach	-	Teacher, Ysgol Croes Atti
Mr. Ian Price	-	Coach	-	Teacher, Ewloe Green C.P
Mr. Ben Wynne	-	GK coach	-	Flintshire CC
Mr. David Nickless	-	Treasurer	-	Retired Principal client officer, Flintshire CC
Mr. Cledwyn Ashford	-	Chairman	-	Retired Headteacher, Bryn Coch Primary School, Mold

### **FIXTURES**

The Association hope to play at least 16 - 18 fixtures this season. Most of the games will be played in the National Tom Yeoman Shield (northern section) festivals. In these festivals we will play fixtures home and away against the Conway, Wrexham, and Denbighshire Schools' Football Associations and Bangor City Academy. The highest ranking teams in this section will qualify to play in the Welsh Yeoman Shield end of season festival which usually takes place in April.

We will also take part in the Phil Staley festivals. This was a shield donated by the Mr. Phil Staley, the manager of Wolverhampton schools. Ourselves, Wolverhampton and the Wrexham Schools' FAs are usually involved in the festivals and we arrange to play each Association home and away

There will also be a number of friendly games against other Associations / Academies to supplement the fixture list. Games are usually played on a Saturday morning with a 10.30 a.m kick off. We play our home games at Connah's Quay High School 3G facility.

### **COACHING**

Coaching will take place on a weekly basis at Bryn Coch up until half term. After the half term coaching usually reverts to a fortnightly basis on the 3G pitches at Deeside Leisure Centre in Queensferry. When this is finalised I will distribute the relevant dates to you. We are aware that some of the boys have commitments with academies, but hope that they could attend most of the sessions. Following most of the coaching sessions, letters will be distributed with regards to future games. If at any time you are unable to attend a session please let me know. This is important

so that the coaches know the exact numbers that will be attending. I would be grateful if the boys could wear their yellow shirts, white shorts and white socks for coaching sessions. During the winter months, they will be able to wear a tracksuit and their wet top for extra warmth if the need arises.

### **EQUIPMENT**

All the boys will be given a bag, yellow training shirt, polo shirt, wet top, ball, pump and a Flintshire primary schools kit for the season. If you have purchased the bag, top and wet top you will be able to keep them at the end of the season as a memento of playing for Flintshire. When washing green Flintshire shirt (Ryan Shawcross) and white shorts please drip dry. Do not tumble dry or iron as it could bring off the various transfers.

### **COMMUNICATION**

We live in a technological age which enables us to communicate in many ways. The main form of communication will be through letters which will be distributed at coaching sessions. Other forms of communication will be telephone, text and email. I will text the parents of any boys who are not at a coaching session with details of the information on any letter distributed regarding fixtures etc. Also all letters and any other information are posted on our web site. There is also some information regarding the history of the association. The address is <http://flintshireprimaryfootball.weebly.com>

### **PARENT HELPERS**

During our home games we do ask if parents could help with selling programmes and raffle tickets. This does make the coaches job a lot easier and they can concentrate on preparing the players for the games. Please all take part and do not leave it to the few. As the proverb says, "**Many hands make light work.**" We also charge parents £3 at our home games to cover the cost of hiring the 3G Facility at Connahs Quay High School.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT**

All parents and boys have signed a Code of Conduct which outlines how we expect players and parents to behave whilst at our games. We do expect parents to shout encouragement to the team and cheer them on but would be grateful if you did not give instructions to your child. They will already have been given instructions from the coaches and instructions shouted from others from the touchline and may confuse the players unnecessarily. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

### **CARDS AND FORMS**

If parents could return their football card, money and forms a.s.a.p, we would be very grateful.

### **INSURANCE**

You have been given details of our Insurance in the pack you were given when your child was selected.

I hope this information is to your satisfaction and hope that we have a successful and enjoyable season. If you have any queries, or require clarification with any issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Andrew Jones, Manager Flintshire Primary Schools Football Association.

July 2017