



St Joseph's Youth '88 Football Club



ORIGINALLY FOUNDED IN 1971 ★ FA CHARTER STANDARD CLUB

MIDDX FA CHARTER STANDARD CLUB OF THE YEAR 2011, 2014 & 2015

Hon. Secretary: Michael Cassel | 37 Sancroft Road, Harrow, Middlesex HA3 7NU
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September 2017

Dear Parent,

Club Policy on Player Development and Parent responsibilities

St. Josephs Youth '88 FC is a FA Charter Standard Club and is amongst the most established and respected clubs within the Harrow Youth Football League and the Middlesex County Football Association. This status has been achieved and maintained because the Club is committed to the training and development of its players, managers and coaches in the areas of football coaching, refereeing and first aid. Furthermore, the club is committed to providing access to quality youth football training & development for children between the age groups from Under 6's to Under 17's. You can rest assured that by being part of this Club, your child will have the best opportunity to experience quality youth football at an appropriate level that is both challenging and enjoyable.

The purpose of writing this letter to you is to clarify the Club's policy on player development and how the Club aims to prepare each player for 11-a-side football. I also want to take this opportunity to bring to your attention the FA's Respect Policy and your responsibilities as a member.

We are now under way with the 2017/18 season and I do hope that both you and your child are enjoying the experience of youth football. If you have any queries about any of the information enclosed or require further clarification on any Club policies then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Michael Cassel

Hon. Secretary

On behalf of the Executive Committee of St Josephs Youth '88 FC

Club website: www.stjosephsfc.com ★ Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjosephs88 ★ Twitter: @stjosephs88

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Player Development (including Player Movement between teams)

As a Charter Standard Club, we have a responsibility to ensure a framework is in place for all our players to be developed fairly and playing football at a level which is the most appropriate for them. Players will develop differently from the age of 6 through to 18 and it's important that you understand this. For example, some players will start in the Under 6 age group at highest level (normally A/ Lions team) but by Under 8's it may be more appropriate that they play in a team which has less ability (normally B/Tigers or C/Pumas). There may be many reasons for this but the important thing is that you understand that your child's ability will vary a lot throughout youth football relative to the players within the Club and the opposing teams. To this end, the Club believes that all players' ability must be regularly monitored to ensure they enjoy football and in summary, this is how we aim to achieve this: -

- ⇒ The Club has a Training & Development Manager, Stuart Wood (07968 595964 or boysdevelopment@stjosephsfc.com) who co-ordinates a Development Team to oversee player development. The Development Team will liaise with team managers to ensure that all teams are organising their training correctly and if necessary, facilitates player movement between teams. We also have a Girls Development Manager, Darren Brown (07956 454018 or girlsdevelopment@stjosephsfc.com) who specifically oversees girls' development within the club.
- ⇒ If a team manager identifies a player from another team whom they feel would be better suited to play in their team, they must not approach the player/parent directly. All approaches for players must initially be discussed between the team managers/coaches concerned and may include the Training & Development manager. [CONTINUED]

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- ⇒ If an A-team manager identifies a player in the B or C team who would be suitable to play in the A-team and makes the correct approach then the other manager does not have the right to refuse the transfer of the player. Objections can be raised if it is felt that the player is not suitable, in which case the Training & Development Manager may get involved to facilitate discussions. The most important factor that will be considered is a player's ability and not simply because a team will be losing their best player or have less numbers as a result. Decisions should focus on a player's ability and their development. This applies to movement in either direction.
- ⇒ The parent/player shall be notified only when "player ability" issues are resolved. At this stage, the player/parent still has the right to decide whether to move and may supply further information.
- ⇒ It may be more suitable for a player to train in both teams during a trial period before a decision is made about transferring to another team.
- ⇒ League rules may allow a player to transfer between teams of the same club in a season e.g. once during the 1st Phase and once during the 2nd Phase. This may suit some players and teams during a season.
- ⇒ Teams within the same age groups should be training together on at least 4 occasions during a season and twice a year all players' ability must be reviewed. The Club recommends that players' ability is reviewed at before the end of Phase 1 (December) and again at some point between the end Phase 2 (March/April) and before the start of the following season.
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- ⇒ The team managers and coaches have the full support of the Executive Committee and are responsible for organising good quality structured training for the players. The Club's Welfare Officer, Hina Chaudhry (07527 001109 or childwelfare@stjosephsfc.com) is responsible for ensuring that our coaching staff have obtained the minimum coaching standards set for Charter Standard Clubs. This will include; DBS/CRC (Criminal Records Check) clearance, emergency first aid certificates, Safeguarding Children courses and at least one coach per team with the Level 1 coaching certificate. **NB: ALL NAMED VOLUNTEERS MUST HAVE DBS CLEARANCE.**
- ⇒ The Club has a complaints procedure and will not tolerate discrimination of any kind. As a parent, you should first aim to resolve matters directly with your team manager/coach. If any member feels that he or she has suffered discrimination in any way, or that the Club Policies, Rules or Code of Conduct has been broken, you have the right to complain (in writing) to the Hon. Secretary or a member of the Executive Committee.

FA Respect's Programme / Club's Code of Conduct

Parents/Spectators have a great influence on children's enjoyment and success in football. **All children play football because they first and foremost love the game – it's fun!**

During training and matches, you are reminded to be positive and always encourage all children not just your own child. You should; (a) applaud the opposition as well as your own team, (b) avoid coaching your child during the game, (c) don't shout and scream, (d) respect the referee's decision, (e) give attention to each of the children involved in football not just the most talented and (f) give encouragement to everyone to participate in football.

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Parent Responsibilities

St Josephs, unlike some clubs, is run completely on a volunteer basis which includes the full committee, managers and coaches. Even now, there are still some parents who believe that managers/coaches receive some form of remuneration for coaching, which is not correct. All Club staff give up their time to ensure that St. Josephs remain one of the best clubs in the area. As a parent, your support is invaluable and is relied upon to ensure all the players have the best opportunity of success and enjoyment. Each team should have a nominated **Parent Helper**.

- ⇒ It is the responsibility of parents/carers to bring their children to and stay with them, unless written confirmation that children under the age of 13 can be left/make their own way home to matches and training sessions. Parents are to ensure that they bring boots and shin pads. All parents agree and adhere to the Club's Code of Conduct and Child Protection Policy upon club registration.
- ⇒ **Tea Bar duties;** U7s to U11s teams are expected to help operate the Tea Bar on match days (Sunday) between 09:30 and 12:30. Each team will generally do it twice a year and requires 3-4 parents each time. When it's your team's turn, please volunteer as the same parents should not be volunteering each time. The funds generated directly contribute to keeping registration fees low.
- ⇒ **Match Day** - please don't assume you can bring your child to the match 5 minutes before kick-off time as it's not fair to the other players who arrive on time and it becomes noticeable for the player(s) arriving late. The manager/coach will need time to warm-up players as a group and talk to them about what they expect in the match. For Home games, your manager will require help from you prior to the match, this will include; setting up goals, putting up the respect barrier and checking the pitch. The manager will also need volunteers to be the referee and a linesman. Your help directly contributes to the success of your child and the team.

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