



issue 4 May 2001

The Goal Crusader

The newsletter of Comberton Crusaders Football Club

Crusaders Seek FA Charter Standard

One of The Football Association's key aims is to maximise and encourage participation in the game, irrespective of sex, age or ability. The FA's Charter Standard scheme, seeks to establish, reward and encourage good practice at grass roots levels so that parents and children can demand a minimum standard of provision from schools, clubs and holiday courses. Achieving this standard will be very important for the development of Comberton Crusaders Football Club

The Charter Standard aims to:

- Provide a nationally recognised quality control 'kitemark';
- Improve the quality of provision for boys and girls;
- Sustain participation for players over a longer period of time.

Raise standards

The FA has drawn up a set of criteria for all clubs wishing to reach Charter Standard:

- A written constitution;
- Self-certified screening of managers, coaches and officials;
- All managers to have minimum of F.A. Junior Team Managers Award;
- Commitment to attend in-service training;
- Acceptance and promotion of Codes of Conduct;
- Commitment to provide Mini-Soccer opportunities for under 10's;
- Commitment to promote schools liaison and equal opportunities for all.

Clubs that are successful in achieving

the Charter will get access to a range of benefits including kit and equipment grants, subsidies for FA junior team managers and other courses and access to child protection training.

Additionally, clubs with the Charter will have systems in place to secure more easily funding from other sources eg. The Lottery, the Football Foundation and, in our particular case, South Cambridgeshire District Council.

As a first step towards seeking Charter status the Club's management committee has agreed a number of development priorities for the Club over the next few seasons. A summary is shown below:

Club Objectives

- To enable boys and girls in Comberton and neighbouring villages to participate in playing football
- To develop the footballing skills of all Club members
- To encourage fair play and equality

Team Targets

- Mini-Soccer – to run teams from Under 8s to Under 11s (four teams)
- Girls Mini-Soccer – by season 2003-2004 to run Under 12s to Under 15s (four teams)
- Colts Soccer – by season 2003-2004 to run teams from Under 12s to Under 15s (four teams)
- To promote a single club identity (club colours etc) by the start of season 2002-2003
- To identify by end of 2001 an appropriate person to provide



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Comberton Crusaders FC Annual Players' Presentation Evening

Friday 18 May 2001
at 7.00 pm
Meridian School, Comberton

Visit to White Hart Lane

England Under 18s 0 Poland Under 18s 1
22 March 2001

Report on a Crusaders' night out
by Doug and Harvey Bailey

On a cold Thursday evening a coach full of Crusaders' players and supporters travelled to White Hart Lane, the now very impressive home of Tottenham Hotspur, to support the England Under 18's qualification bid for the European Championship play-offs. Recent wins against Belgium and Italy suggested that during the first leg of a tie against Poland we might be treated to some high quality football and a few goals. Indeed, England delivered on both counts in almost literal fashion, quickly resorting to a high-ball game and finishing (or not as it turned out) with few goals, very few goals, in fact no goals at all.

In contrast, a well-organised Polish (or polished) team demonstrated the technical expertise that allowed its players almost complete domination of the mid-field. In particular, they outmanoeuvred England with a combination of rapid, accurate passing and intelligent off-ball movement punctuated by a series of dangerous through-balls directed into the vulnerable areas behind the English defence.

Surprisingly then, and perhaps a tribute to the tight marking of the English back four, it took until the 85th minute for Poland to score. Brozek latched on to a pass and lobbed the advancing England keeper.

So, apart from the virtues of a rigorous warm-up, pace, strength, speed of thought, accurate, simple passing and high technical expertise what else might we have learned from this game? Well, I don't remember any of the players having to re-tie their boot-laces.

In conclusion then, this was a superb, well-organised outing, keenly supported by parents and players alike and on whose behalf I would very much like to thank the organisers.

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physiotherapy services to Club members and advice to team managers / coaches

Player Recruitment Targets

- To appoint by the start of season 2001-2002 a school liaison officer to be responsible for developing links with local primary schools, Comberton Village College and other village colleges for girls football. This person to be a member of the Club's management committee.
- To involve parents more in the running of the Club through the newsletter and other activities to help in player recruitment and retention.

Skill Development Targets

- To appoint by the start of season 2001-2002 a senior club coach to ensure the quality and consistency of coaching throughout the club and to demonstrate good practice to team managers / coaches. This person to be a member of the Club's management committee.
- To have four FA coaching certificate qualified coaches within the Club by end of season 2003-2004
- To develop relationships with local

senior clubs to provide opportunities for more talented players to develop skills and provide opportunities to play post 16

- To supplement internal coaching resources with outside specialists as required (eg goalkeeping)

Team Management Targets

- From the start of 2001-2002 all new managers to be approved by a sub-committee of the Club's management committee. The sub-committee to comprise the Chairman, Club coach and a third person to be elected by the management committee
- To introduce an induction programme for new managers starting season 2001-2002
- All managers and coaches to achieve the Junior Team Manager qualification within twelve months of their appointment
- From the start of 2001-2002 to appoint a Child Protection Officer to be responsible for the implementation of the Football Association's Child Protection Policy. This person to be a member of the Club's management committee.

Keeping young people interested

- To get older age group players interested in coaching courses and referee courses
- To develop club spirit through visits / activities similar to the Club's recent trip to see England's Under 18s play

It is recognised by the Management Committee that the achievement of these targets will have significant implications for Club resources – both in time and money. The more people we can get involved in the running of teams and the Club, the more successful we are likely to be in achieving our objectives for the Club.

If you would like to comment on these proposals or offer your services to the Club please come along to the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 22 May at 8.00 pm. Details of venue to be announced at the Club's annual presentation evening on Friday 18 May from 7.00 pm.

Alternatively contact Ed Tranham on 01223 263753 or email him at ed@agena.co.uk

Match Reports from the Team Managers

Under 8s

Chatteris 5 Crusaders 7

Scorers: Jestice (5), Lesniak and Willis

This was a very hard physical game which Chatteris "just did not want to loose". So without criticising them it was nice to win. The whole team stood up to a really difficult test and passed with flying colours. Our outstanding player (and not just for his 5 goals) has to be Andrew. He never gave up running and I don't think he missed one tackle. As we had lost to Chatteris first time around this keeps our 100% record of always improving the result in the second game.

Under 9s

10 February 2001

Crusaders 2 Swavesey 1

Scorers: Berry and Reed

The boys were given their toughest match of the season but a great team performance ensured a 2-1 win. Both teams played some excellent football in the heavy conditions. Goals from Luke and Jack and a great save by Stephen

sealed the boys ninth win in nine matches.

10 March 2001

Bar Hill 1 Crusaders 4

Scorers: Berry (3) and Tranham

A good victory for the boys who took the lead within 35 seconds only for Bar Hill to equalise direct from the restart, and I do mean direct! Luke contributed a hat trick of goals taking his total to 18 in the league this season with Joey adding the fourth.

24 March 2001

Crusaders 3 Willingham 1

Scorers: Berry (2) and Kendall

Another fine team performance from the boys to make it 10 straight wins. After going a goal down in the first period two goals from Luke and one from John, following good work from Joey, pulled the game back against strong opposition.

31 March 2001

Crusaders 3 Bluntisham 0

Scorers: Tranham, Berry and Bowling

The boys secured a comfortable win with some great football, particularly in the early part of the match. A typical

striker's goal from Joey, followed by great efforts from Luke and Charlie completing the scoring. A great save from Stephen near the end ensured another clean sheet.

21 April 2001

Crusaders 4 Hardwick 0

Scorers: Mills (2), Kendall and an own goal

It was lucky 13 for the boys who continued their winning run with another good performance. A typical far post goal by John started the scoring. Two goals from Gary and an unfortunate own goal following a shot from Jack meant that the boys could relax in the final third and were unlucky not to increase the score.

28 April 2001

Swavesey 2 Crusaders 2

Scorers: Berry and Reed

The boys winning record was finally ended as Swavesey fought back from two goals down to snatch a draw with the last kick of the game. Goals from Luke and Jack looked to have been enough to secure another win, but in a pulsating match, with many outstanding performances, the boys had to settle for the draw.

Under 10s

17 February 2001

Crusaders 2 Swavesey 4

Scorers: McNally and Rowlands

In the first half Comberton controlled most of the game, with chances just not going their way. It looked as if they could score one goal, more would follow.

However 5 mins before half time Swavesey scored twice. In the second half Comberton found the net twice from McNally and Rowlands, but Swavesey Matched Comberton with another goal to make it 2-3. Comberton carried on fighting and nearly equalised before the defence caught out of position from a drop-ball gave away a tame last goal.

3 March 2001

Papworth 3 Crusaders 2

Scorers: McNally (pen) and Rowlands

After giving away a soft goal in the first few minutes Comberton controlled most of the game, again not able to find the net, with chances just not going their way. However 2 minutes before and after half time Papworth scored twice. Before these goals Andrew Hall was denied a goal when the ball struck under the bar and went over the line, not to be given by the Ref (no Russian linesmen in Papworth? ed.) In the second half Comberton fought on and found the net twice from McNally, scoring from a penalty and Rowlands, but Papworth hung on to win. Ref we were robbed!!!

17 March 2001

Crusaders 0 Bar Hill 10

Not a good match in the first few minutes. Comberton could not control the game with Bar Hill always quicker to the ball and they quickly established a lead. It was not until late in the second half that the Comberton team still fighting had any chances with Andrew Hall, Andrew Rowlands and Laura Oates all going close.

Under 11s

10 March 2001

Crusaders 3 Hardwick 0

Scorers: McNally (3 mins), Moore (7) and Marrone (14)

A fifteen minutes blitz right from the start put the game beyond Hardwick's

grasp as Crusaders secured their first ever victory over local rivals. Both teams played excellent passing football epitomised by Lester Hitch's inch perfect defence splitting pass to Adam Moore to give Crusaders their second goal.

17 March 2001

Royston 6 Crusaders 0

Hungover from the previous Saturday, Crusaders found the quality of football of Royston's talented team too hot to handle on a windswept hill at the Meridian School. Crusaders' only consolation is that Royston are in the Under 11s cup final and are probably one of the top two teams in the league.

24 March 2001

Crusaders 0 Melbourn 1

A week's a long time in football and so it proved on Saturday. Playing the other top team in the age group and cup finalists Melbourn, Crusaders dug deep and delivered their best performance of the season so far. The game could have gone either way and it was only a goal in the last ten minutes that brought victory to the visitors.

Conceding the late goal sent Crusaders into overdrive as they tried frantically to get the equaliser. A fantastic game of football. Royston's coach - on a scouting mission - was extremely complimentary about Crusaders style of football.

31 March 2001

Cottenham 3 Crusaders 2

Scorers: Marrone and Moore

And the wheels came off the wagon again ... 3-0 down with seven minutes to go, Crusaders led a spirited revival to come pretty close to salvaging a draw. If only there was more time. If only the commitment had been there from the start of the game. But it's all about learning the game and today was a lesson learnt!

14 April 2001

Soham Town A 0 Crusaders 2

Scorers: Moore and Hitch

Crusaders travelled to this tough match with a squad of just nine players, including three goalkeepers. This was a determined display from Crusaders against quality opposition. The team performance was first class and everybody worked for each other and encouraged one another from start to finish. An example of good football and teamwork bringing a smile to the face

of players and spectators alike. Crusaders early cup exit avenged.

21 April 2001

Bar Hill 0 Crusaders 5

Scorers: Marrone (2), McNally (2) and Moore

No one knew when the grass had last been cut at Bar Hill. Perhaps the mower was somewhere out there on the pitch, camouflaged by the rapid onset of spring growth. But somehow Crusaders played some good football and gained a well deserved win.

28 April 2001

Swavesey 0 Crusaders 1

Scorer: McNally

Another good all round performance by a team keeping its third consecutive clean sheet. Swavesey defended in numbers but never threatened Crusaders' net. The 1-0 margin does not reflect Crusaders' overall dominance of the opposition.

Under 12 Boys

11 February 2001

Bar Hill 4 Crusaders 2

Scorer: Berryman (32,55)

Lack of match practice contributed to a disjointed defeat at bottom-placed Bar Hill. Despite playing with the wind Crusaders turned 0-2 down. A rare headed goal by Berryman from a fine Hinton corner was cancelled out by two against, one a penalty. Late on Berryman scored an excellent solo goal.

18 February 2001

Histon 2 Crusaders 0

After losing an early goal to unbeaten Histon, Crusaders fought a fiercely determined rearguard action featuring a brave save at feet by Vnukov. Deep in time added on they almost snatched an equaliser; Stellitano's goal bound shot was inadvertently blocked by team mate Berryman. Histon then broke up field to score their second.

4 March 2001

Crusaders 4 Sawston 2

Scorers: Gwynn (32), Wells (42, 63), Stellitano (60)

Playing their first home game since October, Crusaders dominated the first half without scoring. They then led twice, first through a glorious Gwynn

free-kick, and twice were pulled back before clinching victory and revenge for an earlier 0-6 defeat by these opponents with two late goals in a thrilling finale.

17 March 2001

Comberton 1 Brampton 5

Scorer: Berryman

Poor pitch conditions meant Comberton played their 'home' match away. After a close first half with missed chances Comberton conceded a soft goal. Following kick-off Brampton netted 3 more times. Crusaders fought back and scored a great goal. Frayed tempers in the 2nd half suited Brampton as they scored again.

1 April 2001

Crusaders 4 Bar Hill A 1

Scorers: Rose (21), Berryman (32, 40), Bovington (50)

Crusaders lost Swift injured during the warm-up, but the defence shielded their stand-in goalkeeper well throughout. The team took advantage of the larger pitch to play some excellent football, converting three chances before Bar Hill scored. Crusaders' fourth followed a well-worked move down the right and pinpoint cross from Stellitano.

15 April 2001

Huntingdon Rowdies A 7 Crusaders 0

Crusaders did well to shut out the title favourites for the first half during which they had chances to score themselves. They lost a goal, however, just after the break, and as they tired were finally overrun by physically much stronger opponents, conceding five in the last ten minutes.

22 April 2001

Crusaders 0 Haverhill 5

Crusaders never recovered from an opening quarter in which one header and three fiercely-struck, long-range shots from Haverhill flew into corners of

their net. Crusaders own luck was out in front of goal throughout and they conceded only one more resulting in a final score which perhaps flattered their opponents.

Wells, Norman and Phipps
Player of the Match: Rebecca Tranham

24 March 2001

Crusaders 3 Huntingdon Rowdies 1

Scorers: Harnwell, Norman and Phipps
Player of the Match: Phipps

21 April 2001

Crusaders 1 Cambridge United B 2

Scorer: Norman
Player of the Match: Phipps

28 April 2001

Crusaders 0 Godmanchester 4

Player of the Match: Hannah Wells

Under 12 Girls

3 March 2001

Cherry Hinton 4 Crusaders 0

Player of the Match: Rebecca Tranham

10 March 2001

Balsham 1 Crusaders 8

Scorers: Phipps (2), Harnwell (2), Grigg (2) and Norman (20)
Player of the Match: Hannah Wells

17 March 2001

Crusaders 8 Balsham 0

Scorers: Tranham (3), Harnwell (2),

Under 16 Boys

The team continue to challenge for a top three finish in their division

Head to Head

Name	Peter Jackson	Josh McNally
Age Group:	U12s	U11s
Position:	Defender	Midfield
Town / Village where you live:	Toft	Comberton
Sport		
Favourite Football Team:	Newcastle	Manchester United
Favourite Football Player:	Alan Shearer	Paul Scholes
Favourite Other Sport:	Hockey	Skateboard/BMX
In Vision		
Favourite TV Programme:	Simpsons	Fort Boyard
Favourite TV Star:	Ant/Deck	Matt Le Blanc
Favourite Football Commentator:	Ally McCoist	John Motson
Favourite Computer Game:	Driver	WWF Smackdown
Vibes		
Favourite Band:	Fat Boy Slim	Blur
Last CD Bought:	Robbie Williams	Slim Shady Eminem
Favourite Instrument:	Drums	Saxophone
Movies		
Last Film Seen:	Speed II	Deep Blue Sea
Best Film Ever Seen:	Matrix	Brassed Off
Favourite Actor/Actress:	K. Reaves	Jim Carey
Out on the Town		
Favourite Food:	Chips	Curry
Favourite Drink:	Coke	Virgin Cola
Favourite Town/Place:	Newcastle	Barcelona

The Goal Crusader

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Chairman: Ed Tranham

Secretary: Colin Clarkson

Treasurer: Ross Harnwell

Correspondence to:
Club Secretary 5 College Crescent
Haslingfield Cambridge CB3 7LZ

The Goal Crusader is designed by
Charlie Thomas