

Black and Red Newsletter

Junior Section – May 2009



Junior Coaches Update

The committee is made up of coaches from all teams, Mark 'Hatty' Hatton chairing the committee.

On 17th May the coaches met to discuss matters relating to the season just gone and to plan for next season.

Junior Awards

The Junior awards were held on Sunday 10th May. A sunny morning ensured a good turnout by both children and their families. Lord Hertford, accompanied by Bob Jones, Warwickshire President-elect presented the trophies to our players. Player of the Year awards were presented to:

U7's Maisie Hucker
U8's Henry Lodge
U9's Tom Gunningham
U10's Dominic Armstrong
U11's Joshua Massey
U12's Jasper Foster
U13's Chris Cook
U14's Charlie Green
U15's Ashley Bennett
U16's Spencer Lunn.

Congratulations to them and everyone else that have played for their team.

Summer Party

This year the Summer party will be held on Saturday 13th June. This has been a feature of our closed season. The event is a family affair starting at 4pm, with plenty of stuff to keep the youngsters occupied, including; bouncy castle, Sumo suits, Duel sticks and rodeo bull.

A BBQ will be available as will a live band.

The LIONS play Western Province on the day we hope to show that as well. Please support this event.

Tickets £5 adults, £2.50 children.

Under 12's to 14's

The Under 13's had a good season winning roughly half of their games. They have developed a game that has some structure and are fast becoming a team that is a pleasure to be a part of both on and off the pitch. Well done lads and see you ALL next September.

Under 15's Tour

The U 15's ventured into Welsh Wales for their first tour. The team played Ammanford on the Saturday and won a close encounter.

They then moved down to Llanelli to watch the Scarlets v Ospreys match at the new Scarlets stadium. The stadium was better than the game! After the game the touring party made their way to their hotel in Swansea.

On the Sunday the team made their way to Hendy, who beat Alcester last season. The game turned out to be a cracker with Alcester narrowly beaten in an end to end match that could have gone either way.

A big thank you goes to Lisa Wardley, who organised the tour, and for the parents who travelled with the team.

Chairman Steve Lunn seemed to be in his element, being judge, jury and prosecutor.

Colts

The Colts got off to an uncertain start at the beginning of the season with a hardcore defecting to Stratford. Due to the sterling efforts of our Colts Head Coach, Keith Beech, and Rob Thompson, by the end of November we were 'up and running'. Brian Armstrong returned to the fold and continues to make a major contribution in the quality of coaching along with Kevin Elsby who concentrates on the backs. Due to early successes the squad grew through the season. At the same time we introduced a policy of, where practical, playing 2 x U16's. The benefits were numerous. It helped with their development and gave our coaches an insight into the skills we are inheriting next season. Integration with the U17's was a particular benefit enabling an early synergy between the joining of two age groups. Our thanks go to Steve Lunn for agreeing to release the players. At the same time, towards the end of the season, we introduced eligible players to the 2nds. This process will escalate next year.

The Colts played 14 games and won 10, effectively placing us 2nd in the Warwickshire Colts League. [Stratford 5th!] Unfortunately this was not to be. Warwickshire deducted all our points through not having played 15 games.

'Players' player' was awarded to Rich Hartley and Andy Heap picked-up 'Coaches Award'. Both had an outstanding season as did the whole squad. All in all a very satisfactory experience which all of us intend to repeat starting September.

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