



## Spencers Wood Under 7s Newsletter

### NOVEMBER edition

It's been another busy month. It's hard to believe that Christmas is just around the corner. Where has the time gone?

The team is continuing to improve and that is now being reflected in our results. We are competing much better and individually and collectively there has been a big improvement all round. Every single player has improved since the start of the season but the challenge is to keep improving not only for the players but for coaches as well.

Most importantly, everyone is still enjoying the experience of football and we hope that this also applies to parents and supporters.

It's been a particularly busy couple of weeks for Nick. You have no doubt noticed that he was absent from the last 2 matches. Nick has spent the last 2 weekends doing the FA Level 1 coaching course and you will be pleased to hear that he has passed so we now have an FA qualified coach for the team. Simon will be doing the same course in the New Year. For obvious reasons, we could not both do the course at the same time.

### Match Reports

#### **Spencers Wood 1 Whitegrove Cougars 0**

Friendly Match

A game of 2 halves. Spencers Wood dominated in the first and took the lead with a goal from Harry Munroe. Kieran had a penalty brilliantly saved. The second half was a different story and we just about hung on for the victory.

#### **California Hurricanes 2 Spencers Wood 0**

East Berks Youth League Under 7s Division B

This was a close match. Spencers Wood did very well in the first half but once more found life more difficult after the break. A man of the match performance from Tom kept the scoreline down. A slightly disappointing performance because we were unable to maintain our first half effort.

## **Sandhurst Town Ravens 4 Spencers Wood 0**

East Berks Youth League Under 7s Division B

A much closer game than the scoreline suggests. Spencers Wood had no luck in front of goal whilst the home side had plenty. An excellent performance from Sylven earned him the man of the match award.

## **Spencers Wood 3 California Typhoons 0**

East Berks Youth League Under 7s Division B

At last we finally managed to turn pressure into goals. In a match in which we were rarely troubled defensively we could have won by even more. Jack opened the scoring in the first half. Tom, making a rare outfield appearance in the second half, scored a spectacular second and the scoring was rounded off by Alex. An excellent team performance with Jack winning the man of the match.

As usual full match reports are available on the website.

### **Fixtures**

Upcoming fixtures:

2nd December

Winnersh Rangers B v Spencers Wood	Away	TBA
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9th December

Spencers Wood v Binfield Bison	Home	10.30am
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16th December

Spencers Wood v Lower Earley Predators	Home	10.30am
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### **FA Charter Standard**

Did you know that Spencers Wood is an FA Charter Standard club? Out of a total of around 3,000 clubs in the Berks and Bucks FA area, there are 136 that have achieved charter standard and Spencers Wood is one of them. Charter standard is an FA scheme that ensures that the highest standards of care are achieved and maintained. All charter standard clubs must have a child welfare officer and must sign up to best practice child protection policies. This means that all club officials must be CRB checked and the club must have a code of conduct for players, coaches, parents and officials. All teams must have an FA qualified coach. All club officials must attend a child protection workshop

and each team must have a first aider who has at least the minimum FA first aid qualification.

For our team, Nick has the FA minimum whilst Simon is a qualified St John's ambulance first aider.

From next season, the East Berks Youth Football League is insisting that all clubs must be FA charter standard. Currently only around 25% comply. All other youth leagues will no doubt follow suit soon.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Training**

Please note that our last training session before Christmas will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. We will not be training on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December because it clashes with the Lambs Lane nativity play and most of our players will be taking part. We do have a match on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December so we will hand out 2 match notifications on 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December will be our last match in the first half of the season and we will then have played every other team once. The league is being reorganised and a new division c will be formed. Teams will move up or down depending on results achieved in matches so far. We expect to remain in division b but it is possible that we could move down to division c. The first match in the second half of the season will be on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2007 so we will resume training on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2007.

### **Penalty Shoot Out**

We have no league match this week but we are holding our penalty shoot out instead. This will take place at the Rec starting at 10:00am. We will set the goals up and we will use both goals with both Tom and Alex as goalkeepers. Tom and Alex will also take penalties against each other. Please remember to bring your sponsorship forms. The boys may be standing around so please make sure that they wear something warm whilst they are waiting.

There will be an awards ceremony at the end and each participant will receive an award so please make sure that your child remains after he has taken his kicks. As this is an official fund raising event, players are asked to wear their Spencers Wood kit.

As we will have the goals assembled, we will finish off with a short match if the players want one.

### Tesco Sports

Thank you for all the vouchers that were collected. These have now all been handed to the club secretary who will work out how many the club have and then the committee will decide what it is to be spent on. We will let you know.



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