



**AFC Knowsley**  
*A Community Interest Company*

**Home Ground**  
The Lord Derby Pavilion  
Knowsley Lane  
Merseyside  
L34 7HD

Hi all,  
Welcome to AFC Knowsley Wanderers u13s 2022/23 season. This season, the squad will be competing in the Merseyside Youth Football League and we all look forward to it.

To help you (new and existing Parents/Guardians) and us, we have put together this welcome letter which hopefully explains everything about this season.

#### Squad Roles

**Manager** - Paul Hennessey Tel: 07904 111 577

I will be responsible for the team and individual player development. Arranging the matches along with team selections etc.

**Coach** - John Noon Tel: 07969 307 179

John will be responsible for coaching the boys and keeping them fit

**Treasurer** - Dom Walker Tel: 07825 371 180

Dom will be responsible for collecting the subs, paying match, referee and pitch fees along with organising individual player kits and/or tracksuits

**Welfare Officer** - Catherine Gilhooley Tel: 07852 685 358

Catherine is the clubs welfare officer, any problems please give her a call

We are committed to providing a safe, fun and inclusive environment. We are also passionate about the development of each player and the team as a whole. We will be working with each another to help achieve this.

Please remember that we are only volunteers and like you, parents of kids who play for the team :)



## **Training**

We will welcome the boys back on Tuesday 23rd at **7pm-8pm** and will be held at our home ground The Lord Derby Pavilion. As the dark nights close in we will arrange for training to be located on a 4G pitch - location TBC

## **Matches**

We play our league games every Saturday. The season is due to kick off on the 10th September and this season our age group is scheduled to be kicking off at 09.00am. Until the start of the season we will be arranging friendlies at the same day and time. This may also happen if we do not have a league game. Times of matches may change so please use SPOND (below) to keep up to date.

**SPOND** - The team uses SPOND to communicate all matches and other events. Please use SPOND to communicate your child's attendance to matches and events. SPOND will have specific details such as kit colour to be worn and match KO time / location.

It is best to check SPOND 2 days before any scheduled match for more accurate details as these can change.

This season we will be pre-booking training sessions and matches into SPOND for the season. This means you will have access to inform us if your child is not available for any date such as you are away on holiday or anything else way before the match takes place. This will be accessible from the 23rd August.

## **Ours and yours expectations**

The relationship between us, you as a parent and your child is a 3 way relationship.

As a management team we will try to communicate and be as transparent as possible where we can and put 100% into the work and development of the team and individual players.

In return, we invite healthy challenges and questions where you feel we have not achieved yours or your child's expectations.

***Our expectation from you and your child is exactly the same.*** Without yours or your child's communication and effort it will be very hard to develop in a way we would like. In the event this happens, in return we will also promote healthy challenges and questions.

## **Team Values**

We will be looking to work with the squad and parents to help us implement some team values. These are simply -

- Listen to each other
- Communicate effectively
- Respect each other
- Enjoy our football

These should be promoted by everybody at every opportunity.

## **Players**

We expect commitment. We will be looking for each player to develop significantly during the season.

Each player will be given 2 positions that we will work on with them throughout the season. This will help them gain an understanding of their role and contribution towards the team.

We pledge to put as much effort into each player and those positions as they put into themselves. This will be measured by attitude, effort and again working towards the teams values.

## **The Team**

We are now playing 11 a-side football. The optimum squad number for matches of this number is 14 first team players. That is 11 players and 3 subs weekly.

Our aim is to keep a balance of 14 players throughout the season. In order for this to happen we require good communication from parents regarding availability and attendance - without this we may not be able to field a team and other team members / parents suffer which wastes everybody's time.

Throughout the season, we may need to welcome additional children to the team from time to time but we do not want to exceed a maximum of 16 first team players (11 players and 5 subs).

We will have extra children at training sessions for development purposes.

This season we will be looking to promote a range of different game plans such as a pressing or defensive or high or low game and to get the squad to understand these so it is easy to 'change' the way we play during a game.

We will be fielding a team and making substitutions that we feel can win each game. We will not be putting players on the pitch just for game time. This means your child may not play in a game.

## **Parents**

We expect

- commitment and communication in a timely manner
- helping us and your child to work towards the teams values
- positive comments and support towards all team members
- Subs or any other payments made on time

In the event that you disagree or would like to question any aspect - please contact the manager to discuss.

## **Communication**

**SPOND** - Again, please use SPOND to confirm attendance

**WHATSAPP** - The team has a WhatsApp group for us all to communicate. Please use this responsibly. Please consider what comments you are making in the group and what time. **TIP:** Don't open WhatsApp if drunk :) If at all possible please only use between 7am-10pm as guidance.

## **Payments**

£20 Signing on fee to be paid on first team registration or no later than 1st August

£25 Monthly Fee per first team player, payable on the 1st of each month OR

£17 Monthly Fee per training player, payable on the 1st of each month. NOTE this is for players who are TRAINING ONLY - no competitive matches or pre-season friendlies

At the end of the season we welcome those who are TRAINING ONLY to play in friendlies. Where you would like to take this option, your child's payments will increase to £25 per month.

**NOTE:** Please use your child's name as a reference for payment - first payment due on 1st September 2022 - last payment due on 1st July 2023 - total 11 months of payments.

## **Bank Details**

**Account Name:** Dominic Walker

**Account Number:** 29477868

**Sort Code:** 77-17-31

## **Website and Social Media**

Website - [afcknowsley.co.uk](http://afcknowsley.co.uk)

Twitter - @afc\_knowsley

Instagram - @afcknowsley

Facebook - AFCKnowsley

Linkedin - AFC Knowsley

## **Matchday Information**

Please arrive on time wearing the correct kit - this will be notified on Spond/whatsapp group.

Please ensure all players are equipped with suitable footwear and shin pads for all football events. On occasion at your discretion, under armour may be required.

Water is essential for all training and match days

## Initial Season Dates

23rd August 2022 - Training resumes at Lord Derby Playing Fields

24th August 2022 - Quarry Green Dragons vs AFC Knowsley Wanderers

27th August 2022 - AFC Knowsley Wanderers vs Berkley Revolution

30th August 2022 - Training at Lord Derby Playing Fields

1st September 2022 - Awesome Walls Bonding Session

3rd September 2022 - Friendly Match TBC

6th September 2022 - Training at Lord Derby Playing Fields

10th September 2022 - Season Starts

3rd December 2022 - Team Christmas Party (Looking at Chill Factore - Bob sleighing)

20th December 2022 - Last Training Session for Christmas Closure

3rd January 2023 - Return back from Christmas

1st August 2023 - Season Closure

Thanks for all your help and support and here is to the 2022/23 season hoping its a good one - thanks

