



Chairperson Report 2013-2014 seasons 6/1/2014

Good evening

Welcome tonight to our Annual General meeting; in addition, personally may I say it is an honor for me still to serve the club in my 24th consecutive year as Chairperson of Robins FC and Swindon Robins FC.

Furthermore, to offer and pay my respect and compliments to Teresa Trueman who has been resolute in her post and has supported me as the Clubs Secretary over the same period, this support starting from the clubs inaugural forming and first meetings.

For those Robins history buffs out there, my self, Terry and Teresa Trueman, formed the club and the inaugural meetings were held in the now named Legends Lounge just below us tonight. Robins Football Club is a youth football club, founded in May 1991 by three friends who wanted to provide good football and training to local players Paul Wainwright (Chairman), Teresa Trueman (Club Secretary) and Terry Trueman (Vice Chairman. I have not just served as the chairperson but since 1991, I have consecutively managed and coached teams during that same period

.The club was first formed to play in the then Swindon and District Minors league to play Saturday morning football and it was a mixture and a blend of players from Croft U 11s and players from the Junior Robins. Our first ever game/match as Robins FC was against ST Josephs YC, resulting in a 10-0 victory, and was played on the County Ground Extension a 100yards away.

This team/squad eventually went onto to play on both Saturdays and Sundays. To win the Swindon and District Minors League and Cup Double consecutively from u12's 1991/92 to u15's 1994/95, The Beeline Oxford league, League and Cup Doubles during the two seasons they played in that league. In addition, The Wiltshire Cup and Two London International Tournaments at U12 and U14s plus many six side tournaments all over the south west and in addition, as far as London and Coventry the big job then was to get the trophies engraved and returned a logistical nightmare!

Furthermore, the tem ended at U15s, with our job done, as one of the squad's members was at Lilleshall the then FA training school, seven on Schoolboy forms/contracts at STFC and another squad member was on Schoolboy forms

at Bristol City (not one of this squad made professional football) but all developed to this high standard through our club.

This team during that period as a manager gave me a win ratio of 99%, the highest I have achieved as a manager however, nearly succeeded that total with other teams I have managed for the club

However, when the boys/players were released from Swindon Town, the main stay of the squad went onto play for the Cirencester Academy and was successful in playing in and winning three National College Cup Finals. In addition, playing friendly matches against top opposition, drawing and a victory over the youth teams of Aston Villa and Liverpool two of these players gained trials with the mighty Liverpool FC from these result and their performances.

The clubs connection with Swindon Town was during the late eighties; I was working as a volunteer dad for the then STFC Junior Robins supporters Club. My role was to organise weekly training session and to take club members on away trips to play Football League, and at one time Premiership Clubs; to engage in friendly football matches against their juniors, before the big game. In addition, organise the home return fixtures, this was very popular and successful period and learnt from my experiential learning opportunities.

However, I wanted the talented players to be able to play in a more structured and regular football within their correct age group. Therefore, the seed of Robins FC was sewn. My son Adam who was a Junior Robin went to Croft for trials, was successful, and played there at U11s that is when we meet Teresa and Terry; Terry was managing a very successful side at that time.

We merged to offer quality football for our young players in Swindon, and entered the league at the youngest age group of U12. To play in an earlier age group in those days you had to play in other leagues like the Vale of Whitehorse and District league which started 11 a Side football at U10 (on full size pitches) and Played on Sundays in addition, was the then the route for other and future start up teams.

Robins have nurtured professional footballers from their ranks:

From other Robins ranks and have worn the shirt Chris Zebroski, Ashan Holgate and Michael Pook have gone on to gain professional contracts.

In addition, Many of our past players have attended Football Schools and Academies of Excellence at Swindon Town; Bristol City; Southampton FC, Chelsea FC and the former National Training Centre at Lilleshall. the difference then professional clubs allowed the players to remain with their parent club to be developed and only trained or coached until 14 years old, not at 9 years old as is the present trend. I personally believe this trend will return.

Robins Football Club has also played in the following leagues during its history:

- Mid Wilts League
- Cirencester & District League, Beeline Oxford Boy
- Elsevier Oxfordshire Inter Counties Youth League.
- Vale and District League
- The club also entered an adult team in the Swindon & District Football League under our other affiliated name, Swindon Robins FC.

It is good to know our history and past but not to dwell in it; therefore, I am pleased to say we still have teams of the highest standard representing our club now. In addition, the club is in good health, with a good working committee, excellent secretary and treasure, all managers are as per our FA Chartered Standard, are qualified coaches who each have a place on the working committee.

How do we start the process, alas we do not have our own named ground and find ourselves sandwiched between other junior football clubs, however, we do have a very strong local league to play in and no need to travel many miles for good opposition. However, we are extremely happy and grateful to Lawns Primary school for the use of the playing field, it has become over the years our adopted home. In addition, an **excellent history, reputation**, and one of the oldest established teams in Swindon area and excellent coaches.

Our process is to empower and motivate our future players from an early age, we offer training from pre reception this season we have made this more formal with a cost of membership so our young players can take ownership and feel very much part of the club and have witnessed how proud they are of their Robins T-Shirts. Furthermore, we in addition, empower the parents to become involved, be part of the team and the club will pay the cost of the L1 coaching and delighted that two coaches have gone on to take their L2 and again the club has supported and funded this. All these processes has started and been developed from our start up training... here a big thank you to Tony Smith who has been my right hand man and supported me and these groups for many years in the wind the rain and in deed the snow. We are seeing the labors of all are our hard work from the start up process to the great work the managers are doing when the team is handed over.

- Our then U11s won the County Cup last year
- Our other U11s won their League for the 2nd consecutive year gaining promotion to Div 2
- Our U10s got to the League Cup Final.
- This season our U7s got to a Futsall tournament final and won and our U9s reached the final in their event
- Both our U8s and U9s have won their League Trophy events this season

When we consider how strong the North Wilts league is currently and the comparative small amount of players we work with, these are phenomenal achievements. Well done all.

In addition, I know what a difficult job you coaches/managers do, as I am one of you, a hard and some times can be thankless task; however, you are achieving true and honest development in these young players' lives

However, in the words of Mother Teresa: *The miracle is not that we do this work; however, we are happy to do it.*

Current format and structure of the Robins FC teams (**7 active teams in NWL**)

Under 6s: If you're currently in School Year 1 or Reception classes and are 5-6 years old,

Under 7s: If you're currently in School Year 2 and are 7 years old (or will be 7 by Aug 31st 2014)

Under 8s: If you're currently in School Year 3 and are 8 years old (or will be 8 by Aug 31st 2014)

Under 9s: If you're currently in School Year 4 and are 9 years old (or will be 9 by Aug 31st 2014) U9 Reds, U9 Whites

Under 11s: If you're currently in school year 6 and are 11 years old (or will be 11 by August 31st 2014)

Under 12s: If you're currently in School Year 7 and are 12 years old (or will be 12 by Aug 31st 2014)

Under 17s: If you're 17 years old (or will be 17 by Aug 31st 2014)

Robins Football Club and committee structure: committee agreed to meet the first Monday in every month during the season (Committee: Chair, Secretary, Treasure plus Team Managers)

Paul Wainwright Chair – 07721408784

Club Secretary & Welfare Officer

Teresa Trueman - 01793 535574 e-mail: teresa@robinsfc.co.uk

Club Treasurer

Alison Paul e-mail: Alison@smjp.co.uk

Managers/Coaches

Under 6- Paul Wainwright 0772 140 8784 Tony Smith (Trevor Heffernan, Phil Trueman)

Under 7- Justin Varndell 07974 102374

Under 8- Paul Wainwright 0772 140 8784 Callum Stagg

Under 9 Red- Jason Rawlins 0788 431 0816 or Paul Davis 07887 612127

Under 9 White- Nathan Mallard 0784 159 7270 Simon Maslin

Under 11- Tony Smith 0796 300 7924 Terry Stanislas

Under 12- Mark Chambers 07917 674613

Under 17/18- Tony Smith 0796 300 7924

I would be pleased to accept other and new committee members to help with future fund raising and in the organisation of events or to form; **a sub committee please make yourself known to me if interested.**

A special mention to Callum Stagg who is under 12s player and used to play for our u11s last season, whose brother Louis plays for our under 8s; Callum is an amazing help to me and the team on match days, also has the confidence and maturity to referee matches; development is just not on the field of play.

Future events:



Robins going Pro Red

Looking forward to our Pro Red match at the County Ground; when hopefully all the clubs families will attend in huge numbers; mums, dads, wards, granddads grandmothers, uncles, aunts and friends alike to see your sons, daughters, wards and grand children representing Robins FC. All joining in with playing on the hallowed turf of the County Ground, or involved in penalty shootouts, guards of honor and parading the Robins Banner.

We have planned for the Sheffield United home match on Saturday March 29th as our feature match, unless we are heading for Wembley? For more details of the Pro Red scheme, and how to obtain discounted tickets for STFC matches and our feature match, see our web page.

More excellent performances from all our teams with continued pride of club and themselves. With simple aims of enjoy and improve

Curry and Quiz Night date TBC.

End of season presentation to be date TBC.

May I take this opportunity to thank all our committee Teresa Club Secretary, and Alison Treasure, all our managers and coaches, those parents who take the line and referee. Furthermore, all parents who help with the setting up and taking down before and after the game all parents and guardians who support the team so well all our clubs sponsors **without all of you we would not have a club.**

In addition, all enjoyed our Christmas party in the Legends Lounge thank you for the food you all brought and shared the raffle prize donations and the food donated which was delivered to the homeless food store, at the Methodist Church in Queens Drive for further updates and information see Robin's web page.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year

Paul Wainwright
Chair