



# Members Pack

## 2023/24



Adopting the 'One Voice' approach

[www.methleyunitedafc.org](http://www.methleyunitedafc.org)



Methley United AFC



@MethleyUTDAFC



## **CONTENTS**

Page 3 – Welcome note and Subscriptions

Page 4 – Our new 'one voice' approach, Helping our coaches & Volunteering

Page 5 – Fundraising, Sponsorship and Key Club Contacts

Page 6 - Photography / Website / Social Media Consent Form

Page 7 – Players code of conduct

Page 8 – Parents/Carers/Spectators code of conduct

Page 9 & 10 – Anti Discrimination and Equal Opportunities Policy

Page 11 – Easyfundraising.org.uk



## Welcome Back

I am absolutely delighted to welcome everyone back for the 2023/24 season. This year is another record breaking season with 40 teams registered to the club, we will have junior teams from u5s to u16s, a Male open age team, a Male vets team (over 35s) and 2 Ladies team. We have registered just short of 550 players this season, this makes us one of the fastest growing clubs in the UK, an incredible feat and one we should all be very proud of. We have this year partnered up with Brigshaw High School to access 2 new 9-a-side pitches and also gained an additional 7-a-side pitch at Methley Primary School, this enables all our teams to have fantastic pitches to play on each week in our local community.

We are delighted with the England Lionesses success over the summer once again, this alongside the European Championship success last year has helped accelerate female participation in the club to now over 150 girls/ladies, making up over a quarter of our clubs players. Over the past 5 years we have been amazed by the large increase in girls participating in football and this season will see us having an U7s team, 2x U8s teams, 2 x U9s teams, 2 x U11s teams and an U13s team playing in the West Riding Girls League, alongside the 2 Ladies teams and a huge number of girls in our mini-Lions group (U5s & U6s).

Last year we had huge success throughout the club with the winning of many league titles and a mass of Cup triumphs, something we are all incredibly proud of. The club's objective has always been to provide opportunities for girls and boys, men and women, irrespective of ability, to play football in a fun, safe and friendly environment so to taste so much success whilst achieving our goal is such an incredible feat.

## Subscriptions

This season we have had to make a small increase to subscriptions this season for all Junior members and our Male and Female senior teams, the subscriptions for the 2023/24 season are as follows :-

Age Groups	One off Payment	8 Monthly Instalments
U5s & U6s	£100	£12.50
U7s & Above (Full membership)	£150	£18.75
U7s & Above (Training only)	£100	£12.50

All payments will be taken via LoveAdmin again this year and you will shortly be receiving a link on how to setup new payments, we are moving to version 2 this year so more information will follow shortly, as a result of the upgrade, our subscriptions will start in October and end in May. If you need to cancel your membership please inform your age group coach straight away so we can make sure payments are stopped.

Costs of running a Grassroots football club are increasing year on year, winter training alone equates to around £20,000, the hire and maintenance of all the pitches to the council and other sites is now around £10k per year and equipment for our various teams adds up to around £10k per year. The other costs such as league fees, ref fees, coaches clothing, insurance, affiliation fees and maintenance costs of the changing room facilities amongst other costs means the basic costs of running the football club will equate to over £70k this year which is incredible.

We do appreciate the current economic climate is not ideal and there will be many families who may need support with subscriptions, if you need assistance, please contact your age group coach initially and we will ensure everyone that wishes to play football can do irrespective of their financial position.

## **What will I get for my Subscriptions?**

All Junior/Youth players from U7s and above will receive winter training, end of season presentation trophy and insurance. The club will also for our teams to attend galas (including beach soccer), League fees, Affiliations, Referee fees (U11s & above) and of course any training that coaches need to do and matchday equipment. In short, every penny is invested back in to the club for the benefit of all its members. We are working with the FA and Football Foundation on some big investment to improve facilities at our sites, this will require us to contribute around 20% of the overall costs so we're trying to save a little bit each year so we are ready to accept opportunities when they come along. Big plans such as additional parking at Church Lane, new changing facility at Savile Park and improving and enhancing our changing room facilities at Church Lane are the top priorities over the coming years.

## **'One Voice' – Making Football better for our players**

This season we are launching our very own 'one voice' campaign throughout the club. This is something all teams within Methley United AFC will be adopting and we ask everyone involved with the club to get fully behind this campaign. The ask is really simple, during the matches only 1 coach will be providing instructions to the players on the pitch, this is to avoid players getting confused when multiple coaches and parents are all shouting instructions during their game.

As we have multiple coaches within age groups, the other coaches will still be able to provide positive feedback to players but any instructions will come through the nominated coach on match day. We ask parents to please applaud and praise both sets of players but we ask you to prevent instructing players what to do, during the games. The purpose of adopting our 'one voice' approach will make the match day experience much more positive for our players and ensure they play the game without confusion. We know that by everyone getting behind this campaign and adopting this approach the atmosphere at games will improve and this approach may be adopted by other local grassroots team, creating better environments throughout the County.

If there are any parents that would like to be the 'one voice' we need you step forward and offer your help to become an official club coach at Methley United AFC. This way we can ensure you get all the qualifications needed to become an effective coach and provide the best experiences for our players, please contact your age group coach if you wish to become more involved. I thank each and every one of you for adopting this new approach and supporting us in making the players experience the best it can be.

## **Parent/Carers helping our players, coaches & teams – let's be kind**

At Methley United all our coaches are volunteers, in the main they have children within the age group and dedicate their time for the benefit of all the children. A coach will spend on average around 5 hours minimum per week, planning and running training sessions, planning for matches, communicating with parents and opposing coaches throughout the week and managing the team on match day. Your age group coach will be there an hour before kick off for home games to set up the pitch (put out the goals, corner flags, the respect barriers and inspect the pitch to ensure it is safe).

Your age group coach may advise the meet time but we would politely ask if you could get there a little earlier to lend a hand, could you help with the respect barriers or put the goals out for home games? During the games we need volunteers to help with refereeing (U10s and below) and linesman (U11s & above) its vital parents/carers help with this on a weekly basis to ensure our coaches can spend time with our players on matchdays.

When the game is finished and the coaches are speaking to the players, it's an expectation across all our teams that parents help move the goals back to where they came from, the respect barriers are wound up and the poles put in the bag and the corner flags collected. It would take a coach around 30 minutes to do this alone, this is their family time too on a weekend so please be kind and help our coaches whenever you can.

## Volunteers Needed

Our club is formed purely of volunteers, no-one is paid to do what they do and we actively promote for more volunteers to get involved with the various roles within the age groups; including coaching, treasurers, fund raisers, gala/events co-ordinators or in the central committee in the many roles needed to keep the club running. As a club we have huge ambitions for better facilities for our members but with the day to day running of the club being run by the core committee of just 6 people we desperately need help this season and for future years.

If you can help in any capacity please could you contact Chris Paul at [Chrispaul2709@sky.com](mailto:Chrispaul2709@sky.com) or message him on 07887 375853 and we can look at roles within the club that will suit you. Thank you in advance.

This year we really need to get our tuck shops back up and running at the various sites, to raise money for the club from visitors to our sites. We need a huge number of volunteers to come forward to help run the tuck shops, the stock will be purchased by the club but we need people to volunteer so we can rotate this on a weekly basis and share the responsibilities. If you can kindly donate some time to the tuck shop please email us at [info@methleyunitedafc.org](mailto:info@methleyunitedafc.org) with the subject 'Tuck Shop support' with your name and mobile number so we can get in touch. If we don't get volunteers for this we will need to run this through recruitment and begin paying wages for this role, something that will reduce the profits we make.

## Fundraising

One of the initiatives we are promoting this year is the website, [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk), which is a free app/website which gives cashback to our football club on your purchases. All you need to do is copy the link in to your web browser and you can start raising money today. Anytime you shop online the option to donate will come up, there's no extra costs incurred and it's putting money back in to the club without costing you a penny, it can be used online at supermarkets and many other major retailers.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/methleyutd/>

## Sponsorship

We are always on the lookout for sponsors, if any one runs a business or works for a company that offers sponsorship opportunities, please make your age group coach aware and we can discuss sponsorship options. Any donation helps reduce the cost to the club so we would welcome any support. We have a wide range of sponsorship opportunities throughout the club so please do get in touch if you can help in anyway.

## Contacts

Please do not hesitate to contact club committee members below should you have any questions or feedback.

Club Chairman: Chris Paul – 07887 375853 – [chrispaul2709@sky.com](mailto:chrispaul2709@sky.com)

Club Secretary: Jacqui Graham – 07737 958091 – [jg050261@aol.com](mailto:jg050261@aol.com)

Vice Chairman: Jon Wood – 07834 524402 – [woodjon07@gmail.com](mailto:woodjon07@gmail.com)

Child Welfare Officers: Nicola Allen – 07841 619987 – [cwomethleyutd@gmail.com](mailto:cwomethleyutd@gmail.com)

Sarah Stevenson – 07704 946677 - [cwomethleyutd@gmail.com](mailto:cwomethleyutd@gmail.com)

Club Treasurer: Mark Paul – [treasurer@methleyunitedafc.org](mailto:treasurer@methleyunitedafc.org)

I hope you find this information within this pack useful, all the forms you require are in this pack and I would encourage you to read and understand all of these prior to the season commencing, as part of the LoveAdmin process you will be able to view and sign these documents digitally. I'm looking forward to another fantastic season and I look forward to seeing many of you at the various games or training throughout the year.

Enjoy every minute!! Chris and The Methley United AFC Committee



## Photography / Website / Social Media Consent Form

We sometimes take photographs or video footage for publicity purposes. These images may appear in our printed publications, on our website, social media or both.

We may also send them to the news media, before taking any pictures we need parental consent to this.

The club has a child welfare policy in place which protects all our children who play under the Methley United AFC banner.

Please review questions 1 and 2 below, if you answer 'No' to either of these questions can you please inform your age group coach to ensure we can take the necessary steps to ensure your child is protected or alternatively print out this page and return to your age group coach directly.

1. May we use images of your child, in our publicity material, including printed publications, our website and our social media channels?

Please circle: Yes / No

2. We sometimes send publicity material about our services, including photographs where appropriate to the news media (largely the local press). Is this OK?

Please circle: Yes / No

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Carers name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Childs name

\_\_\_\_\_



## Players Code of Conduct

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behavior in the game. As a player, you have a big part to play. That's why The FA is asking every player to follow a Respect Code of Conduct.

When playing football, I will:

- Always play to the best of my ability.
- Play fairly – I won't cheat, complain or waste time.
- Respect my team-mates, the other team, the referee and my coach/manager.
- Play by the rules, as directed by the referee.
- Shake hands with the other team and referee at the end of the game.
- Listen and respond to what my coach/team manager tells me.
- Talk to someone I trust or the club welfare officer if I'm unhappy about anything at my club.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any / all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA or The FA.

I may:

- Be required to apologise to my team-mates, the other team, referee or team manager.
- Receive a formal warning from the coach or the club committee.
- Be dropped or substituted.
- Be suspended from training.
- Be required to leave the club.

In addition:

- My club, County FA or The FA may make my parent or carer aware of any infringements of the code of conduct.
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and suspension against my club.





## **Parents/Carers and Spectators Code of Conduct**

We all have a responsibility to promote high standards of behaviour in the game. Methley United AFC fully supports The FA's Respect programme to ensure football can be enjoyed in a safe, positive environment.

Football is a time for the children to develop their technical, physical, tactical and social skills. Winning isn't everything. Play your part and observe The FA's Respect Code of Conduct for spectators and parents/carers at all times.

I will:

- Remember that children play for FUN
- Applaud effort and good play as well as success
- Always respect the match officials' decisions
- Remain outside the field of play and within the Designated Spectators' Area
- Do not confuse the players by telling them what to do. Adopt the 'one voice' approach
- Encourage the players to respect the opposition, referee and match officials
- Avoid criticising a player for making a mistake – mistakes are part of learning
- Never engage in, or tolerate, offensive, insulting, or abusive language or behaviour.

I understand that if I do not follow the Code, any/all of the following actions may be taken by my club, County FA, league or The FA.

I may be:

- Issued with a verbal warning from a club or league official
- Required to meet with the club, league or CFA Welfare Officer
- Required to meet with the club committee
- Obligated to undertake an FA education course
- Obligated to leave the match venue by the club
- Requested by the club not to attend future games
- Suspended or have my club membership removed
- Required to leave the club along with any dependents
- The FA/County FA could impose a fine and/or suspension on the club.





## ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY (PAGE 1)

**Methley United Associated Football Club is committed to preventing and eliminating discrimination whether by reason of gender, sexual orientation, race, nationality, ethnic origin, colour, religion or ability and encourage equal opportunities.**

Methley United Associated Football Club is committed to a policy of equal treatment of all members of whatever level or authority to abide and adhere to this general principle and the requirements of the codes of practice issued by the Equal Opportunities Commission and Commission for Racial Equality.

All members are expected to abide by the requirements of the Race Relations Act 1976, Sex Discrimination Act 1986, and Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Specifically discrimination is prohibited in:

- Treating any individual on grounds of gender, colour, marital status, race, nationality or ethnic or national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability less favorably than others.
- Expecting an individual solely on the grounds stated above to comply with requirement(s) for any other reason whatsoever related to their membership, which are different to the requirements of others.
- Imposing on an individual, requirements, which are in effect, more onerous on that individual than they are on others. For example this would include applying a condition (which is not warranted by the requirements of the position) which makes it more difficult for members of a particular race or sex to comply than others not of that race or sex.
- Victimisation of an individual.
- Harassment of an individual (which for purposes of this policy and the actions and sanction applicable thereto is regarded as discrimination).
- Any other act or omission of an act, which has as its effect the disadvantaging of a member against another, or others, purely on the above grounds. Thus, in all the clubs recruitment, selection, promotion and training processes, as well as disciplinary matters etc. - in other words all instances where those in control of members are required to make judgements between them - it is essential that merit, experience, skills and temperament are considered as objectively as possible.

Methley United Associated Football Club commits itself to the immediate investigation of any claims of discrimination on the above grounds, and where such is found to be the case, a requirement that the practice cease forthwith, restitution of damage or loss (if necessary) and to the investigation of any member accused of discrimination.



## ANTI-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY (PAGE 2)

Any member found guilty of discrimination will be instructed to desist forthwith. Since discrimination in any form is against the football club's policy, any members offending will be dealt with under the disciplinary procedure outlined previously.

The football club commits itself to the disabled person whenever possible and will treat such members, in aspects of their recruitment and membership, in exactly the same manner as other members, the difficulties of their disablement permitting assistance will be given, wherever possible to ensure that disabled members are helped in gaining access. Appropriate training will be made to such members who request it.

**Methley United Associated Football Club will not tolerate sexual or racially based harassment or other discriminatory behaviour, whether physical or verbal and will work to ensure that such behaviour is met with appropriate action in whatever context it occurs.**

Methley United Associated Football Club is committed to the development of the programme of ongoing training and awareness raising events and activities in order to promote the eradication of discrimination within its own organisation and in the wider context, within football as a whole.

# Think **shopping**, think **easyfundraising**



Don't forget to help **Methley United AFC** raise free donations. Remember [easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) every time you shop online.

**It doesn't cost you a penny extra!**

Collect donations...

Online | Mobile | In-store

Find out more and join here:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/methleyutd/>