

CLUB STATEMENT 2021-2022 SEASON

By Oundle Town Football Club Committee

The OTFC's Committee has issued the following statement regarding the 2021-2022 season and plans for the 2022-2023 season.

Now that the 2021-2022 season has finished, we would like to thank everyone for their support and for making our first full season since COVID a successful one. Reflecting on how much we have achieved over the season, both on and off the pitch, makes us extremely proud and that is whole heartily because of the support we receive from our members.

We would like to thank the following local businesses for sponsoring our teams: *Corrin Software Products*, *Swift Fire & Safety, The Montagu Arms, Squadkit, S.R.G Ltd, The Barn, Mini Golf Peterborough, Oundle & Stamford Mortgages, Prodec Builders Ltd, The Buffet Shop, Aspire, Chroma, The Gorilla Firm, Allen Tomas & Co Financial Management, Crackers, Trackone Systems, Kerson Constructions, NTP, Curry Passion & Little Wellies Day Nursery.* **We continue to seek sponsorship and have many opportunities for local businesses to be** *involved in our club including sponsorship boards so please get in touch if this is something you are interested in exploring further.*

This season, our members enjoyed lots of events, such as Halloween Fright Night, Easter Eggstravaganza and a Royal Tournament to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We have a Race Night and the End of Season Presentations to come. These events are instrumental in raising funds for the club to support our plans for the future. Look out for more events next season- Everyone is welcome!

We recently launched our online Club Shop. Our match and training kits for next season are Nike branded and offer a specific quality for our teams to really feel the part when proudly representing their teams and the Club with one identity. The Club Shop is already proving successful, some of our teams have secured training kit sponsorship for next season. If you order through the Club Shop, please ensure you add the **'club token'** as the Club benefits from tokens submitted through our online shop.

We were delighted to be awarded Grounds of the Month in February 2022. A huge thank you goes to our Grounds team for their tremendous effort this season and special thanks for the extensive work completed in our parking area.

Senior Teams

Our First Team had an extremely successful season which saw them finish 3rd in the Premier Division of the PDFL.

We are extremely pleased to announce that Dave Parsons has successfully secured the position as First Team Manager. Dave brings a wealth of worldwide coaching knowledge and experience, his passion for supporting our player pathway will help create opportunities for the current and next generation of players within the club. Welcome Dave and we look forward to working with you.

To further strengthen our senior teams, we have a vacancy for a Senior Lead. This person will be responsible for ensuring we have competitive senior teams, including First, Reserves, U18s, Vets and Walking Football. If you are interested in being involved, please contact us.

Congratulations to the U18s who successfully finished 2nd place in the PYFL. We look forward to seeing what next season brings.

Youth Teams

Within our youth teams we had many successes including the development of an U5s team. We also gained an established U6s team which has continued to grow. Our young teams are the future stars of the Club and we look forward to seeing them develop.

Well done to our U11 Whites and U11 Blacks for reaching the quarter finals of the Hereward Cup.

Congratulations to our U12s who have had a smashing season reaching the semi-finals of the County Cup and winning the PJAL in Division 4. Team spirit and positive coaching helped the team achieve their success. As they move up to Division 3, we have no doubt they will continue to be successful.

Congratulations to our U14s who were awarded 'The Fairplay Award'. This award is a recognition of exemplary behaviour that promotes the spirit of fair play and compassion in grassroots football. Well done!

Ladies and Girls Teams

Our ladies and girls teams have developed at an impressive rate this season. We now have five teams with over 80 female players and nine coaches. Together, our girls and ladies finished the season with an incredible training session with over 60 players joining in. A huge thank you goes to all the coaches who helped this run successfully.

The U13 girls and U11 girls teams have grown in confidence and the improvement over the past season has not gone unnoticed by league officials.

Our Ladies Walking Football Team improved through monthly league games this season, and we have exciting plans for next season, so keep an eye out for this. If you are interested in getting involved in Women's Walking Football please contact us on vicechair.oundletownfc@outlook.com.

With the addition of our U9 girls team we have been awarded a 2 star accreditation and next season we will continue with our plans to offer a female player pathway.

Home Education

Being an innovative club, we recognised an opportunity to create a Home Education program, this is the only one in the county. The program is fully supported by Northamptonshire FA and not only increases participation from school age children it provides an educational spin on football which is something we are incredibly proud of.

Plans for Next Season

Off the pitch, support continues to grow. Our committee has expanded including the appointment of our Vice Chair, Sinade Livsey and Secretary, Rachael Smith. Chair, Cameron Holmes and Treasurer, Lisa Ward-Holmes continue within their roles. In addition to these vital committee roles, we have appointed an Events Lead, Diana Duffield and a Communications Lead, Kara Cox. Our Youth Teams Lead, Martin Niven and Ladies and Girls Teams Lead, Sinade Livsey will continue to support our many coaches and managers next season.

We are pleased to confirm our Bar Manager, Graham Holmes will continue to receive support from Claire and our Social Team Glynis and Kev, who have been instrumental in driving forward the social side of the Club with regular events such as Bingo.

Glynis's Clubhouse Tea Room will continue to be open every Saturday, so please come along and purchase refreshments when supporting our teams.

Our Grounds Team has been further developed with the support of Dan and 'Pops', who you will frequently see with Cameron around the club making improvements on the grounds. Thank you to these guys for your support and special mention to Simon Fitton for facilitating the pitches at OPS, and Andy Horner-Smith and Blake Holben for your support with the grounds work this season. As we strive towards excellence with our grounds across our 14.5 acres of land, we aim to hold 11 pitches from 5-a-side to 11-a-side. Further ground improvements have begun to the area behind Waitrose. We have secured several grant applications to fund the development of additional pitches, including an additional 11-a-side pitch.

A special mention to Adrian Smith, David Rooney and Elliot Rowe for coaching our teams over the past seasons. We wish you the best for the future and look forward to seeing you at the club, albeit in a different capacity.

Our next big focus is the development of the clubhouse. We have plans to rebuild our clubhouse to a state-ofthe-art facility that not only represents our amazing club, but enhances our teams' experience and provides a community hub. We are looking for: builders, surveyors, architects, designers, fundraisers, administrators, and anyone with any ideas that can help support us! **If you would like to be involved, please contact** <u>chair.oundletownfc@outlook.com</u> or come along to OTFC on 24th June at 7pm.

Although the season has ended, the hard work continues to make sure 2022-2023 is just as enjoyable and even more successful for everyone. We still have some vacancies within our sub committees and of course, any support however grand or small is very much appreciated. We very much hope that you will continue to support the Club and we look forward to seeing you next season.

Best Wishes

Oundle Town Football Club Committee