



CLUB STATEMENT 2022/2023 SEASON

By Oundle Town Football Club Committee

The Club Committee has issued the following statement regarding the 2022-2023 season and plans for season 2023-2024

It is with great pleasure that we are again able to reflect on another fantastic season at Oundle Town Football Club, both on and off the pitch.

Firstly, we would like to start by giving our condolences for the passing of U18 player Bradley Hadman.

Bradley was someone who made us all better by being there and influencing the whole team in a positive way through both words and action. He continued to be part of our U18 team, fighting against his illness to support the team from the side lines encouraging them throughout this last season. The club was honoured to hold a fundraising football game and most recently we held a Race Night in his memory. To commemorate Bradley's passion for the game, our main pitch was honoured with flowers following his funeral and we will be further honouring Bradley's memory with a shield of honour and a regular commemorative game. Our thoughts go out to everyone affected by this sad news.

On the pitch

Senior Team Updates

Despite the challenges faced with the First Team Manager vacancy, the team has had a successful season which saw them hold a mid-table position in the Peterborough and District Premiership Division. Over the course of the season our other senior team players stepped up to support the First team. It is encouraging to see our U18s, and Reserves players support the aims of our player pathway, and we hope to see many of these players as a permanent fixture within our First Team as they continue to develop.

A huge thank you to the players for their dedication throughout the season.

We are extremely pleased to announce the appointment of Dan Youngs as First Team Manager, supported by Assistant First Team Manager, Steve Mastin and Martin Davies as Reserves Team Manager, supported by Neil White as Assistant Reserves Manager. We are confident that our strong senior management coaches will continue to build on the successes of the senior teams, starting with an intense Pre-Season schedule.

Our Vets Team had their best season yet, coming second in the Northants Sunday Combination League. Ricky, Vets Manager said, *'We had a challenging start of the season, but since regrouping we only lost two games and missed out on winning the league by one point. All in all it was a brilliant season, and we look forward to building on this next season.'*

Our Walking Football Team continues to grow, we are so excited for next season as we have two teams joining the walking football PDFL; it's great to see the guys training at the club on a Friday evening.

Ladies and Girls

Our Ladies Team has been training all season and we are welcoming new players every month. Unfortunately, the Ladies Walking League folded, however the team have joined the Walking Football PDFL for next season.

Our Girls teams have really developed collectively throughout the season. The biggest success was with our U14s, who in their second season, finished second in their league.

With the addition of another girls team next season, we bring the total girls and ladies teams at the club to an impressive seven teams.

Sinade Livsey, OTFC Ladies and Girls Lead and Vice Chair has won the Northants FA Grassroots Football Lioness Award for providing opportunities for people in the community to coach, manage, administrate and play in the womens' and girls' games, and for being a catalyst for football within the community on and off the pitch. Congratulations Sinade!

Youth Teams

Our youth teams had many successes including the development of an U5s team.

Our U13s team excelled throughout the season and will be moving to Division 2 next season. We had no doubt that moving to 11aside would provide this team with an opportunity to test their ability. We look forward to seeing them take on the further challenge of Division 2.

Our U15 team won the Huntingdon League Fair Play award for the second season in a row. The club awarded coach Paul Garrod, 'The Malcom Smith Award' to recognise his achievements with encouraging the teams sportsmanship, respect and positive attitudes. Congratulations Paul!

Our longest serving players in our U18 team who have been involved in league football for OTFC have been awarded the OTFC Carl Norwood Trophy for their commitment to the club and for their united team spirit. We look forward to seeing them progress their football journey into our senior teams. Thank you to Cameron Holmes, U18 coach and Chairman, for his Coaching commitment over the last 14 years with the team.

Off the Pitch

We have been nominated for The FA England Football Grassroots Award. We are waiting to hear back from the FA Panel Board. Watch this space!

Volunteer of the Year was jointly awarded to Graham Holmes, Bar Manager and Amy Wyles, Grounds Crew Lead, for their fantastic support throughout this season in providing excellent facilities for our teams to play football and rehydrate following their games and training sessions. Thank you for your hard work.

Off the pitch support continues to grow which has resulted in new appointments to the Club Committee including Senior Secretary, Katie Horn and Youth Secretary, Kizzy Hazelwood. In addition to these vital committee roles, our Grounds Crew has been further developed with the support of John F, Jon C, Matt, Les, Babsy, Pops and Blake- it is great to see so many coaches helping us when they can.

Further ground improvements have begun and will continue throughout the summer and into the new season to the area behind Waitrose. We are grateful to have our football foundation grants which continue to help fund the development.

The dedication of our coaches and members to obtain sponsorship has seen us secure sponsorship for our teams from many local businesses. We have welcomed sponsorship from: Allen Tomas & Co Financial Management, The Barn Garden Centre, Breton Caterers, The Buffet Shop, C-Shells, Charles Church, Chroma, Corrin, Crackers, Galvanize UK, The Gorilla Firm, Iced Tub, Kerson Construction, Lead Wolf Digital, Little Wellies Day Nursery, The Montagu Arms, Moore Chartered Accountants & Business Advisers, Muscle Finesse, NTP Access, Oundle & Stamford Mortgages, PC Howard, Peterborough Mini Golf, Prodec Builders Ltd, S.R.G Ltd,

Swift Fire & Safety, Trackone Systems, Tydus Real Estate, Youngs Floor Care and we thank Corrin software for their continued support with the First and Reserve teams.

We continue to seek sponsorship and many opportunities including sponsorship boards so please get in touch if this is something you are interested in exploring further: chairman@oundletownfc.co.uk

This season we will be continuing with our current online club shop supplier, Direct Soccer. Our match and training kits for next season are Nike branded and offer a unified quality for our teams to really feel the part when proudly representing their teams and the club with one identity. 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.

Although the season has ended, the hard work continues to make sure 2023-2024 is just as enjoyable and even more successful for everyone. Sign on for next season is June 24th please contact your coach for your sign on time slot.

We 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.