



Mickleover '95 Junior Football Club Chairman's Report for 2010/11

This, in my final report as Chairman I would like to summarise where I believe that the Club has got to. I have resisted the temptation as to where I believe we should be going as I believe that that is for the new Committee to establish.

Where We Are Now

Summer Tournament

I feel I must start with the Summer Tournament, because I believe that that epitomises this Club and the type of people we have in it and the type of Club we are. For those that were not there, to set the scene: it was raining and the forecast was that it would continue to rain ALL DAY. Given this, I approached some of the managers and gave them the option of cancelling the day before we started to set up. They all, to a man, said "no" and that they wanted to continue – a decision they may now look back on and regret.

Nevertheless, we continued and battled through on a day when the forecast – regrettably – was spot on. I cannot remember a tournament where we went ahead and it rained all day. Yet, despite everything the managers supervised, managed and refereed up to 28 games on each pitch. And you know what, but all the feedback I have had from all the people I have talked about the day was that they loved it.

For me, as I have said, this epitomises the Club, ie:

- Managers "mucking in" to give children an opportunity simply to play football.
- In spite of everything, the players just wanted to play football with their friends, irrespective of what the weather was like.

I was very proud to be part of the Club that day where we gave an awful lot of people an enjoyable day.

State of the Club

Whilst we can put on an event like the Summer Tournament shows that we are in a good state. However I would just like to add some more points as to why we are in a healthy position:

- **Teams:** Whilst inevitably we have lost a few teams at the top end of the age range, we now have a healthy set of young teams. I would specifically like to thank Tim Birkinshaw for taking up the mantle and managing the under 7/ 8s. We also have an Under 18 team started by Dave Allum and also just last week we started a new Under 10s team.
- **Ethos:** throughout my time as Chairman I believe that we have maintained the ethos of the Club as one that champions participation and whilst we all desire to win, it is not "win at all costs".
- **Finances:** As we have seen from the statement issued by Rob and which we will discuss later, I believe our finances have recovered from recent years where we have suffered from increased pitch and training facility costs. This gives us a solid foundation upon which to proceed.

- **Committee and Team Engagement:** As has been from the Summer Tournament and recent meetings I believe that we have a good involvement of team managers in the Committee. I believe that we will tonight replace key positions in the Committee vacated by committee members associated with departing teams. Given the number of key positions vacating their posts, I believe that this replacement of positions is something of a feat in itself.

Team Achievements

I feel that I have to mention the following two major achievements:

- Danny Motley's Under 15s achieving the Division 1 league championship and cup double without losing a single game.
- Andy Mee's and Andy Pickles' Under 10s won their league for the second consecutive year.

Thank You and Goodbye

It has been a real pleasure, to be the chairman of this Club. However after 10 years of involvement of myself and my son in the Club I believe it is now time to move on.

I can't go however without mentioning some people who have helped me do the job as well as I could. Generally I have to thank all the people on the Committee who turn up to meetings and help shape the Club. I have to mention a few individuals:

- First of all the League secretaries Dave Allum, Rob Priestley and Lynne Annable, I think that this is the most difficult job in the Club as it is the one that has the most to do with the often dysfunctional League, often when things have gone wrong, through no fault of our own. Their work is often unseen by the players but is essential for the Club to function. I would specifically like to mention Lynne Annable who has worked tirelessly as both Sunday and overall Club Secretary. The thing that always shines through from Lynne is that she really cares about this Club and the people within it and she is quite prepared to go out of her way to help and assist the teams and people within it.
- I would like to thank Rob Stevenson and Lynn Mee who have been instrumental in getting our finances on a sound footing by giving us some clear and much needed guidance on the state of our finances and what we hence can and cannot afford. .
- I would like also to recognise the efforts of Chris Stokes and Stelios Panteli in their long service for the Club.

Finally I wish you all well and every success in the future in maintaining this the great club that it is.

Scott Condie

Chairman