

Hykeham Tigers



Christmas Newsletter 2008

Chairman's Christmas Message

It seems the last 12 months has flown by. Hykeham Tigers as a club has once again grown to a staggering 170+ players and 12 teams. The success of the club; I believe, can still be put down to our policy of "sport for all" and that everyone gets a chance, no matter what level they are playing at. Our new home of Manor Leas has proved to be a great success, with the school allowing us use of many of their facilities and we look forward to continuing our relationship with them. Along with a new home, we also have to remember all the sponsors of the club. I think that you will agree the new orange strip look great, and that is all down to their generosity, so a big thank you.

The highlights of the year for me have been the achievements and recognition the club has won in gaining Chartered Standard status, winning Charter Standard "Club of the Year" and winning the Mid Lincs "Club of the Year". Also after much hard work, the arrival of the floodlights that we so badly needed to allow training to continue as the nights closed in.

Of course all this would not be possible without the dedication of a lot of people and I have to say a big thank you to; the committee for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes, the new fund raising committee who have done an amazing job with the New Year party, all the managers and coaches who continually give up their time for free, to the parents who turn out for training and matches and who stand on the side lines and encourage the players and finally to the players themselves, without whom the club would not exist.

I would like to finish by wishing all the Teams success in second part of the season.

Martin Wagstaff
Chairman



Mike Moore and Mark Houlton receive the Mid Lincs Club of the Year award on behalf of Hykeham Tigers at the League AGM in June.

Looking back at 2008 for Hykeham Tigers

January

£2,000 Grant

Club awarded £2,000 by the Lincolnshire community foundation for a new shed, line marker and portable goals.

June

Chartered Standard

Club awarded FA Chartered Standard.

Tournament

The club hosts it first tournament which turned out to be a huge success and was enjoyed by every team who entered.

Mid Lincs Club of the Year

Club awarded Mid Lincs Club of the Year

Presentation Evening

Club puts on presentation evening attended by Lincoln City's Danny Hone where every player was awarded a medal and 3 awards made in each team.

July

Move to Manor Leas

Club agrees a move to Manor Leas School to play all home matches and training.

£9,000 Grant

Club awarded £9,000 by awards for all for a set of 3 portable

Lincolnshire FA Chartered Standard Club of the Year

Club awarded Lincolnshire FA's Chartered Standard Club of the

August

Fun Day

Tigers hold their 3rd annual fun day. Again a huge success raising over £500.

12 Teams Playing in the League

The club entered 12 teams into the Mid Lincs youth League across 7 age groups.

September

£3,200 Grant

Club awarded £3,200 by the Longdales Trust to purchase a new 40 ft storage container for the floodlights.

October

Under 7

It all started with my wife deciding that my son Glenn needed to join a football team, the first week they went along my wife got talking to Matt & Mike and they mentioned they were looking for someone to run next years under 7's. I started by helping out with training the under 7's last year with Matt, the next thing I knew I was looking after the new under 7's with help from Carlton and we was off to the fixture evening held at the Newark show ground.



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During pre season we kept looking at the calendar thinking we wouldn't have enough players to start the season and all of a sudden it all fell in to place and we started the season with 8 players for our first game of the season. We have since then recruited 3 more players giving us 11 players, we have also grown in the coaching department with Mark Worrell joining the team.

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Since the start of the season to Christmas we have played 11 league games, we have won 6 and lost 5, at the start of the season we were hoping for one win by Christmas and you have exceeded that, all the boys give us 100% at training and even more on match day, you all work very well as a team and you should all be very proud of your achievements so far this season, as I am

proud of everyone of you. Watch this space in the future this team is going places.

I would also like to thank the important people the parents for their time, effort and commitment. Also thanks to Mark Williams, Mike & Matt Moore for referee our home games this season and anyone else supporting the team both on training and match days

Lee Mullins
Under 7 Manager

Under 8A

When I finally hung up my boots as a player and manager of mens football, I thought that's it.. I'm now happy to get my football fix down at Sincil Bank or enjoy the odd day out to Mecca (otherwise known as Anfield), there is no way I would be running a kids team nearly five years later..



Well here I am five years later in charge of the U8A's more fired up and keener than ever before.. That's Hykeham Tigers and the infectious drive of Mike Moore for you.

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On the pitch, after starting with just 6 players last season, struggling to kick a ball in a straight line and regularly being on the receiving end of double figure defeats we now have a full squad, players who are progressing and getting better every game, and we notch up double figure victories..

So much so that we now lay claim to the Clubs highest ever victory following our 18-

1 demolition of Ruskington, (not to mention putting nine past Greenbank without reply..). This progress however has only been possible thanks to the tremendous support from parents and of course the players, who are ever willing to listen and learn.

It's also said that a manger is only as good as his coaching staff.. Well I've got some real gems in Matt, Stu and Becki – Thanks Guys (and Gal.)

I'm sure 2009 will bring highs and lows, but all I can ask for is for everybody's commitment, and more importantly that whatever the result we enjoy it and have smile on our faces.

Happy New Year Tigers...

Mark Williams
Under 8A Manager

Under 8B

The under 8B team started the season with a combination of some of last year's under 7 players and some new players to the club.

It was going to be difficult from the start as many of the children hadn't played together before and hadn't really had a chance to get to know each other before the season started.



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We started off the season well with 2 draw's but this was followed by a run of defeats. But this has picked up again more recently with the team registering 4 wins in the last 6 matches including an 8-0 win over Billinghay.

The team have a number of challenges ahead in 2009 with 10 fixtures still to play, but no doubt they will continue to improve as they have been doing and they will continue to enjoy their football with Hykeham Tigers.

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Finally I would like to say a big thank you on behalf of myself and all of the children in the team to everybody who helps me out on match days and at training and to our sponsors who have provided the club with essential funds to purchase the new kit and jackets.

Happy new year to you all.

Steve Husband
Under 8B Manager

Under 9

I remember writing this last year and saying that it was a pleasure to manager this bunch of players, 17 at the time and that we would have 2 strong sides in the coming year and this I believe has come true.

It's the end of the year and the Under 9's have grown from strength to strength over the course of 2008 and we now stand at healthy 29-registered players in 2 league sides and 1 squad training for next year.



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It's still a joy and pleasure to manage these sides and see the improvement each and every player is making week on week. There isn't a better feeling than winning a game of football but to me, training players, seeing players improve, see them grow in confidence, see them score a goal, play with a smile and finally enjoy this great game is an amazing feeling.

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I have always been blessed with having great support from all the parents, from bringing the players to training and games, supporting my decisions on match days, to providing photos of matches and more importantly recently helping run the training evenings and I would like to say a very, very big thank you to each and everyone of them. A few thanks I would like to give are to Rob

and Lee who have been helping coach the players over the last couple of months, aided by Mark Nott who has provided goalkeeping and general training support. Other parents have also helped on training nights and warming players up on match day and their help is always welcomed and very well received by the players and myself.

On the Photo front, a big thank you must go to Jeanie (Jamie's mum) who provided hundreds of pictures from last season and this season also to Steve Holliday who has provided photos from this season.

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On the playing front the season has been a steep learning curve for both teams but both can hold their heads up and be pleased with how they are playing and the results they have had.

The A team is playing in the B league and has a record of played 9 won 2, drawn 3 and lost 4. This side has 5 new players from last year and it has taken a little time to gel together but they play some brilliant football at times but also can be frustrating at times. They just need a little spark to ignite and I believe power on up the league.



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The B team play in the C league and are made up of 5 players from last year and 7 new ones, this again means it is taking time for the team to gel but they do have 1 excellent quality, a battling desire. They never give up and always battle to the end and you can see the improvement each week in teamwork and football skills. The team record stands at Played 8, won 2 and lost 6. I believe this record can and will be bettered over the remaining games and the side will enjoy more victories.

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The C squad has been formed after the start of the season and at present stands at 5 players but they are all keen to learn and are working hard each week to get ready for the new season.

I do hope everyone got what they wanted for Christmas and hasn't over indulged on chocolates, drink or food and is ready for the coming battles of 2009.

Steve Lamming
Under 9 Manager

Under 10A

This is mine and Jonny's second season in charge of the now U10'S A team. The team remains very much the same as last season apart from the introduction of three new players. Jacob Cooke rejoins us from the U11'S B, Kyle Smart joins us playing his first season as part of a team and Jack Forrester transferred to us from Cherry Colts in December. Meanwhile Aaron Foden, Devon Chapman, Ikas Brand and Thomas Herbert left us to become the heart of the newly formed C team.



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Having moved up a league the lads have found it a lot harder this season, despite this we've continued to play good football and Jonny and I can see a vast improvement in the whole team's performance. As last season the goals continue to come from a number of different players, so far 7 of the 10 outfield team have contributed with goals, Ryan Wayment remains of our top scorer with 15, closely followed by Jack Wilkes with 13

and Connor Wilson with 10. Despite struggling in the league the U10'S A team have had a great cup run this year reaching the last 16 in two competition's, finally losing 2-3 to Greenbank after extra time in the Brian Smith Cup and 0-10 to Scothern in the Morley Newborn cup.

Unlike a lot of club's whose team's change from season to season keeping the same players game after game is I believe our main strength. The A team currently have four player with fifty club appearance or more, they are Luke Gilbert, Connor Wilson, Sam Duckering and Jack Wilkes, who will soon to be followed by:-Callum Green 49, Ryan Wayment and Jacob Cooke 45, Matty Harrison 44 and Niall Wilson 41.

I would like to take this opportunity thank Carol Wayment, Monica Wilkes and Fiona Wilson for all their help, both with the fund raising committee and with the match day catering. Again thanks to Jonny, the parents and all the players for making this a very enjoyable season so far. Hopefully we can start 2009 in the same way we finished 2008 with a win. Up the Tigers!

Sean Gilbert
Under 10A Manager

Under 10B

The boys have been brilliant this season so far and they deserve a lot of credit for all their hard work at training and in the matches especially after last season when they were unlucky not to get any points at all. The team is playing with smiles on their faces and they have built a good team spirit between them. Some of the football the boys have played has been excellent and they have all really come on since last season with their new found confidence.



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We have been involved in some really exciting close games with plenty of late goals. With 8 games played, 4 wins, 3 draws and just 1 defeat puts us in 3rd place in the league and if we win the games in hand we can go 2nd.

A big thank you goes to all the parents for their support, Paul Browne for refereeing, Dom Carchedi for being our regular

linesman and Tracey Tufts and Sarah Browne for helping with the refreshments. It's a real pleasure to be involved with this great bunch of lads at the football club and hopefully the players and families will get more exciting matches for the rest of the season.

Mark Houlton
Under 10B Manager

Under 10C

The improvement seen in the under 10C's has been incredible over the past few months. From being a team that was really struggling in their opening season, to a team that is causing problems for every other side in the league...the lads really can be so proud of themselves!

Win, lose or draw the lads are always smiling and enjoying their football - as a team we have improved together and from being 7 individual players, we are now working for each other, fighting for each other, encouraging each other and starting to pick up results. Myself, Neil and Kayleigh are all so incredibly proud of each and every single player we've had the pleasure of managing. *(Continues on next page)*

After picking up our first win against Boston our season really got going, and despite 2 draws (which should have been wins) and 1 unfortunate loss, I truly believe we have the best set of players in the league. If luck had gone our way we would be fighting for promotion and I fully expect 2009 to be the year of the 'C' team. I know that we have it in our team to win every match we play....there isn't a team in the league that we can't beat.



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Defensive trio Josh Wright, Devon and Sean have been a revelation..they've saved us on too many occasions to remember; captain/engine-room Thomas drives the team forwards and I think we'll be looking hard to beat his 'lob from the halfway line' in goal-of-the-season award. Ikas 'Cheeky Backheel' Brand runs his socks off and his tough-tackling frightens us! Aaron did a fantastic job of filling Josh Spencer's gloves and with Josh back after his broken wrist, suffered in the line of duty, I expect more goalkeeping heroics this season. Luke 'Bulldog' Brewer just needs a goal to top off his tireless running and Adam really is looking better every game. New signings - Ben heads better than Shearer and he is clearly going to be star when the lads move up to 11-a-side. Crowd-pleaser Tom is infuriatingly good and hopefully we'll see lots more of his awful acrobatic celebrations in the coming months!

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I'd like to thank Neil and Kayleigh for helping out...the team would not be able to continue without the two of you. Also, Darren Chapman has been fantastic for refereeing this season, we really appreciate that you give us your free time to help out. The parents have been amazing for coming along and supporting the team come rain, wind or snow, and through pulling together, this team really can thrive and start to get the results that a club like this deserves. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everybody involved with Hykeham Tigers!

Stuart Robson
Under 10C Manager

Under 11A

For the U11A 2008 bought about a lot of changes. The team has had to make the jump up to 11 a side and with this comes off-sides, league referees, big goals and more running. At the beginning of the season we signed on our full allocation of 17 players which included 6 new players to the Tigers.



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With so many changes Nigel, Jay and I arranged a weekend away for the team in the summer to Solihull, Birmingham and was a huge success. The boys played 3 matches as well as paying a visit to Stratford upon Avon where we went on the Ghost walk. We also took part in several tournaments in the summer. These were great fun and unlike last year we had decent weather too. It started

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off at the Greenbank tournament but a few weeks later we travelled to Kirkstead and here after going through the semi finals on penalties we got to the finals and lost out in the last minute of extra time. Next up was the Tigers tournament and again we got to the final and lost it 1-0. Finally it was the Welton tournament. For the 3rd time running we got to the final but this time won it!

Currently we are top of the league and yet to be beaten having won 5 and drawn 1. The highlight of the season so far would have to be the cup run. We got to the quarter finals and got drawn against Grantham Town, winners of the A league last season! After going 1-0 down in the first half we got back to 1-1 during the second half only for Grantham to score 2 heartbreaking goals in the last few minutes.

Thank you to my coaches Nigel and Jay for all their hard work throughout the year, to the parents who take their turn running the drinks, Andrew and Steve who referee for us and to the club committee and other coaches and managers in the club who help us out when we need it. Finally happy new year to you all!

Mike Moore
Under 11A Manager

Under 11B

Hykeham 11B have been enjoying only their second season in the Mid Lincs League and thus far they have not received their just reward. We have currently played the most games in the league and have been on the wrong side of all results. Do not get me wrong we have lost to some very good teams but certainly over the last few weeks they have lost by a margin that has not reflected their play.



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The lads have produced some great football but unfortunately have not been able to put the ball into the net – not through lack of trying. The whole team have been training very hard and the results I believe have become to be seen on the pitch. They have always worked very hard and always give 110% on the pitch, they can never be faulted for not trying. If they keep that commitment

going for the rest of the season some wins will come and it will be no more than what they deserve. Roger and I, along with Sean, Andy, Daz and Rob, who assist during training are very pleased with them all.

Our last game was testament to all the above, as we outplayed the Hykeham A side for 40 minutes of the match, but still lost 6-2. A little more consistency in front of goal and the

results will improve.

Overall an excellent year for this side as they battle to pick up the difference in the larger pitch, team size and rules, but they have coped very well and credit to them all for working hard.

If they continue to do so, they will reap the rewards. Well done to all.

Mark Nott
Under 11B Manager

Under 12

I would like to start by saying a big thank you to all the parents, players and the coach's Roger, Mark and Adrian of the Hykeham Tigers under 12's. The coach's are such an important part of the team with organising the training sessions and match days and everything else they do to help with the running of the team.



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At the start of the season we had a few lads leave the team to go onto play for other clubs. So we drafted in some new players of our own, and some of our original players had to change positions and start playing in unfamiliar territory, But I have to say they all adapted very well to this and were keen to make the best of their new positions.

During the season we've all had are highs and lows, good times and bad times, but week in and week out all our players still come to training and the matches with smiles on their face's (well sometimes). It's good to see the lads starting to work as a team , All the lads between them have different levels of skill and ability, but the main thing is that they encourage each other and help each other on and of the pitch which makes them a great bunch of lads.

So a big, big thank you from Phil, Roger, Mark and Adrian. You make us all very proud, and we will look forward to having lots of wins in 2009.

Wishing you all a very happy new year and all the best for 2009.

Phil Barratt
Under 12 Manager

Under 13

The start of the year saw some vast improvements in the team as the 2007/08 season was coming to an end. Although we kept plugging away we struggled to get that bit of luck. Then all of a sudden it just clicked into place and our luck changed. It was an away game against Market Rasen and everything we tried seemed to work. We ended up winning the game 7-1, and from there the lads were on



a high and finished the season with a couple more wins and a draw.

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Next we had the tournaments of which we entered four including our own. On a whole the team did remarkable well, getting into one final and two semi-finals. This was an excellent achievement from all of the lads that took part.

The 2008/09 season was soon upon us after a short summer brake and we couldn't have asked for a better start,

winning our first game 5-3 against Woodhall Spa then going on to beat Caythorpe 2-1 in the first round of the cup, something we have never done before. Although we then had a bit of a slump we have managed to pull this back around and had a couple of good wins to finish off the year. This has left us mid table going into 2009.

To finish I would like to thank Paul for all his help with the team this year, also a big thank you to all the parents for your support of the team and most importantly all the lads for all their effort and hard work this year. So let's hope we can start 2009 with flourish and continue to move on up the table. Come on the Tigers

I hope you all had a great Christmas and the 2009 brings you all that you desire.

Thanks for everything

Tim Churchill
Under 13 Manager

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