



The Newsletter from Currie Star FC



Hello All

Well, Easter is now upon us and the new season has started for our younger boys with the 4, 5 & 7s all

up and running. Our newest group of boys, the 2009s, have had a favourable start under Head Coach Rob Marshall, who managed not only to secure one new sponsor but THREE. The boys wore their new Currie Star strips at their first formal games at the Royal High School, where Cramond are hosting the football 4's. The year group already has just over 30 players, which is fantastic and testimony to all the good work being done by our partners Play2Learn. The 2006 boys are heading into Europe this Easter to participate in an event in Barcelona. This will be a fantastic experience for the year group and provide a great opportunity ahead of Gothia 2017.

Talking of progress in Europe, it would appear the good name of Currie Star has extended beyond our European counterparts and has indeed now become global!! Yes, this is evidenced by Paul McGovern's 19's who have signed the first ever Brazilian for the Club. However, another potential player been in touch from Brazil as he seeks a club to play for on his visit to Edinburgh. It is great for the Club to build a reputation where players can come and join us from any country and feel part of Currie Star both now and in the future.

Next year will be the 20th anniversary of Currie Star. To celebrate this we are hoping to organise a party for all our members, both past and present, to celebrate all the hard work put in by everyone over the years.

Message from the Chairman

This will extend to players, coaches, parents, Committee members, administrators and everyone who has contributed to where we are today as a Club. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

Our Committee has changed recently, with Billy Hislop resigning after 4 years of sterling work. I would like to publicly thank Billy for all his efforts over the years, in particular his organising of the first two Gothia trips (along with David Muego, our Editor), which they arranged brilliantly. I would also like to welcome back the master Delegator, Mr Ken Stewart, who is returning after a short break and has already made his presence felt with his hard work and industry.

At our recent bi-annual Club meeting it was agreed we would conduct work on the pitches and Clubhouse in the coming months so you will hopefully see some changes to freshen the place up. The meeting also established we now have more players at Currie Star than ever before, with 362 players registered to the Club. This coupled with our 57 coaches effectively means we are a medium sized business. Many thanks to Julien Reynolds, our Treasurer, for keeping on top of all the finances, ensuring we are have sound base from which we can continue to progress. The older boys are now coming towards the end of their seasons with promotions, cups and relegations all on the agenda. We wish all our boys the very best over the next few months and can only ask they do their best to take the Club forward. The future's bright....it's blue and white!!!

John

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2000s UPDATE

Head Coach Phil Hay reports "What an absolutely fantastic start to 2016 from the lads. In the league we have won 7 on the spin and we already await the winners of another quarter final tie in the semi final of the League Cup! Lads, I salute you. We are now operating with a squad of 17 (see team picture below) and every single one of them has been outstanding. We sit proudly in third place in the league and whilst there are still 10 games to go our aim is to put as much pressure on the teams above as possible just in case they slip up. Obviously winning breeds confidence and that in turn helps build momentum. For me though the key ingredient is teamwork. Football is a team game and the team ethic we are building is really something. Together, I am certain, we will ensure our inaugural season ends on a real high.



Off the field our Gothia 2017 fundraising is about to commence with a Race Night to be held at Juniper Green Bowling Club on 30/4/16 so a huge thanks to the Fundraising Ladies for getting the ball rolling - sorry about the pun! I'm sure it'll be a great night and hopefully it will get our coffers ticking over nicely.

2000s (cont)

For me the joy of being involved with youth football is seeing how everyone involved with a team pulls together to make it a success - to all my heartfelt thanks. To be performing as we are in our very first season is testament to you all. Please keep doing more of exactly the same."

1998s UPDATE

Head Coach Paul McGovern reflects on how the U19s have done since the turn of the year - "At the start of 2016 we welcomed Josh Wishart who signed from Livingston FC - a player who played regular football last season for Livingston Reserves and who has proved to be a real asset, settling in to the squad and turning in some terrific performances.

Since our last feature in the Winter Newsletter we mentioned how well the team had performed with it being their first season at 19s and coming up against a number of 2nd year U19 teams, turning in some terrific performances and sitting proudly at the top of the league and have been their since the first game of the season. We have shown a remarkable level of consistency in our performances and to still to date still sit 7 points clear at the top of the league and through to the semi-final of the League Cup and the Quarter Final of the Hibs Supporters Cup. The players must take enormous credit for what they have produced so far this season playing some terrific football along the way. The run in to the end of the season will be tense but one which we will relish and look forward to"



2009s UPDATE

Cruden Homes is helping up and coming community football club, Currie Star FC's latest under 7s '2009' section start the new season in style thanks to a sponsorship which sees the team kitted out in a brand new strip (see below). The developer is currently building its new Scholars Park development in Currie and was keen to help. Grace Brownlow, sales and marketing director with Cruden Homes (East), said: "Currie Star FC has a great reputation in the area for nurturing local football talent and we wish the new 2009 team every success for their first season with the club."

Currie Star FC chairman, John Brock, said: "The 2009 boys' team were basically starting from scratch and had no kit for the coming season. Before Cruden Homes offered to help, we were finding it quite difficult to obtain sponsorship so we were delighted that such a well-known local company has agreed to support us."



2004s UPDATE

The 2004s are preparing for their move to 11 a side and have been delighted to

2004s (cont)

welcome a number of new faces to the squad : Daniel King, Matthew Beevers, Andy Milne and Ryan Mackie. All are settling in well into the year group and are great new signings! For the second half of the season, the squad are split across 1 Maradona and 2 Beckham teams and a degree of movement is being encouraged to get the boys used to playing with different players in readiness for the move to 11 a side when they move from 3 to 2 teams.

Off the field, many of the parents of the year group are working hard supporting fundraising efforts ahead of the 2017 Gothia trip. A successful bag packing event just before Christmas got us off to a super start and raised around £1,000. A cinema night is planned and it will be a great night out for all Currie Star parents - they are showing the film - "The Intern" (see below) in the Dominion's Gold One Screen Cinema. Tickets are £10 each (cheaper than a normal ticket at the Dominion) which also includes a glass of wine (or soft drink) and pringles. There will also be a raffle with a chance to win some fantastic prizes.

Any parents or families from any Currie Star age group are welcome. Please see the website for further details.

The 2004 year group were also the organisers of this year's Burns Supper - an enjoyable event that saw 2004 coaches, parents and a number of our year group's players come together to help organise and host the club's traditional annual Burns celebration. A wonderful evening was had by all.

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2005s UPDATE

The 2005s are at full strength with 42 players, Richard Lewis heading up the troupe with 11 able coaches and 2 teams each at Maradona and Zidane level.

Such is the coaching of Richard and the team, they have been able to shuffle the pack and move the Beckham boys up a level and take a Zidane mix up to Maradona. This is a big stretch for the boys but the quality of their passing football is such that they're already proving more than capable of the promotion, confirming some good decision making at the "coaches night out" in January, aided, I'm sure by the refreshments consumed on the night. What was it they used to say about Heineken? "Refreshes the parts other beers cannot reach?"

The boys enjoyed the relative indoor comforts of the Winter Futsal again at the Corn Exchange in Jan/Feb - meticulously organised as ever, and despite a very complicated spreadsheet everyone managed to be in the right place at the right time.

Looking forward, 27 of the squad are signed up for Gothia 2017 which is a fantastic response and an excellent challenge for our newly appointed parents committee as they kick off the fundraising drive. The boys are already excited about what is a truly life changing experience and the coaches can't wait for the week of (non) sleep on the classroom floors!

Finally the 2005s founder member Ken Stewart has returned to the fold and picking up with delegation duties where he left off.

2003s UPDATE

2003s coaches are working hard at planning training and are booked to attend extra 11s coaching training to benefit the squad of 20 players. Sean Level 1.3 (12hrs) and Scott Level 2 (32hrs), with Scott and Ian also attending Physical Preparation days. Parent Peter I'Anson attended First Aid (12hrs) training which is a pre requisite and essential to have a first aider for all teams. We are sure that the parents and boys will agree the development and progress of the squad in their first season at 11s has been a big step up from 7s. The squad go into the Easter Break just moving to top of Division 4 for the first time, knocking rivals St Bernards off top spot, in a closely contended league after 14 games, with 10 games to play. They have reached their first League Cup Final - the Polar Foods Cup. The opponents are St Bernards which will prove to be a top flight game. The final will be 15th April KO 7pm at Saughton Enclosure, entrance £2., please support them and bring family and friends.



A Big thanks to Sean and David Kerr (parent) who are looking for numbers interested in Gothia 2017 as the 2003s are hoping to attend this event with the other year groups.

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PLAY2LEARN UPDATE

Play2Learn are delighted to introduce the new graduates from the Saturday Morning foundation programme, it is the 2009s.

27 new recruits have signed for the mighty blue and whites and have already started representing the club in the 4 aside format. After the Easter break they will be training at Kingsknowe from 6-7 every Monday evening.

The 2008s are growing in confidence and are recruiting new players. The parent coaches led by Danny are beginning to deliver some of the coaching sessions on the Monday night slot. With Play2Learn offering support and mentoring individuals. This will become a valuable and beneficial aspect of the programme for this age group. It is hoped that it can be replicated in other age groups as they move through the pathway.

The 2007s will be moving on into the 7aside format where they will be a strong outfit. It has been a pleasure coaching the players and coaching alongside the parent coach team. Good luck in the world of 7aside football.

There is breaking news on the Goalkeeping front!! An extra Goalkeeping session will be a new provision offered on a Monday night. This will be delivered by a Play2Learn coach called Gordon. The current Goalkeeping sessions on a Wednesday will continue with Greame of Play2Learn.

If interested in joining your child to P2L activities then please contact Shane on 07825 086108 or by email at the following address - Shane@play2learn.info

2001s UPDATE

Currie Star 2001s players and parents will be taking part in the Great Edinburgh Run in April.....handing out water bottles rather than participating.....as the boys start their fundraising for Gothia 2017.

A sponsor was found for new winter jackets and our subs no longer have to brave the elements in their tracksuits!!

Keir Hislop has moved on from the team and we wish Keir all the very best with his football in the future.

William Shiel has joined the team from Musselburgh Windsor - welcome William, we hope you enjoy your time with Currie Star.

Meanwhile the 2001s Colts team continue to develop in their journey in Division 2 with the coaches seeing improvements in their play as the weeks progress. Hopefully the boys will continue developing and see some positive results from the efforts as the season draws to a close.

The team said goodbye to Iyad Al-Qasem who left us in January - we wish Iyad all the best in whatever he chooses to do next and thank him for his efforts in his time with the Colts. I'm sure one of his lasting memories will be the League Cup this time last year. We welcome Patrick Grzonkowski who joins the Colts.

The Colts coaches are planning a fun end of season activity for the boys and we will provide an update on this with pictures in the next edition of the newsletter.



2006s UPDATE

First up, a big welcome to Alan Rouff, Robbie Cameron and Luke Foster who all joined the squad this period. Welcome to the club boys. We hope you enjoy your time playing football with us.

As the outdoor 7s came to a close the big event was the squad Christmas party, which involved us taking over nearly half the lanes at the Fountain Park bowling alley. It was a great way to end the year and everybody had a fun afternoon.

During the winter break they played 5-a-sides at World of Football. They used the opportunity to mix up the squads and play boys in unfamiliar positions. The games were very competitive and all the boys played well and with a great spirit.

As they moved back into 7s, they made a number of changes. The 'Barca' team has moved up a division into the Maradona league. This will present a new challenge for an increasingly strong team. At the same time they've formed a new 'Juve' team that will play in the Zidane league. They now have one team in Pele, two in Maradona, one in Zidane and one in Beckham. As ever, the idea is to have the kids playing at a level that challenges them but also gives them an opportunity to improve and to enjoy playing football. To help with these changes they've been joined by two new coaches: Paul Muir will be helping Alan with the Juve team and Conan Sharman will be taking the Milan team. It's always great to see people make that step into coaching and I'm sure they'll enjoy the experience.

2006s UPDATE (cont)

Finally, after several years of wear, the boys are growing out of their current match kit. Fortunately for the team, thanks to very generous sponsorship from Miller Homes and WGM Consulting, all the players will shortly be receiving brand new match kit. On behalf of all the players and parents we'd like to say thanks to our sponsors for their continued support.

2002s UPDATE

Dave McLellan updates us on the 2002s "The Division 2 team have had some good performances and results lately which has seen the team climb a few places in the league.

We also had a close match against the league leaders - Bonnyrigg Rose FC which will give the players belief that they can compete against the higher placed teams in the league.

Also we hope Emilio recovers quickly from a fractured ankle sustained in a match against AC Oxfangs." A sentiment echoed by all at Currie Star Emilio!

Heriot Watt UPDATE (Connor Gamie)

"As always it has been a busy quarter for everyone at the Watt with lots happening on and off the pitch. We still have 7 men's teams and 1 ladies team competing in the University leagues on a Wednesday. Although no league wins it is fantastic to see so many people involved with the club and playing football.

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Heriot Watt UPDATE (cont)

"The East of Scotland squad are currently sitting 3rd in the division after gaining promotion last year. The amateurs are mid-table in their league and have achieved some fantastic results in the past few weeks. The under 20s are performing well and gaining some good results. This squad is developing well and giving some Currie star 19s boys game time in the process. A highlight being only last week Currie star's own Cammy Ross scoring a superb free kick against Spartans, although not enough to gain the win the game, it is showing great promise in the pathway that is being forged by the two clubs. Another major development at Heriot-Watt

is the building of Oriam. The super facilities are really starting to take shape and everyone is excited for the completion and opening over summer. This is a facility that not only the University can use, but the whole community and is certainly something Currie Star will benefit from. It can be clearly seen the HWUFC's recent successes coincide with the development of Currie star and the partnership is stronger than ever and something we hope to continue over the summer, into the new season and for years to come.

So from all at HWUFC, good luck for the remainder of the season and have a good break when it comes."

Remember to follow us on Twitter @CurrieStarFC

Thanks, as always, must go to all our partners, sponsors, parents, coaches and supporters who make it all possible through their support and hard work.



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Thanks to everyone who contributed to this edition of the Newsletter. The Newsletter will only work going forward if we continue to get input from every age group. If you have any ideas or suggestions for future editions of the Newsletter please contact david.muego@sky.com. Remember, it is your Newsletter!!