



Derry Hill Utd Football Club Parent and Player Guide

2020-21 Season



CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

Contents

Welcome to Derry Hill Utd Football Club	3
Playing for Derry Hill Utd FC	3
Our Club Character and Ethos	3
Supporting the Club Character and Ethos	4
Player selection, participation and rotation	4
Our Leagues	5
Where we play	5
How we celebrate our season	5
How we communicate	5
Volunteering for Derry Hill Utd FC	5
Club Contact Details	6



Welcome to Derry Hill Utd Football Club

Derry Hill United FC was formed in June 2001. The Club has a typical membership of over **200 children** aged between **6 and 18** in mixed and girls'-only teams.

DHUFC has been a **Chartered Standard Club** since 2003 and a **Charter Standard Community Club**, the top FA grassroots club award, since 2009.

We were the winners of the prestigious award of **2017 Charter Standard Community Club of the Year** for Wiltshire.

Playing for Derry Hill Utd FC

Parents should take responsibility for delivering and collecting their children for training and matches. They should arrive on time and should only be left unattended if they are confident that their children are happy to be left. Under 6s should have a parent or guardian with them at all times.

It is important that players wear the right kit for training and matches and are ready for all weather conditions. The right kit includes the football boots, shin pads and any eyewear (if appropriate). Players should always bring a bottle of water and a coat, raincoat and/or protection against the sun depending on the weather conditions.

The club provides a 3 part strip for players at no extra charge. These are to be worn for matches only and not training sessions. Please provide Carol with sizes for new players. The club keeps a record of sizes/numbers allocated to players. If a player leaves, coaches will liaise with parents to organise return of the club shirt and shorts ASAP.

The link to the DHUFC online club shop is: www.dhufc.org/shop

Our Club Character and Ethos

We pride ourselves that we are football club with a strong **development ethos** where **enjoyment** and **participation** are at the heart of what we offer. This character and ethos is in line with the expectations of the Football Association (FA) see for example, the FA publication: [Play Your Part](#).

We are committed to providing continuous development opportunities for our players, coaches and volunteers in a safe and supportive environment.

We fully comply with the **FA Respect Codes of Conduct** and expect our coaches, players and supporters to do so as well. Players and parents need to read, understand and follow the appropriate codes of conduct:

[Player Code of Conduct](#)

[Spectator and Parent Code of Conduct](#)

We take our **Safeguarding Children** responsibilities very seriously:



- **Catherine Saville, our Club Welfare Office** is available to discuss any concerns that you or your child may have about welfare and safeguarding at the club; and
- All our coaches have an up-to-date **Criminal Records Check** and attend regular **Safeguarding Children Certification Courses**.
- The **Club Safeguarding Policy** is available on request.

Supporting the Club Character and Ethos

To support our club ethos:

- we only have one squad per age group and there are no A, B, C or separate development teams at Derry Hill Utd FC;
- everyone plays matches, unless they have signed up for a training-only place;
- there are no separate match or training fees; and
- we have guideline maximum squad sizes to enable high levels of participation:
 - 18-20 players for 9 a-side and 11 a-side format.
 - 14-15 players for 5 a-side and 7 a-side format

Player selection, participation and rotation

We do not prescribe player selection rotation or participation in detail, we trust our coaches to work within our club character and ethos.

Our coaches are to ensure that all player take part.

- We have a Club Policy on selection for matches: ***we expect the minimum selection for matches to be at least a third of the matches that the player is available for.*** The selection policy is aimed at teams with a lot of squad players and should not be used to exclude less experienced players in smaller squads. Coaches can reflect factors such as training attendance in match selection.
- Our coaches are asked to make sure all match day players take part - aiming for all players selected for matches to play **at least 50% of the match**.

*Our character and ethos **does not** mean that all players necessarily play an equal part in matches.*

Winning is everything, isn't it?

No, it isn't!

We want our teams to do the best they can. Sometimes this will mean winning, other times it won't. Win or lose, properly motivated the team will still have done the best they can.

Results don't matter, particularly at the non-competitive age groups up to and including U11.

Research tells us that at the non-competitive age groups it is the adults - parents and coaches - that drive the need to win. It is not the children. Don't believe that, check out this fabulous research report by the FA's Nick Levett: [Why do you play?](#)



Our

Leagues

We play in the Mid Wilts Youth and Minor League, the Wiltshire County Women's and Girls' League and occasionally the North Wilts Youth League.

Where we play

Our home ground is Bowood Sports Ground (BSG), New Road, Studley SN11 9LX. BSG is the default location for matches and training for all our teams from U7 to U14s inclusive.

At U15 our teams move away from BSG:

- for matches to Beversbrook Sports Facility or Kingsbury Green Academy; and
- for weekend training to Kingsbury Green Academy

Some of our older teams train in the week. We use a range of venues for this training including Beversbrook Sports Facility, Calne and Stanley Park, Chippenham.

We have a Guide to our Ground for further information.

How we celebrate our season

We hold an End of Season Presentation in June at Bowood Sports Ground. The presentation is an opportunity for the whole club to get together and celebrate our season. The precise date and format for the presentation can change so parents and players are advised to keep an eye on communications from the club.

How we communicate

Individual team coaches and secretaries lead their own communications with parents and players.

Club communication will come through Love Admin if it is very important or specific to particular players. For general communication we use newsletters or, where appropriate, social media.

Volunteering for Derry Hill Utd FC

We rely on volunteers to run our football club. We are always interested in hearing from any parent or adult family member who feels they can offer their help. Obvious roles are team coaches or team secretaries but we have other roles too and these include:

- helping with events, including the End of Season Presentation;
- helping support the Derry Hill Dugout refreshments kiosk; and
- helping secure sponsorship.



CHARTER STANDARD
COMMUNITY CLUB

Club Contact Details

Role	Name	Email address	Mobile phone
Chair	Ian Lycett	chair@dhufc.org	07958 225931
Vice Chair	Chris Saville	vice-chair@dhufc.org	07906 112317
Secretary	Adam Mulliss	secretary@dhufc.org	07791 996261
Club Welfare Officer	Catherine Saville	cathlsaville@gmail.com	07986 379995