



2023

RIVERSIDE UTD JFC PARENTS HANDBOOK



We Are a Football Family....
We Do Everything With Pride...
We Always Make Things Happen....
We Are Riverside!!

Be Unique

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Welcome to Our "little" Club!

First of all, Riverside Utd JFC would like to welcome you and thank you for choosing our club for you and your child/children to be part of.

Welcome to our footballing family!!

Since our formation as a charity club in 2006, Riverside United Juniors F.C have been providing a service to the children of the local community of Syston (and the surrounding villages/towns) by building teams of enthusiastic, respectful and aspirational youngsters all interested in learning the art of football. A Syston Juniors Football Club to be proud of!

Whether you've been with us for a while or joining us for the first time, rest assured you and your child will have all the support you'll ever need on your footballing journey with us.

This handbook has been put together to help you understand how the club operates, what you can expect from us and what you can do to help us



achieve the best environment for you and your child to enjoy the beautiful game.

What Defines us

Here at Riverside, we pride ourselves on being different from all other grassroots community football clubs. We don't only provide F.A. standard training facilities, F.A. accredited coaches and reasonable sign-on and subscription fees, we also strive to uphold a strict rule of being: -

"ALL INCLUSIVE".

The definition of which is as follows:

- The Club shall promote an all inclusive policy towards its membership.
- The Club shall strive to offer the community the opportunity to participate in football activities, and will not discriminate against, or treat anyone less favourably because of their ability, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation or disability.



- Furthermore, anyone involved in a club activity will be treated fairly and with respect.

However, we must stress that due to F.A rules there is a restriction on the number of players that can be submitted to matchday squads (numbers vary dependant on the League to which your team subscribes) therefore, whilst we guarantee your child a place to learn, train and play football within our training sessions, we cannot guarantee regular game time which will be made clear to yourselves prior to your committal to the club.

Sign-On & Subs

It is standard practice across the club that any new player looking to join our club gets their first 2 training sessions free of charge.

This practise gives each new player a chance to make an informed decision on whether they feel comfortable and are happy to want to join our club full time, without making an upfront financial commitment to the club.



Unsigned players are free to join at any time during the football season, however a player looking to transfer from another club requires written confirmation from their current Club Secretary and will also need to be sanctioned by the league in which they're currently playing.

Should this arise please consult your current Club Secretary for more information.

Sign-on fees and monthly subscriptions vary depending on which team and league you are currently in, and these will be made clear to you from the very beginning by your team manager.

Sign-on fees are collected at the start of every football season, and reduce by 50% should your player sign-on during the second half of a season (January - May).

Subscriptions are usually collected by the club on the 1st of each month using our Go Cardless system, this is set up by the Clubs Treasurer on receipt of a valid email address and relevant bank details.

Please note: A player needs to be signed on and their monthly subscriptions set up to be eligible



to play in league fixtures and tournaments. The Club will issue each Parent a link via their email provided to set up a subscription, also please be aware separate subscriptions need to be set up for each child joining our club. A player who wishes to train only need not sign-on but will be required to pay the monthly subscription.

Mini Kickers and Wildcats children need not sign-on but must set up a monthly subscription after their qualifying free trail.

Player Information

Once a player has joined the Club feel free to have a look at our website for any more information you may need:

www.riversideutdjfc.com

Please rest assured that all information collected by the club **MUST NOT** and **WILL NOT** be disclosed, transferred, sold, posted on social media or otherwise distributed in line with The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2016. Breaches will result in disciplinary action being taken.



Kits & Equipment

Riverside Utd JFC's club colours are as follows:

(Standard Nike "Park" kits as per our website):-

www.riversideutdjfc.com

- Home Colours: Royal blue shirt, Red shorts & Blue socks.
- Away Colours: Red & White Striped shirt, Blue shorts & Red socks.

All kits and equipment purchased by the club or sponsor will always remain the property of the club, please ensure all kits are returned to the club should a player leave, in addition the club will not authorise a transfer to another club until all property has been returned.

As a charity club we actively encourage each team to acquire a sponsor from the local business community for the purchase of matchday kits. Therefore, if you or anyone you know would like to sponsor a team or get involved in any way, whether its sponsorship, volunteering or helping the club with an event, please ask your team manger how you can help.



Training, Matchdays & Tournaments

All managers are responsible for making sure that all safety measures are in place and all playing surfaces and equipment are in a safe and usable condition prior to a training session or commencement of a match.

It is compulsory that Respect Barriers are used during matches, and spectators to the game are required to stay behind the barriers at least 2.5 meters away from the playing surface and are on the opposite side of the playing surface to the players and coaching team.

Parents must ensure that all players arrive with the correct equipment to participate safely, this usually consists of the relevant strip, drink, shin pads and footwear appropriate for the surface being played on.

Should a player arrive for training/a match without the correct equipment, then that player will not be permitted to take part as it contravenes our club insurance.

We must make all parents/guardians/carers aware that when their child isn't training, warming up or playing that the child is their



responsibility (this doesn't include being a substitute), this is particularly important during tournaments where there is time in between matches.

Where a match or tournament is being played away, we respectfully ask that all players and travelling spectators behave in a way that doesn't bring the Club into disrepute.

Any fines incurred by a player i.e. RED/YELLOW cards are payable by the parent/guardian/carer of the player to which the fine pertains.

Whilst we appreciate the passion of the game and emotions can run high on the sidelines, please refrain from shouting instructions at your child. We've found in our experience that all this does is confuses the player as the coaches have often instructed the player to do something different!

League & Matchday Rules

Riverside are registered under the Leicestershire and Rutland County F.A.



There are 5 leagues we subscribe to depending on the age of your players these leagues are as follows:

- Leicester & District Mutual - U7 - U10
- Leicestershire Foxes Sunday League - U11 - U12
- Leicester & District Sunday Juniors - U13 - U15
- Leicestershire Youth League - U16 - U18
- Leicestershire Women's & Girls Football League - U7 - Open Age.

Here you'll find some rules & guidelines you may find helpful: -

A player who has not reached the age of 6 shall not play, and shall not be permitted or encouraged to play in a match of any kind. The relevant age for each Player is determined by his or her age as at midnight on 31st August of the relevant Playing Season i.e. children who are aged 6 as at midnight on 31st August in a Playing Season (together with those who reach the age of 6 during the Playing Season) will be classed as Under 7 Players for that Playing Season. Children who are aged 7 as at midnight on 31st August in a Playing Season will be classed as Under 8 Players for that Playing Season, and so on. Notwithstanding the above, a child is



permitted to play up in the age group above his or her chronological age group, irrespective of any changes of format or competition structure, save that a child who reaches the age of 6 after 31st August is permitted to play only in the Under 7 age group, and may not play in the Under 8 age group for that Playing Season. A player cannot play below their respective age group. Depending on the age group your child is in there are variables you need to be made aware of i.e. game length, ball sizes, matchday squad sizes etc.

U7s/U8s

5v5, 20mins each way (can be four 10min quarters) Ball size 3, Max squad size 8, Min squad size 4

U9s/U10s

7v7, 25mins each way, Ball size 3, Max squad size 12, Min squad size 5

U11s/U12s

9v9 30mins each way, Ball size 4, Max squad size 14, Min squad size 6

U13s/U14s



11v11 35mins each way, Ball size 4, Max squad 16,
Min squad size 7

U15s/U16s

11v11 40mins each way, Ball size 5, Max squad 16,
Min squad size 7

U17s/U18s

11v11 45mins each way, Ball size 5, Max squad 16,
Min squad size 7

(Minimum squad size refers to the minimum
number of players required to fulfil a
competitive league fixture)

Only players that are signed on are eligible to
play in League fixtures and League sanctioned
tournaments, we have a sign-on period that is
usually 1st May - 30th June annually to sign your
child on, however unregistered players can sign-
on throughout the season.



What You Can Expect From Us

We are a Charter Standard club with an affiliation to Leicestershire & Rutland County F.A. and the English F.A.

To keep this affiliation, we require that all managers/coaches/assistants/helpers are subject to an F.A. approved D.B.S (Disclosure and Barring Service) check, complete a Safeguarding Children in Football course and that all managers complete a Level 1 Introduction to Coaching Football course.

Coaches/Team Officials will respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person and treat each equally within the context of the sport. Coaches will place the well-being and safety of each player above all other considerations, including the development of performance.

Coaches will adhere to all guidelines laid down by governing bodies. Coaches must develop an appropriate working relationship with each player based on mutual trust and respect. Coaches/Team Officials will not exert undue influence to obtain personal benefit or reward. Coaches must encourage and guide players to



accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance.

Coaches must ensure that the activities they direct, or advocate are appropriate for age, maturity, experience and ability of players. Coaches should, at the outset clarify with the players (and where appropriate, parents), exactly what is expected of them and also what they are entitled to expect from their coaches. Coaches must cooperate fully with other specialists (eg. other coaches, officials, scientists, doctors, physiotherapists) in the best interest of the player.

Coaches must always promote the positive aspects of the sport (eg. Fair Play) and never condone violations of the Laws of the Game, behaviour contrary to the spirit of the Laws of the Game or relevant rules and regulations or the use of prohibited substances or techniques. Coaches/Team Officials must consistently display high standards of behaviour and appearance.

Coaches/Team Officials will not tolerate or use bad language.



What We Expect From Your Child

A player should make every effort to develop their own sporting ability in all areas of the game.

Players should give maximum effort and strive for the best performance at all times.

Players should always try to set a positive example to others.

Players should refrain from using all forms of gamesmanship and time-wasting.

Players should not use foul or abusive (racially or otherwise) language to members of their own team, opponents, match officials, managers or supporter.

Players should make every effort consistent with Fair Play and the Laws of the Game to help his/her team to win.

Players should know and abide by the Laws, Rules and spirit of the game.

Players should always accept success and failure, victory and defeat equally.

Players should resist any temptations to take banned substances or use banned techniques.



Players should treat opponents with respect at all times, irrespective of the result of the game. Players should avoid using violence and refrain from rough play and help injured opponents. Players should always accept the decisions of Match Officials without protest and show them due respect at all times.

Players should always abide by the instructions of their Coach and Team Officials.

Players should show due respect towards the Team Officials and supporters of the opposition.

What We Expect From You

Parents/Supporters should always try and set a positive example whilst they are attending a Club activity and refrain from displaying poor behaviour or using foul or abusive language. Parents/Supporters should be positive in their encouragement at all times and applaud the opposition as well as their own team. Parents/Supporters should show due respect to Match Officials at all times.



Parents/Supporters should avoid coaching from the touchline.

Parents/Supporters should keep a safe distance away from the touchline and avoid entering the pitch even if their child is injured.

If you have a concern you need to discuss with your teams coaches, please wait until the end of the current match/training session to bring it to their attention.

Furthermore you can also contact the club through the More "contact us" section of our club website: -

www.riversideutdjfc.com

The Committee

The Club Committee shall consist of the following people:- a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Child Welfare Officer, 5 League Secretaries and 4 to 6 further people who pursue an active interest in the Club (some members hold more than one role within the committee).



Each Club Officer/Committee Member may hold office for an unspecified duration and may only be removed from Office by a vote of Club members at an Annual General Meeting (AGM), or an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM).

Any outgoing member may be re-elected providing they are proposed and seconded by existing Committee members. The Club, management of the Club as a whole.

All decisions will be made by a simple majority of those Committee members in attendance. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote. If the Chairperson is not in attendance, the meeting shall be Chaired by a Committee Member selected by consensus of the remaining members.

A quorum for the transaction of Club business shall consist of the Chairperson and 3 further Committee members.

All decisions made by the Club Committee shall be entered into the Minute Book and maintained by the Club Secretary.

Club members under the age of 16 may have their views represented by their parental guardian during the voting process.

A Member of The Club Committee may call a meeting of the Club Committee by giving 7 days' notice to all members of The Club Committee.



The Club Committee shall sit not less than 4 times a year.

The Position of Club Officer shall be vacated if such a person is subject to a decision of The FA that such a person be suspended from holding office or taking part in any football activity relating to the administration or management of a football club.

The names and contact details of the Committee members can be made available to you.

Miscellaneous

Presentation evenings are held annually at the end of every season to celebrate the time and effort every member of our club puts in.

We insist that all parents (or players representative) and the players attend to support each other and maintain our family values.

We're so happy you've chosen Riverside for your child and we endeavour to help children from all different backgrounds learn and enjoy the beautiful game, we all love so much.

We as a club endeavour to support you in any way we can, but please remember, we're all



volunteers, we all have good and bad days, we're all here for the good of our children so if you can, please help your coaches set up a pitch, help collect the balls in or just say "thanks" every so often it means sooo much!!!

If there's anything you're unsure of please ask your coaching team.

**Your continued support
means everything, we
wouldn't be here without
you!!!**

**Thank you from us all at
Riverside United Juniors
Football Club**

