

## Welcome back!



New Writtle Minors' kit to be unveiled by David Beckham

Welcome to the first edition of the Minor for the new 2008-2009 season. We hope you all had a good summer break and are back refreshed and ready to play football.

Every year at Writtle Minors all teams move up an age group and we get new teams starting at the youngest age groups, with new managers.

This year we have 6 new managers Rob Baker, Darren Hogg and David Walton have taken on the new boys U8 teams and for the girls we have Ken Ellis taking on the girls U10s and Tony Palmer (the clubs goal keeping coach) taking on the girls U11s. For the older age groups Wayne Harris has taken over from Jim Wright to lead the boys U14M team and he will be taking the FA courses in the near future. Good luck to all our new managers and teams for the coming season.

The teams for this year are:

### BOYS TEAM SEASON 2008-9

U.8A Manager: Rob Baker  
 U.8B Manager: Darren Hogg  
 U.8M Manager: David Walton  
 U.9A Manager: Tony Palmer  
 U.9B Manager: Mark West  
 U.9M Manager: Ashley Nicholson  
 U.10A Manager: Kevin Poole  
 U.10B Manager: Ian Mansfield  
 U.10M Manager: Kevin Free  
 U.11C Manager: Sean James  
 U.11M Manager: Alan Hopkins  
 U.12C Manager: John Morgan  
 U.12M Manager: Damian Moynihan  
 U.13C Manager: Philip Baker  
 U.13M Manager: John Box  
 U.14C Manager: Paul Gravatt  
 U.14M Manager: Wayne Harris  
 U.15C Manager: Terry Adams  
 U.15M Manager: Gary Crook  
 U.16M Manager: John Swinney  
 U.17C Manager: David Beckett

### GIRLS TEAM SEASON 2008-9

U.10 Manager: Ken Ellis  
 GU11 Manager: Tony Palmer  
 GU12 Manager: Paul Turner  
 GU13 Manager: Rob Ellis  
 GU14 Manager: Perry King  
 GU15 Manager: Dave Palmer

### ANNUAL EVENTS

**Family fun night (U6 / 7)**  
 8th November '08  
 7pm onwards

**Parents Five-a-side**  
 Good Friday, 10th April '09

**Sponsored walk**  
 4th May '09  
 Sign in 8.30am, 9am start

**Boys presentation day**  
 6th June '09  
 All day

**Girls presentation night**  
 13th June '09  
 7pm onwards

**Signing on day**  
 4th July '09  
 9am - 1.30pm

**Soccer fun school**  
 24th - 28th August '09  
 All day

**Writtle challenge**  
 30th August / 6th Sept '09  
 All day

### USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

SECRETARY - HELEN POTTON - 01245 420424    CHAIRMAN - DAVID BECKETT - 01245 351512  
 TREASURER - LINDA MAPLES - 01245 494118    CLUB WELFARE OFFICER - VICTORIA FREE - 07759 125919

## Writtle challenge

As we have done for a number of years we played Springfield on the Sunday before the league games start.

This year it was our turn to host the games – unfortunately the weather had turned and parts of the country were experiencing severe flooding and even this part of Essex didn't escape the downpours – so it was touch and go if the eleven games were to go ahead – but in the end they did and there were many close matches – except for our U11M - who managed to score 13 times. So with 1 game to go it was

equal on points each club having won four games with two draws. So no pressure on the final game of the day, played with a strong wind blowing down the pitch and into the WM faces in the first half which unfortunately they lost and despite them winning the second half 3-0 the game had already got away from them but it was played with great spirit, effort and some excellent football.

The trophy was presented to the Springfield Chairman after the final game, but I am sure we can win it back next year.

## Summer soccer fun school update

The soccer fun school took place during the week leading up to the August bank holiday as is tradition.

With a number of coaches and assistant coaches returning, mixed in with some new recruits, a great deal of fun was on offer to the 153 youngsters. There was a blend of skill based competitions and football games, with Tottenham Football in the Community, visiting us again on the Thursday & Friday with their inflatables.

The weather was kind to us, with the daily dose of rain coming down outside the Soccer Fun School hours.

Glen Wilkinson has offered to run the soccer fun school for a ninth year and discussions on the 2009 event are already taking place!

Steve Frostick

## Setting up new field

I would just like to thank the people who came to help with the setting up of the field putting up posts and in particular marking out the pitches. Everyone who was new to it was surprised at how "easy" it all was, a couple of people even helped twice.

Dave Beckett

## General news

We are always in need of helpers for work to do around the field or for events, if any of you, fancy a bit of weeding (need to have garden gloves) or are good with a paint brush or are available to take minutes once a month or help set up the pitches at the start of the season, or at any number of things, we are always looking for people to help, just drop me a note or phone me on 01245 351512.

As you may be aware we are still awaiting a couple of things to finish off the new field the first being the drainage in our new car park which the Parish Council tell me is imminent, we just need to move some of the net-pave to allow the machines to get access. Also the mains services (water and electricity) to be connected to our port-a-cabin and then it can be linked up to the sewerage system. Unfortunately this is currently with WSSC and the Council, but I will let you know as soon as progress is made and in the mean time we can still use the facilities in the club house.

I have arranged for a tea/coffee, snacks van to be there from 21st September until we can get our own facilities up and running.

We had an absolutely fantastic year at the Minors last year, let's try to make it just as good, or even better this year.

Dave Beckett

## WM Football Tournament

In July WMFC ran the football tournament for themselves as in previous years we have only had it as part of the WSSC event. This year we split it over two sessions with the girls and the U8 boys taking the first of those in the morning while managers from the boys teams manned the car parking, snacks and barbeque with the girls managers doing that in the afternoon. So instead of not raising any money for Writtle Minors as in previous years this time we managed to raise about £750 and we hope that will rise as we get better at ordering the correct quantities in future years.

## Sponsored Walk 5th May 2008

We had a very nice day for it this year so no dashing in and out with the barbeque due to rain this time. There were a very good number of walkers who all seemed to have enjoyed the day and so far we have collected about £3,600 – but there are still a number yet to pay over their money so we are hoping to raise over £4,000 for the club.

This is our second biggest income generator of the year, after the signing on fees, and so it is important for the club to keep that money coming in.

### Wanted - referees

Must be over 14 years of age.  
Pay £15 - 25 per game.  
Financial assistance may be available for a training course.

For more information contact Dave Beckett on 01245 351512.

### Wanted - coach

Coach required to assist with U13's, a couple of hours per week maximum.

For more information contact John Box on 07775 546454.