

WEST KIRBY FOOTBALL CLUB SECRETARY'S SUMMARY SEASON 2023-2024

Football

The 2023-2024 Season continued the churn of players and managers which had been the situation of recent seasons, with reserve and first team managers replaced with new incumbents. The season also saw the introduction of U16 teams for the first time at West Kirby Football Club. This provision arose after the decision of Poulton Victoria Football Club's committee and management to fold the club with West Kirby Football Club agreeing to transition the football provision over to West Kirby. This also incorporated the first and reserve team managers after the existing managers decided to resign.

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
7	West Kirby	24	9	6	9	-1	33
8	Neston Nomads	24	8	5	11	-1	29
9	Marshall's Res	24	7	6	11	-20	27
10	Maghull Res	24	7	3	14	-8	24
11	Aintree Villa Res	24	7	3	14	-22	24
12	Higher Bebington Kelma	24	6	4	14	-30	22

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
1	Cammell Laird 1907 Res	26	24	1	1	75	73
2	FC Kirkby	26	20	2	4	47	62
3	Chester Nomads Res	26	15	6	5	25	51
4	West Kirby Res	26	14	5	7	33	47
5	Helsby Res	26	14	3	9	4	45

The first Team finished 7 of 13 in division one, with the reserves finished 4 of 14 in Division two. The final league positions showed considerable improvements compared with the last three seasons. For example the reserves finished bottom of the division in season 2021-2022 with the first team finishing 14 of 16 teams. Credit has to be given and it be recognised that the improvement from this low base was begun by the resigning managers Nathan Brooks and Stuart Tomlinson. At the start of the season the new open age managers were Peter Simon and Jay Stott assisted by Jay Hennessey and Keith Bromsgrove respectively.

In the football itself progress in the leagues was also shown in part by the various cup games, which provided interest with both teams reaching the semi-final stages of various cup competitions.

The first team were knocked out of the Cheshire Amateur Cup in the first round by Wilmslow Albion first team. In the West Cheshire League Divisional Cups the first team progressed to the Howarth & Gallagher Bowl semi-final before losing to S. Liverpool Reserves. Similarly the Reserves reached the Division Two Shield semi-final before going out to Cammell Laird 1907 Reserves. In the Wirral FA Cup competitions the First Team went out in the first round of the Senior Cup to Cammell Laird 1907 first team, however in the Wirral Amateur Cup the Reserves progressed to the semi-final before succumbing to Cammell Laird 1907 Reserves.

The number of Open Age players registered with the West Cheshire League was finalised at 85, a big reduction from the totals of previous seasons. The table below details the discipline record for season 2023-2024, the fines resulted in a final total amount of £562

2023-2024	Cautions	Send Offs	Misconducts	Rule Breach	All
FT	21	2	2	0	25
NFT	20	2	1	0	23
Club	0	0	0	0	0

Open Age player registrations totalled 88. The players registered included 18 who had moved up to play open age football for the first time.

Another first time experience for West Kirby Football Club was the inclusion of - for the first junior teams from age U7 – age U15 for the first time. Playing in the Wallasey JFL and Eastham JfL, the new junior teams - comprised 18 in total. The majority of the teams played on a Saturday in the Eastham League with a couple of teams also playing on Sundays in the Wallasey league. The teams completed season fixtures and competed in a number of summer tournaments including one international tournament in the Netherlands. Player registrations for teams up to u16 totalled approximately 110. Initially during this season the teams operated under the umbrella of West Kirby FC. In addition to the development of the junior section it still remains a drive to enrol more girls and girls teams into the club. Finally the aim for the forthcoming season is to maximise the potential of the Development squad to bring in U7s and maintain the player pathway the club now offers.

Team Management

As has been the situation for most of the past seasons the managerial positions changed yet again during the close season. This was primarily driven after discussions with the management of Poulton Victoria FC - after that club took the decision to fold at the end of the season - to propose a move to West Kirby FC. Which after much discussion was agreed. The first and reserve team managers in place at the time, Nathan Brookes and Stuart Tomlinson took the decision to stand down during the discussion period which led to the vacancies being offered to the Poulton Victoria managers Peter Simon and Jay Stott. In addition Jay Hennessey came as Peter Simon's assistant and Keith Bromsgrove as Jay Stott's,

The overall implementation of the u7 to u16 teams was facilitated by Peter Simon and Jay Hennessey. This added to a considerable workload when combined with the management duties. In addition the team managers of the 18 junior teams also needed to be consolidated into the club and with the FA Safeguarding, First Aid and DBS criteria achieved as necessary.

Unfortunately first team manager Peter Simon resigned early in the season because of work commitments so Jay Hennessey moved into the role as permanent first team manager in addition to the youth team oversight. Youth team oversight was also within the remit of Lee McKeown.

Managers and assistant managers improved West Cheshire results and league positions when compared with previous recent seasons and the whole of the team manager structure need to be complimented on this, after another turbulent period of manager transition.

New FA requirements for managers and the implementation of the FA's on-line learning courses has tightened up the oversight of manager's qualifications and the necessity to ensure new managers joining the club are aware of what is needed and are guided as how to access courses and DBS clearances.

Committee and Club Development

As highlighted earlier in this report the significant initiative leading into the 2023-2024 season was the transition of the previous Poulton Victoria Football Club managers and teams across into the West Kirby Football Club structure. This was a welcome move as the existing committee and club organisation was more than stagnated and in need of renewal from fresh members, development and football pathways.

The need for such developments had been highlighted in the earlier FA Compulsory Season Development Plans and the new development therefore enabled significant achievements regarding its aims and objectives. The current club officials remained voted in place, with the aim of enabling new managers and committee members to get an idea of how West Kirby FC was run in order to encourage new members of the committee to get involved and move into club officials roles. The new members of the committee also brought skills and knowledge of areas that existing members lacked, widening the expertise available to enhance the football club. Examples include clarity of player pathways and knowledge of partner organisations and facilities, social media, design and the wider local football related community.

To facilitate better communications a number of WhatsApp groups were established and eventually a structured meeting schedule was set up in addition to various ad hoc meetings to address specific problem that came up.

It remains that new volunteers would be very welcome and there is a need for additional committee members to take on specific areas of work, such as match day duties, kit management, clubhouse staffing, sponsorship and advertising etc.

The committee members also mostly achieved the criteria set out by the FA for mandatory course completion in relation to DBS, Safeguarding and Player Welfare in Open Age as required. This always remains ongoing.

In relation to club, all statutory returns were completed, to the Charity Commission by the club and to Companies House by the accountant. Accounts are prepared by the accountant D and L O'Neill – however it should be noted that the Charity Commission return now asks for the accounts to be audited, with both the accounts and the audited accounts both being required to be uploaded. Public Liability (which includes the Car Boot Sale) and Public Liability for football were renewed. The club was also inspected by the Fire Brigade who carried out a Fire Risk Assessment, which highlighted the need for clearer emergency signs and thorough cleaning of the vents in the kitchen.

West Kirby Football Club maintained its FA One Star Accreditation. One Star Accreditation shows clear player pathway from the development squad to the u7s across u16s to open age. Achieving two Star Accreditation will remain a target for the forthcoming seasons with the updated Season Development plans incorporating this in aims and objectives.

The club continued to make facilities available to foster community involvement, hosting charity games, charity car boot sales and as a venue for local groups to meet.

Facilities

It continued to become obvious that the changing rooms are becoming more unfit for purpose. A number of temporary repairs - roof and leaks and needed levelling - were carried out but even these temporary repairs will not last much longer. More serious was the need to remove part of the internal ceilings in the away and third changing rooms due to water damage. The referees room although in good internal condition does have some subsidence issues. The steel containers which provide enough storage for football and ground maintenance equipment, are still adequate for the forthcoming seasons.

Although there is funding available from the Football Foundation for changing rooms, the match funding element the club needs to provide is likely to be a considerable barrier in the immediate future. Hence the need to look at ways to provide more rapid solutions, particularly roofing.

The clubhouse remains in need of some re-upholstery and replacement skirting boards but otherwise is more than acceptable as a venue.

The playing areas and surrounding grounds continued to be maintained by the national company Iverde. However their provision declined during the season. In addition their outsourcing of pitch renovations, seeding, fertilising, vertidrainage and re-turfing the goalmouths failed entirely. The pitch provision during the season expanded as small pitches to the rear of the main pitch came into use for 5x5 and 7x7 teams. This area is also used for training outside of the winter months so it's crucial for it to be improved and upgraded to the best condition it can be. Seasonal work was also not carried out on the main pitch. The lack of this work and the lack of accompanying invoices meant that the club was unable to claim grants for pitch maintenance which had been allocated to the club by the Football Foundation. The club still returned photos and other details required under terms of the grant – which resulted in the continuance of reports from the Football Foundation as to the condition of the pitch, which could be used as pointers to Iverde.

The situation became such that the team managers became involved in carrying out the pitch work themselves, including grass cutting and re-turfing the goal mouths. Andy Jones the Chairman has completed Level one Groundsman Course and is thus able to provide some advice and support. This situation will need to be addressed in the coming season.

In relation to the above there are still patches on the main pitch that hold water and make the pitch unplayable in really wet weather. Discussion around additional equipment to address this is taking place in the close season.

The areas surrounding the ground have been maintained by Iverde except the difficult to reach areas at the side of the office and behind the changing rooms. The hardstanding is failing in patches along the sides of the pitch as the wooden shuttering has failed.

The most improved area is part of the car park and to the rear of the clubhouse and patio area which is now weed free, level and covered in gravel.

West Kirby Football Club Ltd

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24		31.5.23	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Income	43,174		17,034	
Car boot income	15,384		19,368	
		58,558		36,402
Cost of sales				
League fees	2,297		1,392	
Referees	1,706		1,326	
Bar stock	13,383		7,842	
		17,386		10,560
GROSS SURPLUS		41,172		25,842
Expenditure				
Rates and water	4,388		2,930	
Insurance	180		516	
Light and heat	2,573		6,187	
Equipment & kit	8,833		1,506	
Telephone	257		327	
Post and stationery	141		56	
Motor expenses	338		-	
Licences and insurance	159		159	
Pitch maintenance	6,263		5,577	
Repairs and renewals	10,339		5,659	
Household and cleaning	1,384		1,046	
Pitch hire	1,741		903	
Training & courses	966		387	
Computer costs	379		-	
Sundry expenses	145		90	
Accountancy	500		447	
Subscriptions	2,280		55	
Donations	-		23	
		40,866		25,868
		306		(26)
Finance costs				
Bank charges		166		35
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		140		(61)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Unaudited Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

for

West Kirby Football Club Ltd

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for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

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West Kirby Football Club Ltd

Income Statement
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24 £	31.5.23 £
TURNOVER	58,558	36,402
Other charges	(58,418)	(36,463)
Taxation	-	-
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	<u>140</u>	<u>(61)</u>

Balance Sheet

31 May 2024

	31.5.24	31.5.23
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS	15,099	18,244
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year	(15,460)	(18,745)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	(361)	(501)
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	(361)	(501)
RESERVES	(361)	(501)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

West Kirby Football Club Ltd is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address are as below:

Registered number: 11379938

Registered office: Marine Park
Greenbank Road
West Kirby
Wirral
CH48 5HL

2. AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

The average number of employees during the year was NIL (2023 - NIL).

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 May 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 31 October 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

R Williamson - Director

West Kirby Football Club Ltd

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24		31.5.23	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Income	43,174		17,034	
Car boot income	15,384		19,368	
		58,558		36,402
Cost of sales				
League fees	2,297		1,392	
Referees	1,706		1,326	
Bar stock	13,383		7,842	
		17,386		10,560
GROSS SURPLUS		41,172		25,842
Expenditure				
Rates and water	4,388		2,930	
Insurance	180		516	
Light and heat	2,573		6,187	
Equipment & kit	8,833		1,506	
Telephone	257		327	
Post and stationery	141		56	
Motor expenses	338		-	
Licences and insurance	159		159	
Pitch maintenance	6,263		5,577	
Repairs and renewals	10,339		5,659	
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Accountancy	500		447	
Subscriptions	2,280		55	
Donations	-		23	
		40,866		25,868
		306		(26)
Finance costs				
Bank charges		166		35
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		140		(61)

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West Kirby Football Club Ltd

Detailed Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 May 2024

	31.5.24 £	31.5.23 £
CURRENT ASSETS		
Bank account no. 1	15,099	18,244
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(14,960)	(18,325)
Accrued expenses	(500)	(420)
	<u>(15,460)</u>	<u>(18,745)</u>
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(361)</u>	<u>(501)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>(361)</u>	<u>(501)</u>
NET LIABILITIES	<u>(361)</u>	<u>(501)</u>
RESERVES		
Income and expenditure account	<u>(361)</u>	<u>(501)</u>