

Sporting 87 Football Club Charity 2023-24 Annual Report

Introduction

The Sporting 87 Football Club Charity operates with the following public benefit objectives:

1. To promote community participation in healthy recreation by providing football facilities.
2. To advance the Christian religion in accordance with the Club's statement of faith.

Football Provision

Sporting 87 FC is registered with the Suffolk FA and is an English FA accredited Football Club with two stars, and a FA Nike Partner Club. The Club hosts the majority of its home games at the prestigious Victory Sports Ground in Bury St Edmunds.

For the 2023/24 season, Sporting 87 registered three adult teams in the Suffolk and Ipswich League (SIL): the Senior Division, Division 2, and Division 4. The First Team competed in the Senior Division for the second time in the Club's history, finishing 11th. The Reserves secured 5th place in Division 2, maintaining the highest Reserves Team position in the SIL for the second consecutive year. The A Team achieved a third-place finish in Division 4, also for the second year running. Despite the successful performances, promotion for these teams is hindered by facility restrictions and league regulations. Addressing these issues is crucial for the Club's future progress.

During the season, the Club registered over 122 adult players, with 61% (75/122) having progressed from the Club's Youth section. This mirrors the national trend of increasing player numbers required to sustain teams. The adult teams play on Saturday afternoons and train mid-week under the supervision of FA-qualified coaches. In cup competitions, the Club participated in the FA Junior Cup, Primary Cup, Bob Coleman Cup, Club Colours Cup, and Goals of Ipswich Cup. Despite national and local challenges faced by many adult teams, Sporting 87 remains strong but mindful of emerging trends.

Youth Development

The Club managed over 30 youth teams, registering more than 500 youngsters with the FA for the 2023/24 season. These teams, competing in leagues and cup competitions, played their home games at the Victory Ground and other local venues, and trained mid-week on 3G AstroTurf under floodlights. Youth teams participated in the Suffolk Youth Football League on Saturday mornings and the prestigious Mid-Week Thurlow Nunn Youth U18 Floodlit League, utilizing the AFC Sudbury Ground. We extend our gratitude to AFC Sudbury for this partnership, now in its ninth year, essential for our participation at this competitive level. This season was particularly challenging for our Thurlow Nunn U18 Team, emphasizing the need for continued development in this area.

All coaches are qualified to a minimum FA Coach Level 1 and hold valid FA Child Safeguarding, First Aid qualifications, and FA DBS certificates. The Club boasts over six FA Football Coaching Level 2 coaches and five UEFA B coaches.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is integral to the Club's ethos. Below are examples of the spiritual support provided:

Club Chaplain and Team Tim Banks, the Club Chaplain, maintains a visible presence at matches and events, offering support as needed. He leads the Footy Pastors team, who assist at Saturday matches. Tim also supports members and their families through various challenges, including bereavement, debt issues, life-limiting diseases, and addictions. Tim, a member of the National Sports Chaplaincy UK, engages with local churches to update them on Club activities and contributes articles to the First Team home match day programme. He is also part of the Club's Welfare Committee, supported by numerous committed volunteers.

Community and Member Engagement The Club fosters strong connections with local Christian organizations. During Christmas, the Club produced online readings and thoughts that were well-received, garnering over 7000 views on Twitter, doubling the previous year's engagement. The Club also supports university members by visiting students and encouraging church attendance, demonstrating ongoing Christian care and mentoring during their transitional period.

Life Questions and First Team Home Matches From September to April, the Club organizes "Life Questions" sessions at a local Indian restaurant, allowing people to explore faith in an informal setting. The Club also produces a 20-page full-color Match Day Programme for every First Team fixture, featuring Christian player testimonies and articles from the Club Chaplain, distributed free to attendees with 300 printed copies and a digital version available.

Club Management

The Club is overseen by the main Committee, which meets quarterly, comprising:

- Club Chairman: Dave Courteen
- Youth Chairman: Darren Brown
- Club Secretary and Director of Football: Jonathan Warnock
- Treasurer: Nigel Johnson
- Club Chaplain: Tim Banks
- Club Administrator: Ruth Goddard
- Club Welfare Officer: Amos Owen
- Members: Caroline Owen, Sam Marsden

Additional committees include the Adult Football Committee, Youth Football Committee, Welfare Committee, Finance Committee, Faith Committee, and the Victory Ground Project Committee.

Awards Events

This year, the Club hosted five annual awards events. Three Saturday events featured Christian footballer Daniel Jinadu, attracting over 900 attendees. An event at the Victory Ground for U18 players leaving the Club saw nearly 100 participants. The Adult Awards dinner, attended by 100

people, featured Omar Beckles, Leyton Orient Captain and PFA Chairman, sharing his experiences as a professional footballer and his Christian faith.

Community Partnerships

The Club collaborates with organizations such as the Sporting 87 Educational Trust, The Doxa Project, and On Goal. In August, in partnership with Rougham Baptist Church, a week-long football camp was held, attended by over 90 youngsters.

Future Developments

The Club is exploring the acquisition of a 3G pitch to enhance training access and reduce facility rental costs. This facility would support the Club's progression up the Non-League pyramid. The 3G facility project at the Victory Sports Ground is prioritized in the Local Football facilities report, marking a significant step towards this goal.

Financial Summary

The Club's finances remain tight, and we are grateful for the following grants:

- Ridley Godfrey: £1,000
- Football Foundation: £10,454
- Suffolk FA Youth Retention Grant: £500
- Various donations: £4,176

Registered number
1162311

Sporting 87 Football Club

Report and Accounts

31 May 2024

Sporting 87 Football Club**Registered number: 1162311****Trustees' Report**

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 May 2024.

Principal activities

The company's principal activity during the year continued to be community recreation

Trustees

The following persons served as trustees during the year:

J Warnock

N Johnson

D Brown

Small company provisions

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

This report was approved by the board on 26 March 2025 and signed on its behalf.

D Brown

Trustee

Sporting 87 Football Club Accountants' Report

Accountants' report to the directors of Sporting 87 Football Club

You consider that the company is exempt from an audit for the year ended 31 May 2024. You have acknowledged, on the balance sheet, your responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts. These responsibilities include preparing accounts that give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year.

In accordance with your instructions, we have prepared the accounts which comprise the Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes from the accounting records of the company and on the basis of information and explanations you have given to us.

We have not carried out an audit or any other review, and consequently we do not express any opinion on these accounts.

Johnson and Co Accountants Ltd
9 New Cheveley Road

Newmarket
Suffolk
CB8 8BG

26 May 2025

Sporting 87 Football Club
Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 31 May 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover		150,268	156,289
Cost of sales		(105,058)	(101,269)
Gross profit		<hr/> 45,210	<hr/> 55,020
Administrative expenses		(54,894)	(68,015)
Operating loss	2	<hr/> (9,684)	<hr/> (12,995)
Loss for the financial year		<hr/> (11,268)	<hr/> (12,995)

Sporting 87 Football Club
Balance Sheet
as at 31 May 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	3	15,872	17,872
Current assets			
Stocks		2,081	3,248
Debtors	4	1,624	1,984
Cash at bank and in hand		20,921	34,394
		<u>24,626</u>	<u>39,626</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	5	(27,037)	(32,769)
Net current (liabilities)/assets		<u>(2,411)</u>	<u>6,857</u>
Net assets		<u>13,461</u>	<u>24,729</u>
Capital and reserves			
Profit and loss account	6	13,461	24,729
Retained funds		<u>13,461</u>	<u>24,729</u>

The trustees are satisfied that the company is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions in Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

J Warnock
Trustee
Approved by the board on 26 March 2025

Sporting 87 Football Club
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 May 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

Turnover

Turnover represents the value, net of value added tax and discounts, of goods provided to customers and work carried out in respect of services provided to customers.

Depreciation

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives.

Plant and machinery 20% straight line

Stocks

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2 Operating profit

2024

2023

£

£

This is stated after charging:

Depreciation of owned fixed assets

2,000

-

3 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery etc £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 June 2023	20,000	2,889	22,889
At 31 May 2024	20,000	2,889	22,889
Depreciation			
At 1 June 2023	4,000	1,017	5,017
Charge for the year	2,000	-	2,000
At 31 May 2024	6,000	1,017	7,017
Net book value			
At 31 May 2024	14,000	1,872	15,872
At 31 May 2023	16,000	1,872	17,872

4 Debtors

2024

2023

£

£

Trade debtors

1,624

1,984

Sporting 87 Football Club
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 May 2024

5 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	27,037	29,769
Other creditors	-	3,000
	<u>27,037</u>	<u>32,769</u>
 6 Profit and loss account	 2024	
	£	
At 1 June 2023	24,729	
Loss for the year	(11,268)	
	<u>13,461</u>	
At 31 May 2024		

Sporting 87 Football Club
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 31 May 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sales	150,268	156,289
Cost of sales	(105,058)	(101,269)
Gross profit	45,210	55,020
Administrative expenses	(54,894)	(68,015)
Operating loss	(9,684)	(12,995)

Sporting 87 Football Club
Detailed profit and loss account
for the year ended 31 May 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sales		
Sales	<u>150,268</u>	<u>156,289</u>
Cost of sales		
Pitch and Training Hire	61,065	61,364
Referee Fees	6,645	5,279
Equipment and Kit	23,629	20,541
Affiliation Fees	2,212	2,222
Adult Awards Evening	7,434	7,543
Staff costs	1,439	1,832
Tuck Shop	2,634	2,488
	<u>105,058</u>	<u>101,269</u>
Administrative expenses		
Employee costs:		
Wages and salaries	35,337	42,215
	<u>35,337</u>	<u>42,215</u>
Premises costs:		
Rent and service fees	5,268	5,294
	<u>5,268</u>	<u>5,294</u>
General administrative expenses:		
Coaching	2,051	2,337
Stationery and printing	2,993	2,030
Golf Day	3,822	-
Victory Ground Project	150	10,305
Home Offices	-	1,200
Subscriptions	-	264
Website	874	391
Life Assurance	1,127	1,127
Welfare/pastoral	1,272	-
Telephone	-	857
Donations and pastoral	-	584
Sundry expenses	-	1,411
	<u>14,289</u>	<u>20,506</u>
	<u>54,894</u>	<u>68,015</u>

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of "Sporting 87 Football Club"

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st May 2024

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in general directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act;
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

Name: Amanda Marks

Date: 28th March 2025