



## An Eventful Pre-Season for the Saturdays

**Welcome to 2016-17**

**Vol. 11. No. 1, August 2016**

The Saturday adults began their pre-season friendlies on 23rd July 2016 with a home fixture against a Cranfield United XI in blistering heat. Both sides agreed to play three thirty-minute sessions, but by the end of the game not many players were moving at anything more than walking pace. No surprise then when the game ended in a cricket score: 6-6! The home scorers were Bowler, Ryan Darby, two from last season's Golden Boot winner Joe Hennem, one from debutant Zarrouk and one from Will Tyler, who not only scored but set the fashion standard for the coming season with a fine tattoo of the Lea Sports logo on his right leg!

Unfortunately, Will didn't get too much good luck from his new tat in the next game away to Clifton on 30th July. The lads got off to a great start and raced into an early two-goal lead, but after just 12 minutes of the game Will suffered a dislocation of his right knee and the match had to be abandoned.



Fortunately, there is no ligament damage and after a bit of brute force at the local A&E the knee was put back into place. Will could be back playing in a couple of months or so.

Meanwhile, the team continued their preparations for the new season with a friendly at home to Henlow on another warm day in advance of the Candlelight Picnic at the Rec on 6th August—a Jordan Yearwood strike earned the lads share of the spoils in a 1-1 draw. 13th August was unlucky for the lads as the preparations continued with an away game on a 3G pitch against Houghton Athletic. A hat-trick from Joe Hennem wasn't enough to save the team from a 3-4 defeat. 20th August brought another trip to a 3G pitch—this time for a friendly at Wixams, where a Ryan Darby penalty earned a share of the spoils.

### **An Early Cup Exit**

On 26th August the team played its first competitive game—a Beds Junior Charity Cup match at home to Shefford & Campton. The team looked well in control of the game and two Joe Hennem goals put them 2-0 up with 8 minutes to go. However, a header and a 20-yard strike saw Shefford take the game into an immediate penalty shoot-out—and we know how Lea Sports teams fare in shoot-outs (worse than England!). Dan Little saved one penalty, but we missed two and ended up going out of the competition 3-4.



## THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

### Form IT Solutions

For well over 21 years Form IT Solutions have been our principal Club sponsor. This year is no exception with a full kit being purchased by the company and founder Hugh Byrne for our Under 11 Jaguars Team.

Form IT Solutions is a longstanding IT reseller and service provider with established relationships with over 3000 clients, predominantly within the UK corporate sector but also including public sector organisations. They are a leading provider of IT hardware, software licensing and related IT services. Form is privately owned, established in 1983, and has seen continued growth since its inception, resulting in a strong balance sheet and very firm financial foundations.



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### St. Albans Chambers



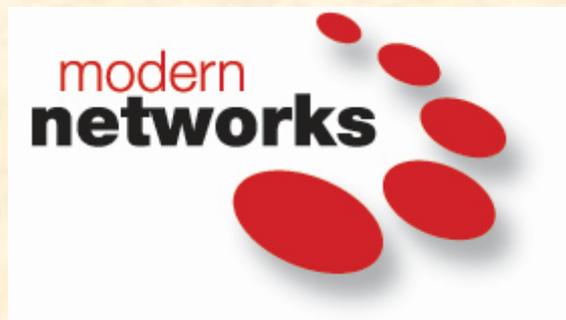
Sponsors of the Under 7 Lions, St. Albans Chambers was formed in 1998 to service the needs of the local legal community throughout Hertfordshire, Bedfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

**St. Albans Chambers, 2-4 St. Peter's St., St. Albans, AL1 3LF 01727-843383**

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### Modern Networks

The Under 7 Leopards are this year being sponsored by Modern Networks, a managed service provider helping clients across the UK maximise the value of their entire IT infrastructure.



**Modern Networks, 8 Knowl Piece, Wilbury Way, Hitchin, 01462-426500**

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## Goals Galore as the Season Gets Underway

### Season Starts in the Rain

Vol. 11. No. 2, September 2016

The season got underway for our youth teams on Saturday 10th September, with the three Under 8s Pumas teams all in action, as well as a first outing for the Under 7 Leopards. FA regulations mean that I am unable to give you the results of these matches but they were certainly blessed with lots of goals—a total of 46 in just these 4 games alone.

Top of the pile was Frank J. who scored six in the Pumas Whites match away at Hatfield (Harry C. also scored a hat-trick in that match and Frank F. added two more). There were four-goal strikes for Harri F. and Nathan M. as the Blacks travelled to Puckeridge to take on Hares Youth Orange and Jake M. also scored a hat-trick in the Leopards' match away at Baldock Town Knights.

Meanwhile, the Under 13 Panthers began their league campaign in the Beds Youth Saturday League Division 2 away at Luton Borough. This game also yielded 9 goals, fortunately five of them going in our favour. Matthew Morton scored four of those, with Lewis Manning adding the fifth to give the team a winning start.

The following day saw the Under 13 Cougars begin their season with a tough home draw in the Hertfordshire County Cup against Harvesters South. The opposition proved too strong and despite goals from Matthew Morton and Reuben Spanyol the match ended in a 10-2 defeat. The Under 11 Jaguars travelled to Luton to take on the Tigers and it was the home side who won the battle of the big cats with a 4-2 scoreline: Ollie Rowe-Trelford scoring both the PSG goals. The Under 9 Lions had to wait until 4 pm to start their season with an away game against Clapham Sports in the Beds Mini-Soccer League. It was worth the wait, however, with two goals apiece from Josh H., Jacob J., Jake R. and Jamie W. plus a lone strike from Noah K..



The Cougars start their life in 11-a-side football.



## ADULTS GET OFF TO A SLOW START

### Saturday Side Hit With Another Injury

The Saturday side had no league game on the first day of the season on 3rd September, so squeezed in another friendly, this time at home to Harlington. This game brought the first win of the season, with goals from Ryan Darby and Jordan Yearwood, as well as an own goal, bringing a 3-1 win.

Jordan Yearwood's luck was about to change, however, as the team travelled to Potton Town on 10th for their first league game. He ended up with a broken foot as the team's injury woes continued. Goals from Ryan Darby and a free-kick from Rhys Cadger had levelled the game at 2-2 with 5 minutes to go. Then the ball was played through to top scorer Joe Hennem with just the keeper to beat and the three points looked in the bag before the home centre-half took Joe out with a desperate lunge which earned him a red card but probably saved his side a point as the game ended level.



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### Sundays Start With a Home Defeat

With a number of players still away and injured Manager Paul Maclennan struggled to get a side out for the first home game of the season, against AFC Enterprise in Pirton on 4th September. Despite that, the home side raced into a two-goal first-half lead with goals from Jack Baggett and Jamie Richards. The visitors pulled a goal back just before the half-time whistle and as the game wore on a lack of substitutes and pre-season friendlies told on tired legs. The visitors equalised and then scored the winner straight from a corner with 5 minutes left on the clock.

Things improved on 11th September as the lads travelled to Leagrave Park to take on the unlikely-named Westfalen FC. Jack Baggett was on target again, and further strikes from Ty Clarke and two from Tom Newland brought relief with a 4-1 win.

# Lea Sports PSG FC Newsletter

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Volume 11 No. 3 December 2016



CHARTER STANDARD  
DEVELOPMENT CLUB

Home Ground: The Recreation Ground, Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX

[www.leasports.com](http://www.leasports.com)

## Merry Christmas!

ADULTS

### SATURDAYS END THE YEAR IN STYLE

The Saturday adults ended the year in fine style with a 5-1 win in the last 16 of the Hertfordshire County Cup. Playing in Pirton against the Engineer from Harpenden, who are flying high in their own league, the lads stormed into the last eight – and a home tie in January with Silk FC – with another hat-trick from Joe Hennem (his fifth of the season) and further goals from Josh Smith and Ryan Darby.



The game comes in the midst of a run of cup matches, with the League Jubilee Trophy this year assuming a different format where group matches are followed by knock-out rounds. It was in the first of these group games that the team suffered its first defeat of the season – and the only defeat so far – losing 2-0 at home to league leaders Wixams in a closely-contested game.

Eight league games have so far brought 3 wins and five draws, leaving the team in fifth place going into the Christmas break, although they have already won games against 2 of the sides above them and drawn away to leaders Wixams, so they are well-placed going in to the New Year.

# ... BUT WORRYING TIMES ON SUNDAYS

By contrast the Sunday adult side has struggled to field a settled side all season. Three games have had to be conceded because of a lack of players and a string of injuries meant that Manager Paul MacLennan had only 11 players available for the team's last home game before Christmas – vs. Bushmead Rovers. Ty Clark was on target for the third time in three games, but his goal and another from Tom Newland weren't enough as the team's defensive frailties were exposed again in a 5-2 home defeat. It means they have conceded 44 goals in just 9 games played this season, leaving the team rooted to the bottom of Division 2 with just 4 points.

The Veterans have also made a couple of appearances this season. They were given a home draw in the Hertfordshire Vets Cup against Buntingford, but switched the tie to an away game when it was thought that no pitch was available in Pirton. In the event the First XI had to cancel their game but by then it was too late to make the arrangements. Two players with over 1250 appearances for the club between them in Bobby McGrath and Phil Thompson – with a fantastic diving header – managed to beat Buntingford's sixty year-old keeper, but the keeper went on to make a string of saves and the lads exited the cup 3-2. At the start of December Phil Thompson scored 2 more goals, to take his Club tally to 688 in 673 games, but again it wasn't enough as the visitors Letchworth Garden City Eagles won 3-2.

# THE PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION IS BACK

Thanks to the 100 people who entered this year's competition to forecast the final positions in the Premier League. With a guaranteed first prize of £100, thanks to club sponsors Form I.T. Solutions, the competition this year is fierce.

Liverpool's last-gasp winner in the local derby with Everton took them up to second place in the table, only 6 points behind leaders Chelsea. Last season's champions Leicester City are struggling in 15<sup>th</sup> place and Sunderland, Swansea and Hull fill the relegation places at Christmas.

Despite the changes in the table, Rob Hennem from the Saturday XI has maintained his place at the top of the leader board, with brother Joe in 5<sup>th</sup> place. The latest table is available on the website at <http://leasports.com/Datafiles/PremLgeComp/Results.pdf>

Top ten at Christmas...

		Lea Sports PSG Football Club - Premiership Competition																				The FA CHARTER STANDARD CLUBS																							
		20/12/2016										SORT RESULTS																																	
Correct Positions:		2	10	14	4	13	6	18	11	3	1	8	15	9	12	20	19	5	7	16	17	SCORE	Correct	One Place Out																					
Your forecast in blue. Your score in black.		Arsenal	Bournemouth	Burnley	Chelsea	Crystal Palace	Everton	Hull City	Leicester City	Liverpool	Manchester City	Manchester Utd.	Middlesbrough	Southampton	Stoke City	Sunderland	Swansea City	Tottenham Hotspur	Watford	West Bromwich	West Ham United																								
1	Rob Hennem	PSG	5	3	13	3	18	4	3	1	14	1	6	0	17	1	8	3	4	1	1	0	2	6	19	4	9	0	10	2	16	4	20	1	7	2	11	4	12	4	15	2	46	3	5
2	Alex Cardy	PSG	4	2	11	1	19	5	2	2	12	1	7	1	15	3	10	1	5	2	1	0	3	5	16	1	9	0	13	1	17	3	20	1	6	1	14	7	19	2	8	9	48	2	8
3	Matthew Berrigan	P.Msc.	4	2	12	2	18	4	3	1	13	0	8	2	20	2	10	1	5	2	1	0	2	6	15	0	9	0	11	1	19	1	14	5	6	1	17	10	16	0	7	10	50	5	3
4	Nathan Moorhouse (2)	NH	5	3	16	6	17	3	2	2	11	2	8	2	19	1	7	4	6	3	1	0	3	5	15	0	9	0	12	0	20	0	18	1	4	1	14	7	13	3	10	7	50	5	3
5	Joe Hennem	PSG	3	1	11	1	20	6	4	0	10	3	6	0	19	1	7	4	5	2	1	0	2	6	16	1	9	0	13	1	17	3	14	5	8	3	15	8	19	2	12	5	52	4	5
6	Steve Steele	G.Hyde	3	1	10	0	17	3	4	0	11	2	6	0	16	2	13	2	5	2	2	1	1	7	15	0	8	1	9	3	19	1	14	5	7	2	20	13	18	2	12	5	52	4	4
7	Guy Wiseman	PSG	1	1	15	5	18	4	5	1	11	2	6	0	13	5	7	4	3	0	2	1	4	4	16	1	10	1	17	5	20	0	12	7	8	3	9	2	19	3	14	3	52	3	5
8	Paul MacLennan	PSG	4	2	13	3	20	6	2	2	17	4	8	2	19	1	7	4	6	3	3	2	1	7	15	0	9	0	12	0	18	2	14	5	5	0	11	4	16	0	10	7	54	5	1
9	Rhys Cadger	PSG	3	1	19	9	16	2	4	0	13	0	8	2	12	6	9	2	5	2	1	0	2	6	17	2	10	1	11	1	20	0	18	1	6	1	14	7	15	1	7	10	54	4	6
10	Bryan Fozier	G.Hyde	3	1	15	5	19	5	2	2	13	0	7	1	17	1	9	2	5	2	1	0	4	4	19	3	10	1	16	4	20	0	12	7	6	1	11	4	14	2	8	9	54	3	5

## UNDER 13s

On Sundays the Under 13 Cougars kept up their push for silverware with a 4-1 win away to Mid Beds Tigers in their last game before the break. Matthew Morton scored another hat-trick to take his tally on Sundays to 25 goals from 12 games – he has also managed to score in every game so far this season. Luke Woodward grabbed the team's fourth goal – and his second of the season – to leave the team in third place in the Chiltern League Division 3.

### Under 13 Division 3

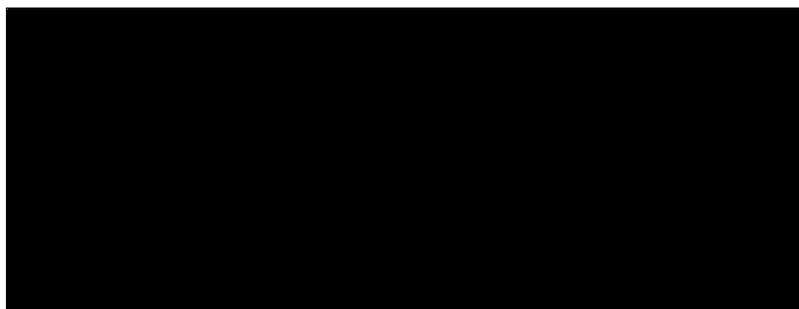
League Table						
POS		P	W	D	L	PTS
1	ST JOSEPHS YOUTH	11	11	0	0	33
2	LUTON UTD	10	9	0	1	27
3	LEA SPORTS PSG	11	8	0	3	24
4	WESTONING RECREATION YOUTH	12	5	2	5	17
5	LANGFORD YOUTH	11	4	1	6	13
6	FLITWICK EAGLES	11	3	2	6	11
7	SHEFFORD SAINTS BLUES	11	3	2	6	11
8	BRICKHILL WANDERERS PUMAS	11	3	1	7	10
9	M&DH CLAPHAM SPORTS FC	10	2	1	7	7
10	MID BEDS TIGERS	10	1	1	8	4

[Table detail](#)

The away fixture with runaway leaders St. Josephs is scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> January.

On Saturdays the Bedfordshire Youth Saturday League has reorganised Division 2 after the early season matches. In the 'old' division the Panthers won 3 of their 4 fixtures, with only Luton Tigers getting the better of them. Since the reorganisation the team has continued its good form with just one defeat, two draws and 4 wins, including a 4-2 revenge against Luton Tigers to take the team into the Christmas break. Matthew Morton is again leading the goalscoring charts, with 17 in 10 games. Sam Germann, Harrison Howman and Daniel Nazari all scored their second goal of the season, along with a goal from Morton, in the 4-2 win over Luton Tigers.

## UNDER 11s



## UNDER 9s LIONS

The Lions, playing 7 vs. 7, find themselves in an evenly-matched division in the Beds Mini-Soccer League with most games being close affairs. Only 4 of the 13 games played has seen a margin of more than 2 goals in either teams' favour. This is matched in the team's performance: following a narrow pre-season defeat, they have won 5 and lost 5 of their league games, with 2 draws. The team has registered 41 goals, with no fewer than nine different scorers through the season. Jamie W. leads the way with 14 goals in his 9 appearances, while four players have appeared in all 13 games: Jake C., Josh H., Zayd P. and Jake R.

## UNDER 8s PUMAS

As we move down to the 5-a-side format of the game the results become increasingly crazy as the Royston Crow League has struggled to match teams of similar abilities in the various divisions.

This has led to some bizarre scorelines with teams in some cases scoring more than 20 goals in a game. Of course, whilst on paper this looks great, in reality it is not good for either team when one side is so much more dominant than the other. Matt Robbins, Manager of the Under 7 Tigers, described one of his games as 'boring' when they annihilated the opposition put before them.

A reorganisation of the divisions had now taken place and we hope that the games will become more competitive as a result. Meanwhile, the goals have been pouring in with Harri F. scoring 35 in 10 games for the Blacks (plus 1 for the Reds), while Adam K. and Nathan M. have 28 and 27 respectively. For the Whites Frank J. has 33 in 13 games, closely followed by Finley F. with 31 in 12 (including a record 10 in one game) . Jim W. has 10 for the Reds, with 4 other players having scored 6 or more.

Overall Record							
	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.	%
Reds	13	4	0	9	43	84	30.8
Whites	14	11	0	3	95	35	78.6
Blacks	14	12	1	1	131	19	89.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>67.1</b>

## UNDER 7s

The Leopards and Tigers have played 25 games between them – including 3 hard-fought local derbies – and they too have seen some crazy scores in some games, including a 'record' 27-0. Excluding the games between the teams, they have lost just one game all season – and they have since beaten that team twice.

The Leopards have scored 94 goals in their 13 games, with Jake M. notching 34 in 12; while the Tigers have scored 137 in their 13 games, with Sam R. scoring 31 in 13 and Toby E. not far behind with 22 from 12.

In January the Wildcats make their debut playing in the Beds Mini-Soccer League, so best wishes and good luck to Manager Greg Bartley and all the players.

# Lea Sports PSG FC Newsletter

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PIRTON · SHILLINGTON · GRAVENHURST



CHARTER STANDARD  
DEVELOPMENT CLUB

Home Ground: The Recreation Ground, Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX

[www.leasports.com](http://www.leasports.com)

## It's a Happy New Year for the Saturdays

ADULTS

### MORE CUP ACTION AND A COUNTY CUP SEMI-FINAL TO COME

The Saturday adults started the new year where they left off in 2016 with more cup action in the Jubilee (League) Cup and the Hertfordshire Junior County Cup.

The year began with a home tie against Division 4 opposition in Lidlington United Sports and it was a good way to shake off all the turkey (and lager) as the lads had to work hard to achieve a 5-3 win in this Pool H match. The result leaves the team comfortably in second place in Group H and likely to qualify as runners-up for the knock-out stages.

Meanwhile in the Herts County Cup the team faced their stiffest opposition yet as they came up against Hoddesdon side Silk FC from the ORC Sports Hertford & District Premier League in Pirton on a chilly 14<sup>th</sup> January. Sure enough it was the visitors who took the lead in the first half, but Rhys Cadger brought the teams back on level terms. Silk went ahead again, but this time a piledriver from Joe Hennem levelled things up again before a penalty from Ryan Darby gave the home side the advantage at 3-2.

There was then a delay of around half an hour as one of the Silk players went down complaining of chest pains. The defibrillator was fetched from the Village Hall as the player was stretchered into the clubhouse to await an ambulance. With fears that the light might fail before the game could restart, everyone was relieved when the paramedics turned up and assessed the player's condition as non-critical. The game got under way again and the home side saw the tie out to reach the last four and a home tie against Mill Lane, also from the Hertford and District League, on 18<sup>th</sup> February.

The team finished the month off in style as they played their away Group match in the Jubilee Cup at Lidlington United Sports. After an enforced week off because of a frozen pitch in Pirton, the lads were keen to secure their place in the knock-out stages of the competition. Goals from Joe Hennem (2) (taking his tally for the season to 33), Josh Smith, Will Tyler and Richard Wyatt brought a comprehensive 5-2 win. Joe is still chasing Phil Thompson's record of the most goals in a season for an adult side (45 for the Third XI in 1998-99). With at least 16 games still to go he looks well on target for the record.



With at least 1 more County Cup and 3 more Jubilee Cup games to come, the side will be relieved to get back to league action – they still have a dozen league games to play before the end of the season in their push for promotion to Division One.

# SUNDAYS STILL A STRUGGLE

The Sunday adult side is still struggling to get a full team out every week. With top striker Tom Newland sidelined by injury until February the team has found goals hard to come by, with heavy defeats at home to Houghton Town and Jolly Topers Reserves.

## THE PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION

As teams witch places in the Premier League, so do the entrants for our competition to guess the final table, with £100 guaranteed for the winner.

Top spot at the end of January goes to former player Andy Shiers, now making a life for himself and his family in New Zealand. With Everton, Manchester City and Watford in their correct positions and no fewer than 8 teams one place out, Andy has a total of 46 points, putting him 4 ahead of four people on 50 points, including Saturdays Manager Nathan Moorhouse (who said he knows nothing about football??!)

With just 10 points separating the top 18 positions there's still a lot to play for.

The latest table is available on the website at <http://leasports.com/Datafiles/PremLgeComp/Results.pdf>

Top 13 places:

		Lea Sports PSG Football Club - Premiership Competition																		The FA CHARTER STANDARD CLUBS																									
		23/01/2017									23 January 2017																																		
Correct Positions:		2	12	13	1	18	7	19	15	4	5	6	16	11	9	20	17	3	14	8	10	SCORE	Correct	One Place Out																					
Your forecast in blue. Your score in black.		Ref	Arsenal	Bournemouth	Burnley	Chelsea	Crystal Palace	Everton	Hull City	Leicester City	Liverpool	Manchester City	Manchester Utd.	Middlesbrough	Southampton	Stoke City	Sunderland	Swansea City	Tottenham Hotspur	Watford	West Bromwich				West Ham United																				
1	Andy Shiers	NZ	1	1	16	4	18	5	6	5	17	1	7	0	20	1	9	8	3	1	5	0	4	2	15	1	8	3	10	1	19	1	11	6	2	1	14	0	13	5	12	2	46	3	8
2	Nathan Moorhouse (2)	NM	5	3	16	4	17	4	2	1	11	7	8	1	19	0	7	8	6	2	1	4	3	3	15	1	9	2	12	3	20	0	18	1	4	1	14	0	13	5	10	0	50	4	6
3	Joshua Hutchins	G.Hyde	4	2	10	2	18	5	2	1	17	1	6	1	19	0	7	8	6	2	3	2	1	5	14	2	11	0	12	3	20	0	13	4	5	2	15	1	16	8	9	1	50	3	6
4	Greame Bradman	P.Mac	5	3	19	7	20	7	1	0	16	2	6	1	14	5	15	0	7	3	2	3	3	17	1	10	1	11	2	18	2	13	4	4	1	12	2	9	1	8	2	50	2	5	
5	Andrew Agnew	P.Mac	3	1	14	2	19	6	4	3	17	1	7	0	18	1	9	6	6	2	2	3	1	5	20	4	11	0	10	1	16	4	15	2	5	2	13	1	12	4	8	2	50	2	5
6	Adam Clements	PSG	5	3	13	1	19	6	3	2	14	4	7	0	20	1	10	5	6	2	1	4	2	4	15	1	9	2	11	2	17	3	16	1	4	1	18	4	12	4	8	2	52	1	5
7	Max Hitches	P.Mac	5	3	17	5	18	5	3	2	10	8	7	0	20	1	9	8	4	0	1	4	2	4	15	1	11	0	12	2	19	1	16	1	6	3	14	0	13	5	8	2	54	4	4
8	Brendan Meehan	NM	5	3	14	2	20	7	6	5	13	5	7	0	19	0	8	7	3	1	1	4	2	4	18	2	9	2	11	2	16	4	17	0	4	1	15	1	12	4	10	0	54	4	3
9	Martin Gassett	P.Mac	5	3	18	6	19	6	1	0	15	3	7	0	20	1	9	6	4	0	3	2	2	4	16	0	14	3	10	1	17	3	11	6	6	3	13	1	12	4	8	2	54	4	3
10	Paul Mackinnan	PSG	4	2	13	1	20	7	2	1	17	1	6	1	19	0	7	8	6	2	3	2	1	5	15	1	9	2	12	3	18	2	14	3	5	2	11	3	16	8	10	0	54	2	6
11	Edward Pipe	PSG	1	1	13	1	19	6	4	3	12	6	9	2	20	1	7	8	5	1	2	3	3	3	17	1	10	1	11	2	18	2	16	1	6	3	14	0	15	7	8	2	54	1	7
12	Jamie Richards	PSG	4	2	14	2	17	4	3	2	16	2	7	0	20	1	11	4	5	1	1	4	2	4	12	4	9	2	10	1	19	1	13	4	6	3	15	1	18	10	8	2	54	1	6
13	Kim Jones	Form IT	4	2	13	1	19	6	2	1	14	4	6	1	17	2	7	8	6	2	1	4	3	3	20	4	9	2	10	1	18	2	15	2	5	2	16	2	12	4	11	1	54	0	6

## News from the Nineties

The Club was contacted last week by John Pawley who was involved in managing a number of our teams in the 1990's and whose son Richard played youth football for the club. John was Sunday Third Team Manager between 1991 and 1993, before taking over the Saturday adults for two seasons in the Luton & District League. He then ran one of our youth sides at Under 13 and Under 14 between 1995 and 1997. The footballing connection continues as John's grandson is now on Charlton Athletic's books – wonder whether he is free on Sunday mornings ....

## UNDER 13s

On Sundays the Under 13 Cougars also had a fairly gentle start to the new year with a home game against lowly Shefford Saints Blues. Sure enough, they recorded a 5-2 win, with five different scorers: Matthew Morton (who kept up his record of scoring in every match), Oliver Scott, Rowan Scourfield, Reuben Spanyol and Luke Woodward.

Tougher tests were to come with trips in consecutive weeks to the top two sides in the Chiltern League Division 3. On 15<sup>th</sup> January the lads were involved in a bad-tempered visit to runaway leaders St. Josephs. With abuse from the home parents and aggression from the St. Joes' players this was a match to forget as Teddy Rowe-Trelford scored the only goal in a 6-1 defeat. The game against Luton United on 22<sup>nd</sup> January was lost to the weather and a frozen pitch.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January the lads missed the chance to put pressure on 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Luton United when they fell to just their second home defeat of the season: two goals from Matthew Morton weren't enough to prevent visitors Flitwick Eagles taking all three points in a 3-2 win.

On Saturdays the Panthers had a fine January with two away wins to take them to 20 points from 9 games and second place in the table. There were six different scorers in the 6-3 win away at Luton Allstars Wolves on 7<sup>th</sup> January, with Ben Blackford, Sam Germann, Lewis Gooden, Lewis Manning, Matthew Morton and Oliver Scott all grabbing a goal apiece. With no fixture on the 14<sup>th</sup> and an enforced break due to frost on the 21<sup>st</sup>, it was 3 weeks before the team were in action again, but they continued their good form with a 4-1 win at Luton Tigers: Max Holdstock, Lewis Manning and Matthew Morton (2) were the goalscorers.

*Please note that under FA Regulations I am unable to report the scores of matches involving the Under 11, Under 9, Under 8 and Under 7 teams.*

The Jaguars also had just two away games in the month, in the Chiltern Youth Orange Division. Goals are proving hard to come by, but the Lewsey Park match in particular saw a fantastic second-half performance from the team when they could have collapsed after a calamitous first half. The team showed real grit and determination at a tricky venue and can be proud of their second-half efforts.

## UNDER 11s

## UNDER 9s LIONS

The Lions found themselves in Pirton for two home games to start the month, including a friendly against Crawley Green, who had narrowly won a similar fixture in a pre-season game. This time the tables were turned and the Lions put in a great performance, with goals from Jake C (2), Noah K, and a hat-trick from Jamie W. Jamie was on target again in the following match against Bedford Town, but it was the team's only score on the day. Back on their travels on 29<sup>th</sup> January the team visited Active Soccer FC and 8 of the 11-man squad found themselves on the scoresheet as the team rounded off the month in style.



The Blacks played just twice in January, with two matches being lost to the weather. Harri F and Nathan M scored three apiece over the two matches, with

## UNDER 8s PUMAS

Adam K scoring a seventh. For the Whites, Frank J leads the scoring charts, having now notched 38 – the same as Harri F for the Blacks. Finley F is not far behind on 34 as the pair have scored 72 of the team's 108 goals so far this season. The Reds played 3 times in the month and are finding life tough in the revised divisions. Jim W and Archie M are vying for the top goalscorer accolade, with Jim just one goal ahead at the end of January.

## UNDER 7s

The Tigers had just 2 home games in the month, with the weather cancelling out their other two scheduled fixture. The 2 games, however, brought 16 goals as the team found a rich vein of form before their next derby clash with the Leopards, due on 4<sup>th</sup> February. The first match against Biggleswade United brought six different goalscorers, with Toby E, Elijah J (2), Sam R (2), Marcus W, Austin W (2) and Max W all registering. A tough encounter with Buntingford Cougars Blue followed, with the game swinging one way then the other. In the end goals came from Sam R (4), Marcus W, Austin W and a Buntingford own goal. Sam now has 37 goals – just one behind Harri F and Frank J for the Pumas.

The Leopards played 3 times, with trips to Baldock and Royston, plus the return fixture in Pirton against Royston. All the matches proved to be very close affairs, with Rory W scoring 8 times across the 3 games to take his total for the season to 32, 4 behind top scorer Jake M, who managed 2 goals in January with Ethan S scoring the other. The team has now taken its goal tally to 105 for the season in the 16 matches played.

On Sundays, the Wildcats burst onto the scene with three high-scoring matches away to Leighton United, at home to Leighton's second string and then at home to Sacred Heart. Again, it is Jake M and Rory W who are leading the way, with 5 and 10 respectively in the three opening games. Felix E has 2 goals and Pavel S, Fred S and William W-M have also got their names on the scoresheet.

## VETERANS

The vets are getting stuck in a rut after their third 3-2 defeat in a row. Despite a great headed goal from Bobby McGrath, taking his total to 74 from 592 games, and a goal from Richard Randall the team lost the return fixture with Letchworth Garden City Eagles on 29<sup>th</sup> January.

Don't forget all the results and scorers are available on the Club website at

[www.leasports.com](http://www.leasports.com)

# Lea Sports PSG FC Newsletter

Established: 1973

Volume 11 No. 5 February 2017



CHARTER STANDARD  
DEVELOPMENT CLUB

Home Ground: The Recreation Ground, Walnut Tree Road, Pirton, Hitchin, Hertfordshire, SG5 3PX

[www.leasports.com](http://www.leasports.com)

## Double Disappointment for the Saturdays

### NO COUNTY CUP FINAL

Hopes were high that a home draw in the Semi-Final of the Hertfordshire County Cup would give the lads a chance to reach a County final for the first time since 2010-11, when 'Cheesy' Collins' team won the Bedfordshire Cup. The game was against Mill Lane from the Hertford and District League Division 1. Since we had already beaten a team from the Premier Division of that league – Silk FC – in the quarter-final we knew it could be done.

Preparations for the game received a severe blow on the Thursday before the game when news came through that striker Will Tyler, who had scored his first hat-trick for the club in the previous week's win over Shefford & Campton, had suffered a serious injury at work which had shattered his left ankle and will mean many months out of the game.

Whether the team was affected we will never know, but despite a bright start from the home side, the visitors rarely looked troubled as a well-organised defence kept out our strike force. When given the chance Mill Lane broke well and nicked a goal just before the half time break.

The second half was a similar story with Lea Sports searching ever more desperately for an equaliser and eventually being picked off by two further goals. Despite the disappointment, the lads know that this was still only their second defeat of the season and there is still a lot of hope for success in the league and league cup.

Best wishes from everyone at the club to Will for a speedy recovery.

**Unbeaten League Record Goes:** With a squad of just a bare 11 the unbeaten league record disappeared with a bang on February 25<sup>th</sup> as the team lost 8-0 at Houghton Athletic to end a dismal month.



Despite scoring 5 against The Engineer from Harpenden in Round 4 (3 of which are pictured above) and a further 3 against Silk FC in the Quarter-Final, the Saturday XI couldn't find their shooting boots in the Semi-Final of the County Cup against Mill Lane and crashed out 3-0.

# ANNUAL AWARDS DAY

Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017

The date for the club's Annual Awards day has been set for Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June. The format will be similar to previous years with awards starting in late afternoon, possibly preceded by dads making a spectacle of themselves in a five-a-side or similar. More details will follow nearer the time, but please make a note of the date in your diaries.

We hope as well that families will stay on into the evening – there will be a barbecue to keep you fed and of course the bar will be open to keep you watered, with music on hand to feed your inner soul. With trophies and medals galore what better way could you spend a summer's day?

## THE PREMIER LEAGUE COMPETITION

Dramatic changes with the previous leader Andy Shiers now in 14<sup>th</sup> place! Still all to play for ...

The latest table is available on the website at <http://leasports.com/Datafiles/PremLgeComp/Results.pdf>

Top 3 places:

		Lea Sports PSG Football Club - Premiership Competition																			TheFA																								
		28/02/2017																			SORT RESULTS																								
																					CHARTER STANDARD CLUBS																								
Correct Positions:		4	14	11	1	18	7	19	15	5	3	6	17	13	10	20	16	2	12	8	9	SCORE	Correct																						
Your forecast in blue. Your score in black.		Arsenal	Bournemouth	Burnley	Chelsea	Crystal Palace	Everton	Hull City	Leicester City	Liverpool	Manchester City	Manchester Utd.	Middlesbrough	Southampton	Stoke City	Sunderland	Swansea City	Tottenham Hotspur	Watford	West Bromwich	West Ham United	SCORE	Correct																						
Ref.																						Correct	One Place Out																						
1	Graeme Bradman	P.Mec.	5	1	19	5	20	9	1	0	16	2	6	1	14	5	15	0	7	2	2	1	3	3	17	0	10	3	11	1	18	2	13	3	4	2	12	0	9	1	8	1	42	4	6
2	Andrew Agnew	P.Mec.	3	1	14	0	19	8	4	3	17	1	7	0	18	1	9	6	6	1	2	1	1	5	20	3	11	2	10	0	16	4	15	1	5	3	13	1	12	4	8	1	46	3	8
3	Martin Glassett	P.Mec.	5	1	18	4	19	8	1	0	15	3	7	0	20	1	9	6	4	1	3	0	2	4	16	1	14	1	10	0	17	3	11	5	6	4	13	1	12	4	8	1	48	4	7



The Under Eights Pumas Reds braving the cold with coaches Guy Wiseman and Chris Hone on 11<sup>th</sup> February just before their training game vs. the Pumas Blacks.

Both sides are continuing to make progress, as are the Pumas Whites, and all three are looking forward to playing the 7 vs.7 format of the game next season.

## Kitchen Helpers

A big thank you from the Club to all those mums (and dads) who help out in the kitchen on matchdays. With the sort of weather we've experienced since Christmas, a warming cup of coffee and a bacon sarnie works a treat. And of course the service provides valuable income for the club to help keep our annual subscriptions some of the lowest around. Anyone else who is willing to help out for an hour or two at home games is encouraged to get in touch with Secretary Steve Smith who will put you in touch.



Bacon sarnies a necessity on days like these!! The Saturday morning session for Year 1 & Reception children went ahead as normal on 21<sup>st</sup> January despite a small nip in the air!

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## Some Tight Encounters

February has seen some close games for our youth teams. The U13 Cougars were unlucky in their home clash with second-placed Luton United on February 26<sup>th</sup> – a Matthew Morton hat-trick was not enough to save them from a 3-4 defeat. This followed an 11-1 thrashing of Clapham Sports earlier in the month. The Panthers put up a good show away to leaders Houghton Athletic, but the game ended 7-3 in favour of the home side.

The Jaguars continue to put in some strong performances and February 5<sup>th</sup> saw a great hat-trick from Rebecca S in their game against Sandy Colts.

The Lions too are playing well with Jamie W scoring regularly and now just a few goals away from his 100 for the Club. The team are looking strong and will give anyone a game in their division.

The Pumas are also a handful for anyone they come up against: the Blacks have now scored over 150 goals this season, with Harri F scoring 45 and Adam K and Nathan M both with over 30 goals to their credit. The Whites have had a tough month with trips to Letchworth and Royston, but have kept up their record of having scored in every game this season. The Reds almost matched that record, but failed to register in a tough match against Stevenage Borough Cyclones on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Their best performance was on the trip to Hares Youth, who had beaten them heavily in January but couldn't repeat the feat.

The Leopards scored 7 in each of their 3 games in February and have still only lost 3 times all season (2 of those defeats coming against the Tigers). The Tigers themselves scored one goal less than the Leopards in their 3 matches (20 in all) and have now scored 172 goals in their 18 fixtures (Sam R on 41 goals, followed by Toby E, Elijah J and Austin W all on 24). The Wildcats too are finding their feet with 30 goals from their 6 games – Rory W and Jake M with 12 and 10 goals respectively (Jake with 5 against Wootton last week).

## A Message from the Club Welfare Officer

You will all no doubt be aware of the news that has rocked football in this country recently of the sexual abuse of young players by some coaches in the professional game.

Our Club Welfare Officer, Catherine Cardy, has been working tirelessly over the past few months to ensure that our Club is fully up-to-date with Criminal Records Checks (CRC's) on Managers and Coaches involved with our youth teams.

Catherine has sent the following message to parents:

Every club in the County that runs youth teams must have a Club Welfare Officer who has a valid accepted Criminal Records Check (CRC), attended the FA Safeguarding Children in Football Workshop, followed by the Welfare Officer Workshop.

The role of the Club Welfare Officer (CWO) is to deal with poor practice cases within their club, give advice and guidance as well as being the lead on CRC's within the club. They will always report more serious cases to the FA via the County Welfare Officer.

Concerns within Lea Sports PSG: If you are concerned about your child or another child in the club, you would normally contact your Club Welfare Officer in the first instance. The CWO will then deal with cases of poor practice and behaviour within the club.

Catherine can be contacted via the following email: [cwo@leasports.com](mailto:cwo@leasports.com) or telephone 07710 969 307.

The Club would like to thank Catherine for all her hard work in ensuring that the Club's Charter Standard Development Club status is maintained and that the youth players within the club are protected. Of course, at this level the chances of children being the subject of abuse is much less: there are always parents and coaches around to supervise and the children do not spend any time alone with any adults from the club. Nevertheless, we are not complacent and we will always ensure that the best practices are followed.

Of course, there has been the usual over-the-top knee-jerk reaction from the FA with threats against those sections of the footballing community where there is hardly a problem, but that was always to be expected. It appears that the latest innovation from the FA will be to insist that all players registered to the club will have to be added to their 'Whole Game System' (WGS) database. This system is currently a mess, with officials sometimes having duplicate records or details taking ages to update. The details on the WGS then have to be entered again onto the 'Members' Services' website with details of the positions held in the club. The 'Members' section of this database holds the names of anyone who has ever received a caution for the club (plus a few who haven't: for example there is a David Barker on the Sunday team's record and no player with that name has ever appeared for Lea Sports!) The whole system is deeply flawed and needs a root-and-branch overhaul, but then when did the Herts FA do anything for the benefit of clubs like ours? We soldier on regardless!

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