

Lea Sports PSG FC Newsletter

Established: 1973

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CHARTER STANDARD
DEVELOPMENT CLUB

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

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 25th 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, 10th June 2017

The date for the club's Annual Awards day has been set for Saturday 10th 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 14th 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.																																													
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 11th 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 21st January despite a small nip in the air!

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 26th – 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 5th 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 25th. 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 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!

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

www.leasports.com