

Review

Good evening and welcome to the December and ultimately, the final meeting of 2005. The whole year seems to have passed by in a blur, with much achieved and many plans made, but most importantly, there's been an awful lot of football played. With Christmas generally marking the half way stage, there's a lot of football still to be played.

There's simply too much happened over the last twelve months to reflect on it properly, but in brief, we saw Castle Rangers and Warstones North reach their respective Staffs Cup Finals, we've seen Wall Health Alliance awarded the Staffs County Fair Play Award. We've seen the Bilston League's numbers and reputation grow for the eighth consecutive season and, on a poignant note, we've suffered the loss of two fine young players in Reece Rawlins of Bentley Youth and in Jamie Mason of Coopers Casuals, though we have ensured their name and memory will live on by the naming of Cup competitions in their honour.

It's been an eventful year and hopefully the successes have out numbered the disappointments, and we can go into 2006 confident of maintaining the standards and services we strive to offer.

Last month saw us complete our first Linesman's course of the new season, where we saw about sixteen people benefit from the experience and knowledge of Walter Wakeman and Keith Haynes and if not tonight, then certainly for the January meeting we'll have Walter and Keith as our guests to present the attendees with their certificates.

Walter has just completed another referee's course as well and informs me he will be starting the next one towards the end of January. If anyone wants to go on this course, please see me later after the meeting and I'll keep you informed of the start date, venue and details.

Last month saw our first interruption due to bad weather with the heavy rain decimating two consecutive weeks of fixtures and to complicate matters still further, one of those weeks was 6 November—Staffs Cup week, meaning the rearranged games to be played two weeks later, on 20th, knocked out a number of our domestic Cup ties, resulting in further headaches for Mike in rescheduling the games prior to the next round.

Continued.....

Domestically, we see both our U13s teams, Carlisle Swifts and Villiers Tigers progress to the next round of the newly formed FA competition, the U13s Tesco Cup, so well done to them and good luck in the next round.

The U10s and U11s have now all but completed their Autumn League campaigns with the U11s now commencing their Charity Cup competitions whilst the Spring League seedings are sorted. Once the New Year is under way we'll be looking to stage the Autumn League presentations and if news of this isn't ready for the January meeting, it will certainly be finalised for February's meeting.

The New Year will also see us preparing for the Cup Finals which we hope to start getting under way in mid to late February. Again, news of these will be relayed to you as and when we get things finalised.

It's always an enigma that, while December marks the half way stage, January starts the preparations for the season's end!!

Looking through the vast majority of the Divisions, things remain tight with very few clear favourites for title success emerging. With each successive season, it appears the balance in all Divisions becomes more equal and that makes for a great season's football. Whatever level of ability, we have Divisions to offer a competitive standard.

To end the year on a positive note and to highlight that the general standard of conduct within the League and the willingness of the teams to embrace these standards, a referee who joined us this season, a referee of experience who has refereed at a high standard in a number of Leagues, phone me last month to comment that he hadn't enjoyed his refereeing so much for a good number of years. He added that he'd wished he'd joined us sooner, because the attitude and conduct of teams in this league was far better than he'd experienced anywhere else. So, while we don't claim to be perfect, we can claim we try harder than most, and the vast majority of teams embrace that. So well done and let's all keep aiming for that perfection!!

**Have a great Christmas and New Year
and we'll see you next year!**
Graham

Under 10s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

Though severely hampered by the torrential rains at the start of the month, the U10s Autumn League is almost at a close, with titles and runners up spots assured in most Division and, weather permitting, those still in doubt at the time of writing, will be settled by the time you read this on 1 December.

In the North Division, congratulations to Wolverhampton Development Club who take the title, unbeaten in their ten games and they finished five points clear of North Division runners up, Willenhall Town, who themselves held a four point lead over third placed Moxley Rangers.

In the South Division, New Park Village replicate the standards of Wolverhampton Development Club, unbeaten in ten, 28 points from a possible 30 and that record alone makes them worthy champions. The runners up spot though, is still undecided. FC Perton Pumas hold a two point advantage over Penn Rovers, but with both teams still having two games to play, it will go down to the final game before we know who'll be runners up to New Park Village champions.

In the East Division, we see the one group where it's still all to be decided. We know Brunswick Harriers and Sedgley White Lions will take the honours, we just don't know who'll take what! Sedgley need just a point from their final game to put them beyond the reach of Brunswick, who are three points adrift, but with a superior goal difference. So, failure by Sedgley to secure that point and victory for Brunswick in their final game would see them take the title on goal difference—that's how close this Division has been.

Finally, in the West Division, it's congratulations to Finchfield, who have secured the Championship with a game to spare.

Once again though, who finishes as runners up is still a debate. With one game to play Moorcroft Raiders hold a three point lead over Windsor Wasps, who have two games to play and a superior goal difference, so, even a last game win for Moorcroft might not be enough if Windsor win their final two games. So again, we see the Division go down to the wire before the honours are decided.

As well as enjoying a thrilling Autumn League, it all bodes well for an even more exciting Spring campaign.

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Under 11s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

Like the U10s, the U11s Autumn League is fast approaching it's climax with honours either decided or about to be decided in the next week or so.

In the Central Division, New Park Village need just a point to confirm what already looks likely, and that point from their final game, would put them beyond the reach of Willenhall Town who themselves are in need of a win to distance themselves from a threat from New State Lions.

In the East Division, we already see Warley Vipers crowned as Champions with a 100% record from their seven games played. Testimony to their ability and right to be called Champions, is that in those seven games, they've scored 44 times and conceded just 3. A remarkable statistic in any level of football. Oldbury Lions and Wednesbury Oak Colts share second spot with 13 points apiece though Oldbury need just a point from their final two games to put them beyond the reach of both Wednesbury and fourth placed Hill Top and that will secure the runners up spot.

In the West Division, Penn Rovers 100% record from their seven games makes them all but certain of being crowned Champions, though mathematically, one more point from their final game would confirm it beyond any doubt. Below them, we see four teams still in contention for the runners up spot with Coopers Casuals, Black Country Ravens, Warstones South and Coven United all with enough points available to clinch second place, though Black Country Ravens look, at this moment in time, to have the advantage over their rivals, but again, by the time of the meeting, it should be apparent if they were able to transfer that advantage into silverware.

The groupings for the Charity Cup has now been finalised and are included in your packs tonight as well as the system that dictated the group's and the format for how it will operate, but based on the quality witnessed in the Autumn League, we can look forward to a great Charity Cup competition.

U11s Charity Cup 2005/06

As always, whilst the seedings are being worked out for the Spring League and the Autumn League draws to a close, we use the Charity Cup to keep everyone playing, mix the teams up a bit and gain a little more form guide before final Spring League seedings are decided.

Below are the various groups that will form the basis for this year's Charity Cup events with each group contesting a competition—and Final, in it's own right.

All other age groups will enjoy their own Charity Cups later in the season, but the U11s use this competition as a "filler" between the Autumn and Spring Leagues.

As in previous years, there's a £5 entry fee for the Charity Cup with all the receipts donated to a charity at the season's end. Previous years have seen us make donations to the Air Ambulance, Compton Hospice, Birmingham Children's Hospital, National Children's Homes and the Ambulance Service, among others.

Nominations are invited for worthy recipients of this year's donations and the U11s have their payment forms included in the packs tonight, while other age groups will receive them later in the season.

The groups for the U11s competitions are listed as follows:

| | | | |
|----------|---|----------|---|
| Group A: | New Park Village Warley Vipers Penn Rovers Willenhall Town Black Country Ravens | Group B: | Coopers Casuals Oldbury Lions New State Lions Warstones South Wednesbury Oak Colts |
| Group C: | Coven United Bentley Youth Hill Top Rangers Tipton Olympic FC Wednesbury | Group D: | Moorcroft Raiders Sedgley White Lions Bustleholme Windsor FC Perton Bantock Vipers |
| | Group E: | | Millfields All Saints Juniors Punjab United Warstones East Image Wheel |

Teams will play each other once, with the top two teams contesting the Final for each group

Under 12s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

In all three U12s Divisions, we see an excellent level of football being played and none more so than in Division Two, where we see three teams locked at the top of the table all on 16 points. Only two goals separate Bentley Youth and Parkfield Stars. Both have won five and drawn one, from their six games played and only those two goals give Bentley the slightest of advantages. Also on 16 points but having played one game more is Tipton Town. Warley Vipers cannot be dismissed from the equation either, being nine points adrift but having two games in hand, so the battle for promotion looks to be an extremely healthy one, that will intensify as the season progresses.

The battle in Division One is no less complex while Parkfield Dragons occupy top spot, six points ahead of Darlaston Town, though Darlaston have two games in hand, plus a vastly superior goal difference. Below them Perton & Codsall and FC Perton are a further three points adrift, but certainly still in contentions with over half the season still to play.

At the tail end, battling equally hard to avoid relegation, we see three teams in danger of becoming cur adrift from the pack, with just one point separating Willenhall Colts, Phoenix FC and Windsor.

In the Premier Division, Warstones Wanderers maintain their 100% start with maximum points from their six games played. FC Strollers and Hill Top and then New Park Village follow close behind but such is the quality in this top Division there are no easy games and points can be dropped at any time.

BNJS picked up the short straw dropping straight into this Division, but credit to them, they're giving it their best shot under difficult circumstances. Just above BNJS are Beechdale and Willenhall, as they battle to avoid relegation. The top four sides displayed their qualities on the bigger stage a few weeks ago, with all four sides progressing to round three, with none of them conceding a goal in their round two games, and all scoring with apparent ease.

Without doubt, the U12s is an age group where we see quality in abundance throughout all three Divisions, not just the Premier.

Disciplinary Committee Business

As reported verbally at the November meeting, the Disciplinary Committee sat for the first time just prior to our League meeting where they looked at and dealt with three issues involving four teams, Willenhall Youth, Cougars Juniors U15s, Warley Borough U14s and Brunswick Harriers U15s. The results of those issues were relayed to you at the last meeting.

Since then the Disciplinary Committee were hoping to arrange a meeting for last night, 30 November, though at the time of writing that is dependant on gathering all the relevant information, responses and paperwork in time. If it didn't happen it will be imminent with another meeting hopefully to be arranged prior to the Christmas break.

Cases pending involve Great Bridge Youth and Willenhall Tigers U13s, Windsor U12s, Tipton Athletic U14s and Beechdale Swifts U13s.

Sadly though, predictably all of these issues mentioned and indeed the four teams mentioned at the top of the page, don't involve misconduct by the players. Not one issue revolves around on field misconduct by the actual kids or players.

Every one of the teams is in front of the Disciplinary Committee to discuss, justify or deny misconduct by adults, be it spectators, managers or coaches. Even as I write this down the frustration is simmering beneath the surface.

Teams or managers can hide behind the smokescreen of it "just being a bit of banter" but it's a futile defence really.

I know we bang on about this at every meeting but it gets no less embarrassing no matter how many times we repeat it.

Ultimately, we are a kids League, providing football for kids and the kids love it. Win, lose or draw, they love it. What spoils it is the ego of parents/managers who cannot accept they can't win every game, every tackle or every toss of the coin. And, I'm delighted we've got an independent Disciplinary Committee, made up of the members themselves, who are fighting with us to maintain the standards we all want to play and enjoy our football under.

Hopefully, every right minded manager reading this will be nodding in their agreement—our thanks go to all members of the Disciplinary Committee for their diligence and determination in a very difficult role.

Stats-Facts-Fines-Figures
Penalty Points up to 13 November 2005

With the Disciplinary Committee having sat last month, and part of their remit being the imposing of penalty points, we see more teams move into a double figure running total. Hopefully, if the issues that caused the points prove isolated, then in the greater scheme of things, the running total shouldn't have any long term disadvantages, apart from the embarrassment of seeing their name included in the list below. If it's an ongoing or unrectifiable problem, then should the total exceed the accepted limit, they could once again find themselves in front of the Disciplinary Committee to explain such a high total.

Without doubt, bookings are on the increase this season, part of that is due to the FA's instructions to implement the rule more stringently, part is due to referees themselves lowering their tolerance threshold on indiscipline, but a large part of it is due to the players themselves showing no sense of self discipline or restraint, as the vast majority of cautions derive from dissent which is the easiest caution of all to avoid and the one that's impossible to justify.

The table as it stands after games played on 13 November is as follows:

| | | |
|----|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Willenhall Youth U15s | 14 points |
| 2. | King Charles Cavaliers U17s | 12 points |
| 3. | Warley Borough U14s | 10 points |
| 4. | Bilston Rangers U16s | 9 points |
| 5. | Wombourne Olympic U17s | 8 points |
| 5. | Wednesfield Youth U16s | 8 points |
| 5. | Brunswick Harriers U16s | 8 points |
| 5. | Cougars Juniors U15s | 8 points |
| 9. | Tipton Town North U17s | 7 points |
| 9. | East Park U17s | 7 points |
| 9. | Bartley Green U17s | 7 points |
| 9. | Market Boys U16s | 7 points |
| 9. | Tettenhall All Stars U16s | 7 points |
| 9. | Swinmoor Rangers U15s | 7 points |

Transfers, De-Registrations & Suspensions

Deregistrations

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| U10s | | |
| Zico Haughton | Liam Schofield | Sophie Barker |
| U11s | | |
| Joe Pearce | Kelvin Munndura | Jack Southall |
| U12s | | |
| Hayden Coates | Andrew Davis | Jack Elmore |
| Sam Elmore | Damian Preece | Grant Williams |
| Credo Isheja | | |
| U13s | | |
| Liam Edwards | Benjamin Malpass | Ben Carney |
| Louis Anglin | Jack Foster | Richard Carroll |
| Joshua Edwards | | |
| U14s | | |
| Samuel Gorman | Christopher Thompson | Asher McCalla |
| Mitchel Blackham | Michael Fletcher | Lee Campbell |
| Craig Law | Satveer Bhogal | Leroy Simmonds |
| Jonathan Benham | Jonathan Baker | |
| U15s | | |
| Thomas Molineaux | Luke Harrison | Thomas Owen |
| Adam Charlton | Lewis Wardle | Steven Dunn |
| Nathan Jennings | Ryan Reidy | Adam Plummer |
| Lewis Costin | Shane Allsopp | Tony McKeown |
| Laurence Williams | Joshua Carey | Thomas Dunn |
| Scott Hewitt | Adam Wollacott | Jevan Glanville |
| Daniel Swan | Danny Hosell <i>(Playing for F.C. Soccer Lions)</i> | |
| U16s | | |
| Duane Chambers Marchfields) | Marlon Taylor | Kulraj Cheema <i>(Playing for</i> |
| Daniel Smith | Daniel Smith <i>(Playing for Prestwood)</i> | |
| U17s | | |
| Ashley Clifford | | |

Transfers

| | From | To |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| U11s | | |
| Kayode Mcken | Warstones South | Millfields |
| U12s | | |
| Ashley Boffey | Coopers Casuals | Parkfields Stars |
| Jobee Summers | W/ton Development | Coven U11s |
| Joseph Chard | Phoenix | Coopers Casuals |
| U13s | | |
| Sam Lucas | Coseley Celtic | S.W. Lions |
| Brandon Harper | Stone Cross | Stone Cross U14s |
| U14s | | |
| Kieron Smith | Wodensfield | Tipton Athletic |
| Andrew Whittingham | Stone Cross | Lyng Falcons |
| Craig Skeldon | Stone Cross | Lyng Falcons |

Transfers, De-Registrations & Suspensions

Transfers *(continued)*

| | <i>From</i> | <i>To</i> |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| U15s | | |
| Dana Rodney | Parke Hall Lions | Tipton Town |
| Joseph Hickman | Tipton Town | Tipton Town West |
| Craig Oseland | Tipton Town | Tipton Town West |
| U16s | | |
| Rueben Senior | F.C. Perton | Penn Rovers |
| U17s | | |
| Shane Hargreaves | Tipton Town North | Willenhall Town |
| Anthony Bullock | Finchfield Falcons | Heath Town East |
| Ashley Evans | Finchfield Falcons | Heath Town East |
| Matthew Martin | Tipton Town North | Tipton Olympic |

Suspensions

| | | | |
|--------------|---------|----------------------|---------------------|
| U15s | | | |
| Luke Hussain | 35 Days | 14/11/05 to 18/12/05 | Midland Strollers |
| Tony McKeown | 32 Days | 07/11/05 to 11/12/05 | Parkfield Dragons |
| Richard Coke | 21 Days | 12/12/05 to 01/01/06 | Willenhall Youth |
| U16s | | | |
| James Smith | 35 Days | 14/11/05 to 18/12/05 | Pelsall Villa |
| Jason Whale | 35 Days | 12/12/05 to 15/01/06 | Warstones Wanderers |

Cup Tied Players

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|----------------|
| U11s | | | |
| Callum Williams | | Warley Vipers | League Cup |
| Kayode McKen | | Millfields | League cup |
| U12s | | | |
| Morgan Mohan | | Willenhall Swifts | League Cup |
| Ashley Boffery | | Parkfield Stars | Divisional Cup |
| Joseph Chard | | Coopers Casuals | League Cup |
| U13s | | | |
| Jason Perry | | Tipton Olympic | Divisional Cup |
| U14s | | | |
| Andrew Whittingham | | Lyng Falcons | Divisional Cup |
| Craig Skeldon | | Lyng Falcons | Divisional Cup |
| U15s | | | |
| Ryann Cadd | | Tipton Town | Divisional Cup |
| Dana Rodney | | Tipton Town | Divisional Cup |
| U16s | | | |
| Ross Fox | | Bilston Rangers | League Cup |
| Jamie Horney | | Bilston Rangers | League Cup |
| Duane Chambers | | Bilston Rangers | League Cup |
| Kulraj Cheema | | Marchfields | League Cup |
| Daniel Smith | | Prestwood | League Cup |
| Rueben Senior | | Penn Rovers | Divisional Cup |
| U17s | | | |
| Matthew Martin | | Tipton Olympic | Divisional Cup |

Top Scorers
(Up to 13 November 2005)

U10s *(not updated)*

North Division

Mathhew Bartlett Willenhall Town 13

South Division

Billy Bull FC Perton Pumas 10

East Division

Reece Brown Sedgley White Lions 15

West Division

Westley Beards Finchfield FC 15

U11s Central

Jamal Reid Willenhall Town 13

Dimibri Dunkley New Park Village 12

U11s East

Jordan Anderson Warley Vipers 18

Adam Partridge Wednesbury Oak Colts 14

Jack Withall Warley Vipers 12

U11s West

Alex Forshaw Penn Rovers 19

Lewis Harrison Penn Rovers 13

Courtney Glassford Penn Rovers 10

U12s Premier

Jermaine Meggoe Warstones North 13

Cameron Broadway FC Strollers 12

Reece Gardner Warstones North 9

U12s 1st

James McGelligot Darlaston Town 15

Michael Potts Coven United 10

Andrew Flavel Perton & Codsall 9

U12s 2nd

Connor Haywood Bentley Youth 22

Ryan Reid Parkfield Stars 12

Lewis Bagbee Warstones South 8

U13s Premier

Joe Hanbury Parkes Hall 11

James Kelly W'ton Dev Club 10

Tom Porter Beechdale 8

Daniel Aston Villiers Tigers 8

U13s 1st

Nial Donnelly Willenhall Tigers 15

J Goodlad Bentley Youth 13

Daniel Dunn Springvale 12

U13s 2nd

Ishmail Harris Stone Cross 14

Ryan Smith Sedgley White Lions 12

Mandair Singh Punjab United 11

Top Scorers
(Up to 13 November 2005)

U14s Premier

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----|
| Jay Chambers | Tipton Athletic | 19 |
| Seb Craven | Castle Rangers | 17 |
| Ashley Dicken | Wodensfield | 16 |

U14s 1st

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----|
| David Myrie | Wednesbury Inter | 16 |
| Marco Brookes | Wednesbury Inter | 9 |
| Daniel Dennison | Penn Rovers | 9 |

U14s 2nd

| | | |
|-----------------|------------------|----|
| Nathan Robinson | Hill Top Rangers | 20 |
| Jon Clift | Stowlawn Youth | 15 |
| James Gelder | Leo Sports | 15 |

U15s Premier

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|----|
| Chris Antill | Fordhouse Sports | 15 |
| Craig Smith | Swinmoor Rangers | 10 |

U15s 1st

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|----|
| Luke Picken | First XI | 16 |
| Ricky Hammond | Soccer Lions | 14 |

U15s 2nd

| | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---|
| Dannie Beckett | Image Wheels | 9 |
| J Giddings | Perton Pumas | 8 |
| Sam Butler | Coopers Casuals | 7 |

U16s Premier

| | | |
|---------------|--------------|---|
| Calvin Shakes | Featherstone | 6 |
| Matt Davies | Windsor | 6 |

U16 1st

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|----|
| Jayal Kumaram | Black Country | 11 |
| Danny Shannon | Moxley Lions | 11 |
| Ben Fullard | Park Hill Boys | 8 |

U16s 2nd

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----|
| Mitchell Pearson | Brockmore | 10 |
| Brad Simmons | West Park Rangers | 10 |
| Carl O'Shea | Newtown Athletic | 10 |

U17s Premier

| | | |
|----------------|--------------|---|
| Bobby Holmes | Tipton North | 5 |
| Michael Parker | Millfields | 4 |
| Nathan Dodd | Millfields | 4 |
| Luke Thurlowe | Heath Town | 4 |

U17s 1st

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---|
| Steve Mason | Darlaston Town | 9 |
| Kieron Cotter | Willenhall Town | 9 |
| Gareth Wigley | Coven United | 7 |

Fines

| Team | Reason | Amount |
|-----------------------------|--|---------------|
| Bantock Vipers | Non attendance at November League Meeting | £2.50 postage |
| Coseley Celtic | Non attendance at November League Meeting | £10.00 |
| Midland Strollers | Non attendance at November League Meeting | £10.00 |
| Tettenhall Wood Athletic | Non attendance at November League Meeting | £10.00 |
| Park Hill U13s | Incorrect MRF 30 10 05 | £7.50 |
| Perton & Codsall U12s | Late Match Report Form 30 10 05 | £7.50 |
| Willenhall Colts U12s | Late Match Report Form 30 10 05 | £7.50 |
| Punjab United U13s | Late Match Report Form 30 10 05 | £7.50 |
| FC Strollers U12s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Tipton Olympic U12s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Villiers Tigers U13s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Bentley Youth U13s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| FC Perton U13s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Willenhall Town Tigers U13s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Willenhall Swifts U13s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Cougars Juniors U15s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Wednesbury Inter U15s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Dale United U15s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| King Charles U17s | Failure to phone in result – 1 st offence 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Finchfield FC U13s | Failure to phone in result – 2 nd offence 6 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Coseley Cobras U15s | Failure to phone in result – 2 nd offence 6 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Prestwood Rangers U16s | Failure to phone in result – 2 nd offence 6 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Orton Vale U17s | Failure to phone in result – 2 nd offence 6 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Langley Olympic U14s | Non fulfilment v Darlaston Town 13 11 05 | £20.00 |
| Tipton Town U17s | Non fulfilment v Bartley Green 13 11 05 | £20.00 |
| Tipton Olympic U12s | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence 13 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Penn Rovers | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence 13 11 05 | £9.00 |
| Heath Town U17s | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence 13 11 05 | £9.00 |
| W'ton DC U16s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Sedgley Town U16s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| FC Perton U11s | Late Match Report Form 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Perton & Codsall U12s | Late Match Report Form 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Parkfield Stars U12s | Late Match Report Form 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Penn Rovers U13s | Late Match Report Form 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| All Saints Juniors U11s | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence | £9.00 |
| Tipton Olympic U11s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence | £7.50 |
| FC Perton U13s | Late confirmation of match arrangements | £7.50 |
| Coopers Casuals U11s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence | £7.50 |
| Bantock Vipers U11s | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence | £9.00 |
| Willenhall Town Colts U12s | Failure to phone in result 2 nd offence | £9.00 |
| Coopers Casuals U12s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence | £7.50 |
| Wednesbury Inter U15s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence | £7.50 |
| FC Strollers U16s | Failure to phone in result 1 st offence | £7.50 |
| Wednesfield Youth U16s | Incorrect Match Report Form 13 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Parkfield Dragons U12s | Incorrect Match Report Form 6 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Punjab United U13s | Late Match Report Form 20 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Coopers Casuals U14s | Late Match Report Form 20 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Heath Town Rangers U17s | Late Match Report Form 20 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Lodgefield Falcons U17s | Late Match Report Form 20 11 05 | £7.50 |
| Warstones Wanderers U11s | 11 (A) | £7.50 |

Under 13s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

Congratulations go to both Carlisle Swifts and Villiers Tigers, who go through their Tesco Cup first round ties, Carlisle via walkover after their opposition withdrew and Villiers returned from Colron with a convincing 4-0 win, so well done to both and good luck in the next tie of this exciting new FA competition.

In the League, both Villiers and Carlisle are well placed in the Premier Division with Carlisle currently top four point head of Willenhall Swifts who hold a game in hand and Finchfield impressing after gaining promotion lying in third. Deceptively fourth, lie Villiers having only played three times but with a maximum of nine points and they clearly remain the biggest threat to Carlisle's Championship ambitions.

At the other end, Strollers and Windsor still seek their first points while Whitmore have managed that, finding the step up from Division One to be a big one, but they have managed that first elusive point.

Division One is seeing a promotion battle of epic proportions. We see four teams locked at the top, all on 15 points, though with various numbers of games played. Bentley top that quartet with six games played, Willenhall Tigers got their total from five games, Tipton Olympic seven, and Featherstone eight games. Below them, Warstones could make it a fifth team at the top, if they win their two games in hand and make it fifteen points from six games—so it's a hell of a battle being played out in the top half of this division. At the bottom, New Invention Victory are suffering at the moment—and surprisingly so—as they seek their first points of the campaign. Just above them we see Penn Rovers and Wednesbury Inter Athletic, though both have games in credit over Great Bridge Youth just above them.

The contest in Division Two is equally epic, with Punjab holding a two point lead at the top but Stone Cross, Ashbourne and Park Hill Boys all close behind, waiting for Punjab to slip up, with all of them capable of capitalising on that slip. As well as those three, Parkfield Dragons and Sedgley White Lions are also in contention, making it one of the closely contested Divisions at any age group.

The U13s Staffs Cup was disrupted by the weather on 6 November though Willenhall Tigers secured a third round place with a 4-2 win at Warley Borough.

Linesman's Course

10 November 2005

Last month, on 10 November, we held our first Lineman's Course of the season when again we borrowed the services of Referee's Instructors Walter Wakeman and Keith Haynes of the Wolverhampton Referee's Association who ran the free one of lesson of instruction for us, here at the Springvale. Once again, our thanks go to Walter and Keith who give up their time freely to help us do this. On the night, we had representation from the various Coopers Casuals teams, Moxley Rangers, and Ashbourne Raiders. I would also like to extend our thanks to Steve Law of Coopers Casuals who acted as Team Leader for the night, ensuring all went smoothly and everyone was in the right place and acted as Walter's port of call.

The feedback received indicates it was another successful night and everyone who attended enjoyed it as well as gaining some knowledge on the difficulties of running a good line and hopefully with the insight gained that night, enjoy the benefits of that knowledge in the forthcoming seasons.

In the time we've been operating these Lineman's lessons and I believe we are still the only League to operate such a scheme, we've seen well over 100 people take advantage of them. They are free, last just a couple of hours and I guarantee you will benefit from attending one, no matter how much you know about the rules of the game, I assure you that you will learn something you didn't know!

As with previous courses all those who attended will receive a certificate verifying their attendance and if they're not ready for tonight's meeting we'll ensure they're here for the January meeting.

As I've said to anyone who's asked me of their value, they won't stop a dishonest linesman being dishonest, but they'll make an honest one more proficient and more professional and believe me, as a referee, you know within the first ten minutes of the type of linesmen you have a good linesman can add to the quality of the game immensely—a bad one can simply ruin it.

Anyone who wants to reserve a place on the next course, can see me at the end of the meeting.

Under 14s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

After winning the Fair Play Award, Wall Heath Alliance are pulling out all the stops to add some on field silverware to their off field success and they currently share top spot with Championship veterans and former Fair Play winners, Castle Rangers, both on fifteen points from six games played.

Warley Vipers and Tipton Town are just behind the leaders with Wodensfield Warriors the closest contenders. Tipton Athletic, Wolverhampton Development Club and Warstones in the mid table comfort zone, it highlights how competitive this Division is. At the tail end, we see Moxley and Tipton Town West fighting to avoid the drop zone but points are hard to come by in this Division.

The First Division sees Wednesbury Inter enjoying a tremendous season so far and they sit atop of the table, albeit by one point, as deserved leaders. Equally impressive is the form of Lyng Falcons, promotion winners last season, they've took the Division by storm and sit in second place, one point off the lead, but with a game in hand. Penn Rovers maintain a threat to the top two, three points below Lyng and four behind Wednesbury Inter. At the bottom Bentley Youth, FC Perton and Milstar sit adrift from the mid table pack of teams, though all three have games in credit on those above them.

In Division two, Hill Top Rangers have made a dream start, eight wins from eight give them maximum points and an eleven point lead over second placed Stowlawn, who's game in hand on the leaders looks futile unless Hill Top suffer a collapse of epic proportions. We see three teams just one point below Stowlawn, as a clutch of teams vie to contest the runners up spot. Punjab United, Wednesbury Town and Beechdale are the teams breathing down Stowlawn's necks, with Punjab and Wednesbury both having a game in hand on the team above them.

Leo Sports can also be interested parties while Sedgley Sharks have seen a dramatic upturn in their performances this season. Langley Olympic have also seen an improvement this term, and though they still seek their first win, they appear to be finding the net more than last time and most importantly, enjoying their football as much as ever.

Wall Heath Alliance U14s BPYFL & Staffs FA Fair Play Winners 2005

We spoke last month of Wall Heath Alliance U14s winning, not only the PPYFL Fair Play Award for 2004/2005, but after being put forward as the League's Representatives for the Count Award, they were then selected to receive the County's coveted award as Fair Play winners from all Staffs affiliated Leagues, adults as well as Juniors. As winners of this award they received a framed certificate/plaque, all the lads received individual FA medals and the Club received a cheque for £200. So well done to manager Ross Pearsall and all his players and spectators, because to win such prestigious awards as these, it takes a real team effort, both on and off the pitch. Hopefully, the standards they obviously set last season, will be maintained not just this season but for seasons to come, because like every award and trophy winning it often proves to be the easy part, maintaining the standards that won it in the first place is always the difficult bit!

Pictured below, accepting the award at the FA's presentation night is Wall Heath players Ellis Pearsall and Jordan Humphrey. Well Done!!



Under 15s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

No disrespect to the teams above them but the biggest shock of the U15s season so far is to see Coseley Cobras and Wednesbury Inter occupying two of the bottom three places of the Premier Division. Over the last six year Coseley Cobras have been one of the most successful sides throughout the League so to see them still seeking their first win and occupying a relegation place is a shock to say the least.

At the other end of the scale, newly promoted Tipton Town have made a dream start and occupy top spot, two and three points respectively ahead of the leaders. Games in hand also mean Swinmoor and Bustleholme remain a threat to the leaders.

At the bottom the other promoted side Willenhall Youth have found the gap twixt First and Premier a big one to bridge and still seek their first points.

In Division One, FC Soccer Lions have maintained the form they showed in the latter part of the last season and they occupy top spot two points ahead of FC Strollers who have a game in hand with First XI and Midland Strollers just behind. Tettenhall Wood having played just three League games 'lurk' in fifth spot, nine points from those three games, and looking well capable of extending that 100% start to challenge the leading pack.

At the bottom one point separates four teams with Darlaston Colts and Bustleholme Jets on three points and Wyrley Juniors and Hill Top Colts on four.

In Division Two, Perton Pumas hold a three point lead over Warstones and Coopers Casuals, though Warstones have two games in hand and boast a 100% start with a maximum return from their four games played. Finchfield and Image Wheels are also in contention for the honours being six points off the lead, but with two games in hand, giving us five teams from a Division of eight with realistic title ambitions , now that's a close well contested Division. We shall watch it's progression with more than just a passing interest!!

Ron Flowers

Team of the Month—November

At the time of writing, I received four nominations for the November Team of the Month award, though who knows what that will escalate to by the time we actually have the meeting.

I think I wrote of four nominations in the November Off the Post but on the night of the meeting, that number swelled to I think, thirteen nominations and was eventually won by Moxley Lions U16s after being nominated by Himley Harriers.

The first nomination this month is for Langley Olympic U14s who were nominated by Beechdale Swifts U14s. Three more nominations were received after games played on 13 November and they came in from Warstones Wanderers Lions U10s, who nominated Parkfield Dragons 'B' U10s. Warstones North U12s nominate BNJS U12s and from Referee Gary Lewis a nomination for Image Wheel U15s after he refereed their fixture with Dale United and commented it was one of the most pleasurable games he'd refereed and complimented Image Wheel on their whole demeanour and attitude.

So well done to all connected to Langley Olympic, Parkfield Dragons U10s, BNJS and Image Wheel. All names will go forward into tonight's draw for the Team of the Month, along with any other received between now and then and they will also, criteria permitting, carry through into our end of season draw to find the new BPYFL Fair Play Award, where hopefully the eventual winner can perhaps go on to emulate the feat of Wall Heath Alliance.

Thanks also go to Beechdale Swifts U14s, Warstones Lions U10s Warstones North U12s and Referee Gary Lewis for taking the time and trouble to make the nominations.

If, for whatever reason, a particular team or club impress you with their conduct, attitude or makes you comfortable and welcome when you visit their ground, let me know, nominate them for the Team of the Month. Let's focus on the positive aspects of the game instead of dwelling on the negative side so often. Well done gain to the nominated teams and thank you to those who nominated.

Under 16s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

In the Premier Division the top three teams have opened up a gap between themselves and the rest with Featherstone leading the trio, three points ahead of Market Boys and Sedgley Town, courtesy of playing one game more. All three remain unbeaten with similar goal difference, so there's little to choose between them. Below them, Windsor, Bilston and Wednesfield all have six points with Tettenhall and Strollers completing the Division.

In Division One, Black Country Rangers and Wolverhampton Development Club are the two teams unbeaten. Black Country top the table leading by three points from Moxley Lions who've played a game more, whilst Sedgley North are a further four points adrift. Wolverhampton Development Club are fourth but have only played three times and would draw level with the leaders if they convert their credit into points.

At the tail end, Himley Harriers are surprisingly battling to avoid the drop with Prestwood and Park Hill just above them. Promoted sides Warstones and Marchfields are holding their own in mid table.

Division Two looks to be providing us with the most fascinating contest of all with four teams separated by just two points at the top. Bentley Youth lead the way with four straight wins taking the top. Level on points but having played a game more is Ashbourne Raiders, then two points adrift but with a game in hand on Ashbourne is Wyrley Juniors who along with Bentley have yet to taste defeat. Bustleholme also have ten points but have played two games more.

The Staffs Cup also holds great interest for our U16s teams, with Featherstone and Market Boys already through to Round three, whilst Bilston, Wednesfield, Strollers, Windsor, Ashbourne and Wyrley are involved in replayed ties due to the mass cancellations of the games on 6 November. Those replayed Staffs Cup ties had a knock on effect as they coincided with our own League Cup competition, causing the cancellation of a number of ties, which Mike will reschedule as and when he can.

As expected though, the U16s is providing us with a fascinating contest in all three Divisions.

Under 17s
(Up to 13 November 2005)

Though small in numbers, there's no shortage of ability or excitement in the U17s First Division, but as we near the half way stage, we see a divide open up between the top three and bottom three. Darlaston Colts occupy the top spot at present, two points ahead of Willenhall Town who have a game in hand and five points ahead of Lodgefield Falcons who have two games in credit. There's a big drop in the points tally then though with Wombourne, Orton Vale and Coven United all separated by just three points as they battle against the bottom spot.

In the Premier, Millfields blaze a trail at the top, enjoying a perfect start with six wins from six games played, conceding just three goals in those six games.

Tipton Town North are currently second, four points off the pace, but having played a game more. Heath Town are hot on the heels of Tipton North, three points adrift but with three games in hand.

East Park, King Charles Cavaliers, Tipton Town and Tipton Olympic occupy mid table comfort, with varying degrees of points to games played whilst Bartley Green and Finchfield are current occupiers of the relegation places.

In the Staffs Cup, Millfields couldn't maintain their League success, going out 1-2 against Beechdale Swifts U17s. Lodgefield also lost out to Beechdale, the U18s side, 1-3. East Park bowed out in a home tie to Whittington.

Coven United carry the flat for the Bilston League, winning a thrilling tie at Wednesbury. After the game ended at 2-2, Coven held their nerve to win the penalty shoot out and progress to Round three. They might be joined in Round three by Heath Town Rangers and/or King Charles Cavaliers but, as they didn't phone their result in, we don't know!

Both U17s Divisions are shaping up to give us a great season of excitement and drama and undoubtedly that drama will include a few twists and turns along the way, and we'll keep you informed of it all, here, every month.