



# Brook End Colts F.C.

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## Brook End Colts Parents Meeting Minutes 18<sup>th</sup> October 2008



CHARTER  
STANDARD  
CLUBS



<b>Attendees:</b>	Club Exec Committee members & parents representing a number of clubs.
<b>Venue:</b>	4, Little Meadow, Loughton, Milton Keynes
<b>Time:</b>	18:00 – 20:00

### Meeting Record

Thank you to the parents who attended our first meeting. It was informal and set the tone for future meetings which we hope representatives from all teams will attend.

The following items were discussed:

1. The importance of parents, as the main financial and practical support for the club, to be able to directly influence the policies, practices, standards and events of the club. The parents committee should remain an informal opportunity for parents to meet with members of the club committee and with parents from other teams to exchange ideas and give feedback about the way the club works. A draft brief for the parents committee role was reviewed and is now posted on the website at [www.brookendcoltsfc.co.uk](http://www.brookendcoltsfc.co.uk)
2. Effectiveness of communications. Whilst managers do their best, communication with parents is difficult as some parents are not able to stay for training or matches, and children are not the most reliable messengers. Also managers are volunteers and cannot always make club meetings so not all feedback given to managers reaches the committee running the club. Parents meetings should help with this, and must be open for any parents to drop in if they wish to, as well as having at least one or two nominated parents from each team who regularly attend.
3. Meeting times and dates – the only night when there is no training is Monday. Future meetings will be monthly on Mondays 7.00 to 8.00 in the bar at Kiln Farm Sports Club.
4. Use of emails. The club now has most parents email addresses from registration forms. Lee Sadler (Chairman) will circulate parent information using these emails, giving parents the opportunity to opt out if they do not want to receive the information. Parent committee members are asked to check that parents in their teams are receiving the information, and get feedback.
5. Keeping warm / dry at winter matches. There was enthusiasm for teas/coffees for parents and warm drink after the game for children to be available on match days. The committee is investigating how these facilities can be provided and parents from several teams have offered to man the coffee pots.  
Shelter for parents/ children was also discussed, with use of the new changing rooms and possible temporary shelters discussed. Options will be discussed again at the next meeting but may require sponsorship or more funding.

6. The club has provided professional keeper coaching on Fridays, and has been considering offering coaching days in school holidays. There has been little feedback on the opportunities offered for this half term, but parents felt that with appropriate notice they would support plans for February. There was discussion about practicalities of whole/ half days and child care implications. This will be discussed at future meetings.
7. The club is also looking at starting a mini match club for players (boys and girls) U7 and below which will for the basis of the future of the club moving forward. Confirmation of the training and start date will be sent out in due course. It is thought that many existing players' younger brothers & sister may be interested in taking part, and therefore parents will be provided with information of the club in due course.
8. Another event being suggested for next summer is to hold a club tournament. This is to be discussed further at the next managers meeting and next parents committee meeting to see if this is viable.
9. Events – There has been a good take up for the social at Abbey Hill Club on 21<sup>st</sup> November – regardless of ability to win quizzes. Parent committee members were asked to help ensure that every team has at least one quiz team – questions are for old, young, male and females (not just football) – and tickets are £5 for a family (or £2 per adult, £1 per child). Future events such as the Christmas party will be discussed within the parents committee.
10. The F.A.'s respect campaign was discussed within the forum. This is the FA's programme of activities to combat unacceptable behavior in football at every level - on the pitch and from the sidelines. Lee stated that this was an important policy to follow and support and highlighted that at an U10 game that very morning there were issues with the opposing team not complying with this campaign and will be reported to the F.A.
11. The subject of the Club Shop was also raised within the meeting to highlight the fact that the club is looking to sell club branded items (i.e with club logo embroidered on) for players, parents and supporters etc. Lee stated that this was again just one of the ways of supporting the club as well as purchasing quality clothing etc. To date the club shop has not been actively advertised nor clothing items actively displayed on the website for sale. This is to be discussed at the next parents meeting where sample items can be viewed.
12. Next meeting: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 7pm Kiln Farm. All parents welcome.