



*An FA Charter Standard Community & Adult Club
An Ability Counts Football Club
Kent Charter Standard Community Club of the Year 2005/2006
FA National Administrator of the Year Award Winner 2005/2006
Kent Volunteer Award Winner of the Year 2005/2006
FA National Football Workforce Volunteer of the Year Award Winner 2006/2007
Kent & South East Region Charter Standard Administrator of the Year Award 2006/2007*

END OF SEASON REPORT - SEASON 2006/2007

The 35th Anniversary Season for South Park Rangers FC has been one of the most successful in its history.

Our driving ambition is to ensure that we provide football for all, irrespective of age, sex, colour, religion, disability and just as importantly, ability. It is not the winning that counts but inclusion.

South Park Rangers FC, is an amateur non-profit making organisation which was formed for the 1971/72 season. The Club has introduced four sister Club's over the recent years so that the Club now includes South Park Royals FC, South Park Rascals FC, South Park Rovers FC and Maidstone Raiders FC.

At the end of season 2003/2004, we had 6 teams, one Club Committee and about 70 members. For next season, we will have 17 teams and well over 250 members. This shows the commitment over the last 3/4 years from our many volunteers.

To create a more inclusive structure, we restructured the committee and now support 4 separate committees from the Executive, through to the Team Managers to the innovative Social and Volunteer Committees.

Alongside this internal restructuring, the Club have strived to demonstrate a level of professionalism which has been recognised with the following accolades:

March 2004, we were able to achieve the FA Charter Standard Club Award.

September 2004, we were voted the Kent Charter Standard Club of the Year for 2004/2005.

In Partnership with Maidstone United FC



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November 2004, we were successful in obtaining the FA Charter Standard Development Club Award (only the 17th Club in Kent) and the FA Charter Standard Adult Club Award (only the 6th Club in Kent and the 1st in Maidstone).

At the end of 2004, we were announced as the KCFA winners of the 2004 FA Fair Play Award in Kent for the Club's progressive development and positive attitude towards grass roots football.

In March 2005, and after much effort on the part of the SPR Executive Committee, we were confirmed as achieving the highest award, an FA Charter Standard Community Club (the 1st in Maidstone).

We successfully achieved all 3 levels of Charter Standard status in 12 months!

September 2005, we were voted the Kent Charter Standard Community Club of the Year for 2005/2006.

September 2005, our Social Secretary Tina Collins won the Kent County Football Association Football Workforce Volunteer of the Year.

October 2005, John Harvey, our Youth Development Officer won a national award for FA Charter Standard Administrator of the Year and was presented with his prize on the pitch at half time during the England v Austria World Cup Qualifier at Old Trafford.

November 2005, we were established as the first amateur Ability Counts Football Club in the South East and only the 3rd in the whole of the UK.

December 2005, John Harvey, Youth Development Officer, won the KM Youth Achievement Award for Services to Grass Roots Sport.

August 2006, Ron Tapp, Club Chairperson at the time, won the KCFA, Regional and National Football Workforce Volunteer of the Year Award. Ron collected his prize on the pitch at half time during The FA Community Shield at The Millennium Stadium in Cardiff between Chelsea and Liverpool.

September 2006, Mike Littleboy, Club Secretary at the time, won the Kent County FA and South East Region Charter Standard Administrator of the Year as well as a KCFA Award for Football Workforce Volunteer of the Year Award.

In pursuing these goals we have not foregone good governance:

We are registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) with the Inland Revenue in order to ensure as much funding stays in the Club as possible.

We have amended the way our accounts are presented in order that the Executive can see that each team breaks even, which is one of our goals.



Any profits from our social events such as quiz nights, horse racing nights, discos, Halloween and Christmas parties, Christmas draw etc are put back into the Club to provide football for all.

We are also registered in accordance with the Data Protection Act.

In 2004 and thanks to the Charter Standard kite mark, we were able to apply for and were successful in obtaining a Small Grant Scheme award from The Football Foundation for development of 2 teams at the youngest age groups for the next 3 years.

In April 2006, we were successful in obtaining a 2 year grant from the Local Network Fund and/or Kent Community Foundation for our disability football club.

The rapid expansion of the Club has meant that considerable attention has been needed in maintaining an adequate level of skilled and formally trained volunteers. This year, we were able to make sure that our management and volunteers were more qualified than ever before.

We now have 31 Level 1 FA Certificate in Coaching Football Coaches and FA Level 1 Disability Football Coaches, who at the same time, achieved Child Protection and First Aid Certification. Included in the above are 4 Level 2 Coaches.

We run our own in-house first aid courses as well as Child Protection Workshops in conjunction with KCFA.

CRB checks have been and are being carried out to ensure the safety of members of the Club.

We also now have 8 KCFA qualified referees at the Club.

We actively encourage all our Managers and Volunteers as well as parents and players to take and complete the FA's Online Soccer Parent Award.

Progressive training and continuing development are part of the culture of the Club.

On this basis, once our coaches have achieved Level 1, we encourage them to go further, but are currently unable to offer funding for these additional courses, but we see this as a life skill which the individual will benefit from in the long run.

We request our managers to attend our annual in-house continuing development sessions run by our more experienced coaches. This ensures that the Level 1 coaches do not become stale and are learning new coaching methods etc.

We hold some coaching sessions whereby each coach is precluded from working with his normal team in order to gain a wider perspective.

Feedback from players and managers is essential and in this regard, we have introduced feedback forms on how the season has gone and invited comments on what we can do to improve all manner of things.

We actively seek an all inclusive approach to those who want to play football and strive to support the local community at all levels.

We are active members of the Kent Disability Football Partnership which meets each quarter and were one of the inaugural teams in the Kent Junior Pan Disability Football League formed for season 2006/2007. In fact, one of our Under 16's teams were the eventual winners by only one point!!

Six of our coaches have attended and passed the FA's Level 1 Disability Coaching Course.

In 2005, after a year of planning, we created our Special Needs/Pan Disability Football Section, known as Maidstone Raiders FC. This was undertaken in conjunction with a local special school, Bower Grove. As a result, two of our coaches provide coaching to young people once a week after school in conjunction with school staff.

In November 2005, our disability coaching sessions were filmed by media consultants for the FA to include in a DVD/CD Rom showing best practice for coaching special needs and pan disability players. This was released nationally.

South Park Rangers FC, in conjunction with KCFA, Goals Soccer Centres and Back Office arranged one of the first ever Special Needs/Pan Disability Football Tournaments, based on a World Cup theme, which took place on Sunday 14 May 2006. This was a great advertisement for Special Needs/Pan Disability football in Kent. This tournament was voted the English entrant in the UEFA Grass Roots Disability Tournament of the Year. We are involved in the organisation of this years' event known as the Champion's Cup on Sunday 13 May 2007.

SPR personnel are also regularly invited to FA Headquarters to be part of the process in determining the future of adult and youth Special Needs and Pan Disability football in the South East.

We are also being used as an example of good practice in special needs and pan disability football and assisting other Kent clubs (such as Canterbury City and Paddock Wood FC) in setting up new teams.

In June 2006, we assisted KCFA with the running of the football side for the Kent Disability Youth Games, with is Youth Sport for Special Schools. We provided equipment and referees and helped Bower Grove School run their team. We are again involved in this years' tournament to be held on 27 June 2007.

On Saturday 17 June 2006, we undertook a demonstration of disability football at Bower Grove School's fete.

Numerous meetings have taken place with Astor of Hever Sports College (an FA Charter Standard School), so much so that we are now recognised as their Community Partner for Football.



SPR provide to Astor funding each year for 2 of their students to take and complete the FA Level 1 Certificate in Coaching Football as well as 2 students for the Kent Referees Course. We also provide access for their students to coach our players, which helps with their national curriculum studies. As a Club, we are also asked to assist with coaching and refereeing their students both during school hours and after school has finished. In return, we get access to the facilities at the school including playing facilities.

As a result of our close relationship with Astor of Hever and KCFA, we were involved with both parties in the KCFA's School-Club Link Programme. We are working closely with Bower Grove School, Five Acre School, St Michaels, Westborough, Holy Family and Astor of Hever Sports College.

During this season, we also entered into a school club partnership with St Michaels' Junior School. This is a feeder primary school for Astor of Hever Sports College. We provide coaching sessions every other week at Astor of Hever for pupils of St.Michaels, Westborough and Bower Grove. Going forward, we are hoping to undertake the same coaching sessions with Holy Family and St Francis via St Simon Stock and their SSCo.

We have undertaken 3 taster coaching days at a local special needs school called Five Acre Wood School.

This was so successful that we now undertake after school coaching every Friday afternoon between 4pm and 5pm in the adjacent Oldborough Manor School sports hall. Kit and equipment has been provided by SPR. We have also been able to involve Junior Sports Leaders from Aylesford College in these sessions. Whilst it is unlikely that the players will develop into a team due to their severe disabilities, these sessions are all about fun and enjoyment. Five Acre may however enter the Kent Youth Games at football for the first time ever as a result of our activities.

Our relationship with the County Town's leading semi-professional club, Maidstone United FC has also blossomed during this season. At its launch in The Mall (previously the Chequers Centre) on Saturday 5 August 2006, we informed the public that we were working in partnership with MUFC to ensure that players have access to a higher level of football. We also undertake some community coaching together including helping MUFC with their summer 6 a side tournament. Joint sessions for development of both sets of coaches are also planned.

We have also been asked to assist KCFA with their Volunteer Placement scheme. We are happy to help and have had numerous people from the University of Kent at our training sessions in order that they can achieve their 16 hours of Community Coaching.

We were approached by the Kent Social Support Employment Agency, who work with people as part of their rehabilitation programme to integrate them back into main stream society after personal issues. This relationship will hopefully blossom in the future.



We are keen to pass onto others our lessons and successes.

We attend the Effective Football Club Administration (EFCA) Workshops held in Kent, where possible. At one of the workshops in December 2004 entitled Club Development, we presented to fellow Charter Standard clubs, our innovative but simple PowerPoint Club Development Plan. We understand this is still being used by KCFA as part of their presentation, together with our Child Protection policies and procedures.

Subsequently, we have also met with other local Charter Standard Clubs, to give guidance on the structure we adopted to ensure the smooth running of our Club. Further, we have presented the benefits we have found in becoming a Charter Standard Club to clubs who are looking to participate in achieving Charter Standard status.

We are always keen to extol the merits of volunteer work and are currently liaising with Maidstone Volunteer Bureau.

We are using technology to keep Club members involved and informed. Our website can be found at www.southparkrangers.com, which is used as a tool to provide information to Club members.

We are continuing to seek sources of funding and thanks to our sponsors, we have ensured that for season 2007/2008, we will be able to run the teams as planned.

So for the record, how did our teams do in 2006/7?

Development Squad has numerous players to prepare for Under 8's next season
Under 8's finished 7th in the Central Division of the Invicta Primary League
Under 9's Rangers finished 2nd in Division 2 of the Invicta Primary League
Under 9's Royals finished 4th in Division 4 of the Invicta Primary League
Under 9's Rovers was formed and are ready for the Invicta Primary League
Under 10's Rangers were 10th in the Premier Division of the Invicta Primary League
Under 10's Royals finished 6th in Division 2 of the Invicta Primary League
Under 11's finished 6th in Division 1 of the Invicta Primary League as well as deserving Winners of the Invicta Primary League's Consolation Cup
Under 13's finished 3rd in Division 3 of the Maidstone Primary League
Under 14's finished 4th in Division 3 of the Maidstone Primary League and were in the semi-final of the Consolation Cup
Saturday Seniors finished 7th in Division 2 of the Alchemy Maidstone & District Football League
Sunday Seniors finished 9th in the Premier Division of The KM Maidstone & Mid Kent Sunday Football League
Maidstone Raiders U16's won the Premiership Division of the Kent Junior Pan Disability Football League, in its inaugural season
Maidstone Raiders U16's finished 3rd in the League Division of the Kent Junior Pan Disability Football League, in its inaugural season
Maidstone Raiders U11's (2 teams) finished 5th and 7th respectively in the only Division of the Kent Junior Pan Disability Football League

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Our goals in 2007/2008 are as follows:-

- To provide and ensure football provision for all.
- To redevelop South Park Rascals (girls) in conjunction with Maidstone United.
- Promote more qualifications for coaches, child protection, first aid and FA Soccer Parents.
- Promote more qualifications and inclusion from parents as referees
- To enhance and develop connections further with local schools, particularly Primary Schools.
- To develop our playing and training facilities.

In summary, our Club is run by unpaid but extremely enthusiastic volunteers who gave their time and effort to running the Club and the various teams. Thanks to you all.

Finally, a big thank you to Ron and Kristine Tapp as well as Terry Dunster for their hard work and help over the years to develop SPR into the Club it is today. Ron and Kristine were thanked by the Club members at the 35th Anniversary Dinner Dance held in September 2006 at Oakwood House, Maidstone at which nearly 100 people attended.

The Executive would like to express our thanks to the players, parents, sponsors, managers, assistants and other committee members for their hard work during the 2006/2007 season in developing this football club into one of the best football clubs in the whole of Kent.

We wish you and your families a very good break and look forward to seeing you all for Season 2007/2008.

If you would like to become involved with the Club, please contact Mike Littleboy, Club Chairman on 01622 204 697 or John Harvey, Youth Development Officer on 01622 765755.

**THANK YOU FROM THE EXECUTIVE
SOUTH PARK RANGERS FC - 18 MAY 2007**

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