

Easton Cowgirls Football QGM on 7/10/24 at Easton Community Centre

Present: Peta, Amy, Jo, Sensi, Becs, Kaz, Sal, Alicia, Zoe, Isy, Sooooz, Ripper Liz

Apologies: Rach, Rona, Wendy, Silvia, Annie, Lizzie, Frances, Emily

Chair: Peta **Minutes:** Jo

1) Financial summary

- Currently £1800 in the bank, up from £1500 in May
- likely in part because of not paying for pitches over summer - finances might go down now we're back at City Academy and paying for pitch again (£72 per week)
- Please pay your subs! Need around 20 people pay subs each week to break even

2) Current status of being open to new players

- we aren't publicising that we're open, but we are
 - "screening" more, asking people if they agree with our values before giving out training info
- will review over next few weeks/months - lots at training last week, but numbers dip over winter
- Will continue polls on whatsapp each week to gauge how many are coming to training
- May have some new players with limited English, please be friendly and welcoming and mindful of language barrier
- Would be good to have a stash of boots of different sizes
 - Jo happy to store these and bring to training
 - ACTION – if anyone sees good boots for good price, please buy for stash (reimbursed by cow funds)
- Need welcome leaflets printed for new players – ACTION – annie/sal to review before we print more

3) Casual league

- previously new players had to train for 3 months before a joining team - slipped a bit this year
- Friesian desire (development team) has very high numbers – unlikely to take any new players
- Moo-cho gusto (competitive team) has good numbers for now
- 2x over 35s teams could use more players
- agreed any new players who want to join a team must joint reserve list – if casual league teams require more players they will ask reserve list
- if you are over 35 and want to play regularly, speak to sooooz about over 35s league
- Players need to be registered on FA website 1 week before playing a game

4) Fundraising

- Cowboys 4th team – most players seeking asylum or refuge in UK – club needs to raise funds to support them playing football and being part of our community
 - Part of this is “cowmunity meals” after 4th team matches every Saturday – everyone welcome to join every week!
- Cowgirls have pledged to raise £400 for 4th team
- Easiest way to raise money is collecting on door of plough – easily gets £200 minimum per night
 - Ask Vicki from softball what nights there is space on the door
 - nights that attract crowds that share our ethos likely to raise most money
- could take Zettle to casual league and ask for donations from other teams
- football scratch cards/draw – folks pay £1 for a team on a card – we draw a team from a hat/scratch off card to reveal winning team - £20 to winner, £30 raised for 4ths team
 - gambling is Haram – does this count as gambling?
- More call outs for donation on info chat
- Will be helpful to have a fundraising team to take the lead - ACTION - Sal, Zoe, Peta to make another whatsapp group to coordinate fundraising – but everyone can help

5) Tournaments

- Republica FC hopefully coming down mid-end November or early Dec – to play football, have a meeting/idea sharing session, have a part – date TBC
 - ACTION - Anyone know of suitable 11 a side pitch, please let sensi know
- May day tournament in Leeds 3rd May 2025
 - Lovely day tournament – cheap, with our friends, raising money for mental health charities
 - Everyone welcome – usually go up Friday night, football and party sat, back on Sunday – we can stay with republica friends, and Alicias mum will make us lunch the next day
- Network tournament in Stuttgart - 3-6th July 2025
 - Big fun! Lots of like minded teams together! Camping! 2 days of football!
 - Could drive, fly, get train
- AntiRa tournament in St Pauli stadium, Hamburg – date TBC (2025)
 - Issues regarding St Pauli supporters club stance on genocide in Palestine
 - Need to make choice about whether to attend, or to boycott, or go and engage – discussions ongoing – talk to Becs for more info

- Clapton CFC coming to Bristol for a day of football and party? Or go to Clapton again?
 - Anyone who can help organise, please contact Becs

6) Christmas!

- Whole club party - may be 14th Dec in the plough – anyone who wants to help organise can!
- Should we have Cowgirls party before Christmas or after – pros and cons to each
- 7th dec proposed as a date (casual league day)
 - Social secs will put feelers out for this date

7) Any other business

- Reminder to be respectful at training with timekeeping and chat
 - When mark is coaching, listen and be quiet – its hard talking over 30 cowgirls
 - We have limited time on pitch, chatting eats into football time
- Proposal of splitting training – could mark coach development team or least experienced players more, and more experienced players coach amongst themselves?
 - Pros and cons
 - Perhaps we could do this some sessions, not all
 - Needs to be discussed with Mark – ACTION – peta/sensi to discuss with Mark
- Reminder of the important to Wear moulds for your own safety and to avoid damaging pitch
- Engagement – Sal keen to work on engagement between Cowgirls and wider club, and our ethos generally
- Communication – multiple channels of communication continues to be a challenge
 - Difficult when folks have different preferences for communication – more face to face communication might improve engagement
 - ACTION – committee to trial debriefing after training sessions – any cowgirls/club updates

Next meeting – January