



NEWSLETTER No. 4

The Directors are pleased to present the latest Newsletter to members outlining progress on various fronts. We hope you find it informative and if you have any comments or queries, please email info@gwfc.gg

News from the Board

The Who's who in the club has been updated and a copy will be sent out separately.

Players of walking football are requested to become official members of the club by filling in details on a form which is available.

All players should fill in the Health declaration form for our insurance to be valid so please do ask Marion or Rick if you have not done so. We would like an updated health declaration form for those who have already filled one in Again please ask Rick or Marion for a new form.

Accounts

Financially we are in a solid position with our subs from each session covering our everyday costs. We also have in place sponsorship which we are actively looking to replace for 2024. If you wish to help with fund-raising, please let us know.

Committees

In the last Newsletter we asked for volunteers to make up our three committees. Following limited response, we approached a number of members who fortunately agreed to assist. Thank you to all of those who have participated and are beginning to move the club forward.

Competitive Events

We had, as you may be aware, intended to hold a number of events this year. A date was set in November for a **festival** in Guernsey and twelve previous contacts in the UK were invited, as well as an entry placed on Facebook and the WFA website. The Events Committee also created a seven-page information pack. Most contacts said they would be interested in a tournament next year; we think the time of year and the cost were factors in the limited interest for 2023. We intend therefore to set a date in Spring 2024.

- We have however made a provisional date for a **new event, an internal competition between club teams, between 9am and 12noon on Sunday 19th November** followed by lunch. Please note this in your diary; full details to follow

The last newsletter listed the following and we show here the latest information on each

- Match against Parkinsons England players. This took place recently and was successful thank you to all those who organised the weekend. In particular thank you to John and Karen Casey
- Fleet Air Arm vs over 60s Guernsey – was confirmed for 22 September 2023 late afternoon at KGV. Training started after Island Games. Unfortunately, the FAA team cancelled as they had a lack of players
- The away match against Jersey *Rick please comment on this.*
- England Ladies V Guernsey Ladies - was provisionally booked for Sept/Oct 2023. This didn't materialise
- Visit to a South Coast UK based Tournament. We hope this can be arranged for 2024 if we can find a sponsor

Club Members Meeting

We have set the date for a further meeting of the club members on **Wednesday 4th October** in the Lansdown room at KGV. We will be giving you more information there and it is your chance to influence the direction of the club. Please make a note of the date and come along to show your support and express your views.

Club Video

You may have heard that we have commissioned a club video which is being shot at various sessions over the next month or so. The objective is to produce a promotional video which will be used on various media platforms to showcase, to potential new members and visitors to the club, the significant benefits of Walking Football in Guernsey. It will principally feature our core sessions on Thursday and Sunday with player interviews and will also show the Wednesday sessions aimed at those with Parkinsons or Dementia.

SportsMark

This is a quality assurance award issued to those who display excellent standards in the fields and the club are in the final stages of obtaining this award.

Disciplinary Procedures

We are mindful that some members have been affected by the perhaps over zealous play and attitude of a minority. This has led to some members ceasing to play.

It is the Board's view that the spirit in which games are played is improving and we would implore all players to show respect for fellow players, and particularly the referees who have a difficult but vital part to play in this. Thank you

Long Term non attendees.

The board wrote to a number of those who have not been seen of late to establish their reasons however only three replies were received, none of which shed any light which might help us

New Members

We have introduced a new rule which means that all new members from October 1st will need to be aged over 50. All existing players under 50 will be written to in order to confirm we welcome them carrying on playing.

We have introduced this change for various reasons

- To come in line with the English WFA rule
- Walking football is aimed at older players
- Large age gaps do make selection of fair teams more difficult

- We would like to encourage a more sedate game, specifically to reduce the risk of injury to those who may be older

Note this does not generally apply to those with Parkinsons or Dementia where we will make exceptions after assessing individual cases

Interclub Competition

The internal league competition has now finished and any feedback would be appreciated before we start a new round of games after a break.

Christmas Meal

We have made a booking at the La Barbarie hotel for 15 December 2023 please make a note and join us for some festive cheer.

Thanks for you continued support.

The Directors