



## **Introduction – Preparing your team for the new season**

Whether for a new or existing team, there are certain things that are relevant to preparing for each new season. The list below covers the most important aspects to consider and you should refer to the supporting documents for further detail.

Other topics which are important but not vital such as sponsorship, tournaments, social media and additional apparel are covered elsewhere. Therefore, please take time to read the information provided and if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the relevant committee member/Club Officer.

### **Player registrations**

This document explains the process for registering current and new players and includes what is required and who to contact. Dates and deadlines for each new season will be emailed separately

### **Volunteer Safeguarding & Qualifications**

As a club we're committed to ensuring every volunteer meets the FA's child safeguarding criteria. It is the responsibility of the team manager to ensure every new volunteer is introduced to the Club's Child Welfare officers before they commence any coaching/interaction with players.

### **Playing Kit**

This document explains how to order playing kit for your team. It includes basic sizing information, club criteria and who to contact.

### **Equipment**

A list of the equipment you should have for your team to safely carry out match days and training sessions.

### **Pitches and training venues**

Information about pitches, match day and training venues.

These documents can be found on the club's website here:

<https://www.horshamsparrows.co.uk/managers-resources/>

## A reminder about the club's Ethos

At Horsham Sparrows FC we're committed to creating a positive, enjoyable and encouraging environment for our players at all times but we can't do this alone. Please share this with your players and their parents:

**YOU can make a real difference** by being supportive and following these key principles when attending a children's football match:

- Always remember, the players are children and the referees and coaches are all volunteers.
- Create a positive atmosphere and applaud all good play, including the opposition players
- Support the match officials and respect the decisions they make – Without them, there would be no game!
- Refrain from shouting instructions to players – Let the coach look after the team while you watch your son or daughter have fun.
- Report any abuse or incidents that breach the FA's code of conduct
- Check the club's social media and filming policies before sharing any information on-line

And don't forget – as a team manager, coach or helper, you should set the tone for how to behave. By acting correctly your team and parents will follow suit making for an enjoyable experience for all.