



Haddenham Youth Football Club

SEASON REVIEW

2024/25

hello@hyfc.club

FA Organisation ID: 78371

www.hyfc.club

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Club Partners



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Introduction



As the season heads towards a close, we're celebrating eight HYFC teams reaching Cup Finals and some excellent league campaigns.

Trophies are far from the only success criteria in grassroots football. When you read the reports that follow, you'll hear common qualities echo throughout such as having fun, making friends, building resilience and belief in teamwork.

Other highlights include the development of PAN-Disability football. Our own Nick Cuthbert has been instrumental in launching Chiltern Comets in partnership with fellow local clubs.

We've also seen Girls' football expand with the addition of a fifth team, supported by the Haddenham Beer Festivals Trust. Tara Medicott deserves special mention for driving Girls' football at HYFC. Haddenham Ladies has a new management team in place which will work more closely with our Girls' teams.

Alongside our intrepid Walking Footballers, led by Andy Roff, we're delighted to welcome Haddenham Veterans to the HYFC fold.

Congratulations to U11 Rangers on securing the League Cup and to the U15 Blues who lost to the lottery of penalties in the U15 Challenge Cup Final in March. Please do support HYFC teams appearing in finals across April and May (details overleaf).

We have more than 450 registered players across 25 teams at HYFC. That is only possible through the

commitment of over 70 volunteer coaches, team admins and committee members.

Special thanks to Club Treasurer Gareth Cheeseman who's stepping down after ten years balancing the books. We're searching for someone to take on the spreadsheets...

Thank you to parents and carers who trust their children with us and to our sponsors and club partners who are investing in the development of youth football in Haddenham.

HYFC is committed to the FA's new Grassroots Code and playing the beautiful game in the right way, respecting players, coaches and referees.

We have set out ambitious plans to improve facilities, enhance coaching and create more special experiences. These can only be achieved by securing additional funds and, we hope, active support from more parent/carer volunteers would be hugely appreciated.

We started the season with another successful Festival of Football, nearly doubling the surplus generated from the previous event. We want to double the proceeds again from our flagship fundraiser on the weekend of 30/31 August 2025.

Our 30th anniversary celebrations later this year are also a great opportunity to build on the foundations of a thriving community club.

So, if you can find a few hours to help us at the Festival of Football, the 30th anniversary celebrations or with the ongoing work of the Club, please drop us a line: community@hyfc.club.

The Head Coach of our youngest team makes the point even better:

“ I'd just like to say how rewarding it has been to coach this group of kids this year. It's been a really fun experience for me, and I would encourage any parents to put themselves forward and get involved. All you need is a whistle! ”

Nick Camplejohn, U5/6s

**Alex Wagstaff
Club Chairman**

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Club Patron

We are delighted to announce former England midfielder Trevor Steven as our new Club Patron.



Trevor played for Burnley, Everton, Rangers and Marseille as well as winning 36 caps for the national team. The right-sided midfielder's medals include an FA Cup, UEFA Cup Winner's Cup, seven Scottish Premier Division and three Scottish League Cup titles as well as French Ligue 1.

He played in the World Cups of 1986 and 1990 as well as the 1988 and 1992 Euros.

Trevor is now CEO of charity Mindflow, founded by Causeway Technologies, which champions mental health and seeks positive change in the construction industry by harnessing the power of football.

Trevor Steven, who lives in Buckinghamshire, said:

"It's great to be on board with HYFC. Haddenham has a fantastic grassroots youth club, rooted in the community but with ambitious plans to attract more players and enhance its coaching and facilities.

"I'm looking forward to doing my bit to celebrate the achievements of all the boys and girls during Haddenham's big anniversary year."

There is no word yet on whether Trevor will run out for Haddenham Veterans!

The Final Five



HYFC youth teams are in five more Cup Finals – please come along and support our boys and girls!

**Oxfordshire Youth Football League
U14 League KO Plate 2024/25 Final**

Haddenham Youth U14

v

Cold Ash Boys & Girls U14 Flames

NPower Loop Meadow Stadium, Didcot
Sunday 27th April 2025
KO: 1000

**Berkshire County Girls' Football League
Trophy Cup Final**

Haddenham Youth U10 Girls' Lions

v

Twyford Comets

Ascot Utd
Saturday 17th May 2025
KO: 1040

**Wycombe and South Bucks Minor Football League
U16 League Cup 2024/25 Final**

Haddenham Youth Rangers

v

Slough Town Junior

Flackwell Heath FC
Sunday 27th April 2025
KO: 1430

Haddenham Veterans are in the Oxfordshire Veterans League Over 40s 2024/25 Cup Final at the ASM Stadium on Sunday 18th May 2025.

Please come and support our old boys – including Club Chairman Alex Wagstaff!

**Wycombe and South Bucks Minor Football League
U12 End of Season League Final**

Haddenham Youth U12 Colts

v

Prestwood Colts and Girls U12 Panthers

ASM Stadium, Thame
Sunday 11th May 2025
KO: 1200

HYFC teams have already appeared in two Cup Finals.

U11 Rangers won the OYFL U11 Cup Final, beating Didcot Casuals 4-0!

U15 Blues narrowly lost out to FC Cippenham on penalties after recovering from 2-0 down in the WBSMFL U15 Challenge Cup Final.

**Oxfordshire Youth Football League
U13 KO Cup 2024/25 Final**

Haddenham Youth U13 Rangers

v

Abingdon United FC U13 Boys

Oxford City FC, Court Farm Place
Sunday 11th May 2025
KO: 1400



Our Teams



PAN-DISABILITY FOOTBALL

Chiltern Comets

What a start for Chiltern Comets! After a LOT of planning, meetings, training, certifications and paperwork we managed to launch in September 2024.

From humble beginnings with a few participants, we have grown our numbers massively and have easily tripled in size in a few short months with new enquiries every week.



Giving boys and girls the opportunity to play and be themselves in a safe, inclusive environment has been so rewarding. Children who may have struggled in 'mainstream' grassroots have thrived, made new friends and brought a smile to the coaches' and parents' faces.

Every week we see progression, both with football but also social; players once timid are now growing in confidence with each session. Most recently the players enjoyed a trip to MK Dons where they went on the pitch as part of an inclusive initiative by the club.

We have received excellent feedback from Bucks & Berks FA and were recently nominated for 'Disability Pathway of the Year award'. A special thanks to the coaches, helpers and parents who give up so much of their personal time to better young people's lives, but a special shout to Callula who works tirelessly behind the scenes to push the project forward!

Nick Cuthbert

WOODWAYS

U5/6s

It's been a brilliant year for the U5/6 group, with so many of the U6 kids developing their football skills to a really high level, and so many U5 kids joining and thriving with the games we play.

It's been a real privilege to watch so many of the kids play and enjoy the beautiful game in the way it should be played. We've kept a real focus on enjoyment, with games at the heart of all of our sessions, and I hope that ethos has been clear throughout. I fully intend to carry it through to next year.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to Kat Learner and Graig Dunne-Wall. After starting the year solo, both came in with energy and enthusiasm and were a huge support to me. Also, a massive thank you to all the parents who pitched in with sessions, took down goals, collected cones, retrieved balls etc. You're the unsung heroes of this game and I want everyone who has contributed to know how valuable it has been.

Lastly Louis' parents aka Nat & Nick - allowing me to drop my son Rex at your house at 9am every week so I could go and setup the session an hour ahead; genuinely made it all happen, so thank you.

Nick Camplejohn



U7s

This season has been one of fantastic progression for the U7s team. This is a very important age group for the Club. It's the first age group where there are organised games and if you can get it right you can engage a group of children who will hopefully develop with the Club and say it's a great place to play.

We were fortunate to be led by JR Sports on the playing front but importantly led by an incredibly diligent and organised woman who assembled and kept organised a group of parent coaches (men who have a tendency to talk a good game). Lori has led the communications to parents and the opposition, managed the pitches and timings of training, as well as the Pitchero app from the team. All of this whilst expecting her third child (also directly supporting the supply of players to HYFC). Lori is definitely the brains and engine behind keeping the U7s football team running, so huge thanks to her from all of us.



Now for the players, it has been a pleasure to see how they have developed over the season but also how they have built friendships within the teams and it almost felt a shame the official season ended when it did as there was a genuine improvement in the team's performances and chemistry in the final few games.

Results at the start of the season were mixed as the team got used to playing games, many for the first time, but as numbers built over the first month when we regularly had twenty plus children attending training with the vast majority also playing matches. I think it is testament to the engagement from the boys and parents that we went into games with eighteen children available to play on most weeks.

There have been so many highlights throughout the season. So here are a couple that stuck with us:

Playing at home against Aylesbury Dynamos after a first half where we went 5-0 down the boys battled back and drew the second half 0-0 not giving up against a very good team. We also learned a lot playing against them and seeing how they do things that we hope to develop as we go on.

Ethan scoring from his own half when he was in goal against Stoke Mandeville.

A plethora of goal celebrations to go with the numerous goals that the teams built up through the season.

A sublime goal against Tring involving four players from the 'keeper to the striker - two touches each and in the back of the net. It was a glimmer of what the team is capable of and the future of this HYFC group.

We ended the season on a high with both teams coming together at the end of a collection of wins in a return leg at Aylesbury Dynamos Colts. The teams flooded the pitch on the final whistle chanting "Hadd-en-ham, Hadd-en-ham..." and running the length of the pitch with all sixteen arm-in-arm.

Finally, massive thank you to both James' who have led the way on a coaching front this year. With James' support and guidance, it allowed the parent volunteers to become involved without the pressure of not having a clue what we were doing, as they held our hands through it (figuratively!). Hopefully we can continue the good work you started this year and your new U7s are as fun a bunch as this group as we know how fond you have become of this team.

Richard Watson-Darby

U8s

After an excellent first full season, going up into U8s was always going to be a tough challenge. The league graded the teams putting us into second tier of four. The start of the season was tough going and the opposition seemed to win by one goal (twelve times in the first half the season). So, we were in the games but just the wrong side of results.

We have also had ten new players join which have been superb. This meant we had to allocate sixteen spaces from twenty-four players, meaning players had to be on a rota.

Despite this the kids kept training well and battled hard and tried their best in the games which was great to see.



Towards the end of season, we managed to pair with a buddy team so everyone could play. This team was successful and plenty of kids scored their first goals for HYFC - great to see!

The team finished the season strongly winning sixteen of twenty-four matches with all the players looking confident.



We look forward to the summer with tournaments at Chinnor and Aylesbury as well as our own Festival of Football.

We intend to keep a third team in the U9s giving everyone as much game time as possible while developing the players and adapting to 7v7.

I would like to thank all the coaches for their support and help throughout the season and all of the parents for bringing their kids along every weekend, creating a great team atmosphere.

Ben Buckingham

U9s

The 2024/2025 season was one of great progress and achievement for the U9s.

Every player has developed over the course of the year, with each demonstrating commitment and a great passion for football that has made the coaches incredibly proud.

The teams have navigated different leagues and changes to their structures, enduring last-minute cancellations and a season of what has felt like never-ending appalling



weather along the way. They have played on pitches across the county over recent months that have resembled rainforest bogs and played in hurricane force winds with torrential rain pouring down on them for both matches and training sessions.

Despite the British weather throwing all it possibly could at them week after week they have turned up to training and matches to play the game they enjoy, demonstrating remarkable resilience that has been an example to us all.

They have grown together and become a squad of competitive teams in their respective leagues achieving wonderful results, scoring fantastic goals alongside wonder saves and last gasp challenges and this upward trajectory is one that everyone is looking forward to maintaining into the U10s.

Matt Field

U10s

The U10s have concluded their memorable final season at Woodways, with over thirty active players participating across three teams. Prioritising player development and enjoyment, our coaches encouraged players to express themselves on the pitch, free from the pressure to win.

Reflecting our belief that players grow at their own pace, we avoided streaming during these formative years at Woodways, instead fostering a love for the game and the joy of playing alongside friends. The teams rewarded us with some exciting attacking football as a result.

This season has been about more than just football—we've built friendships with teams we've played against and look forward to some friendly matches this summer with them. These matches will help our players prepare for the challenges of nine-a-side football next season (including mastering the infamous offside rule!).

Our core objective remains unchanged: to inspire our players to love youth football at Haddenham, ensuring they continue playing at a level that suits them when they



transition to adult football. We're grateful to our parents for supporting this philosophy, enabling everyone to enjoy the games as much as the players themselves.

With such talented players in our squad, we eagerly anticipate helping them develop into even stronger players as they take to the Airfield next season.

John Mitchell

U10 Girls

What a great season for both Lions and Tigers in the U10 Girls group.

Lions reached the Finals and Tigers reached the semi-finals. We have had new players join in this season which has really improved the structure of the team. Lions have scored fifty-five goals this season and Tigers have over thirty-five.

The Lions have gone from strength to strength. Not afraid of tackling and winning the first ball. We have had a constant team of nine players that have come week in and week out. Scoring last minute winners. They have not only dominated league games but also Cup competitions.

Out of seventeen games they have only lost four games all season. Every player has owned their positions which has made it difficult for us to choose who to play. We have been lucky that we have had two goalkeepers who also can play other positions.



Between both teams we currently have eight coaches which volunteer their time to go to matches and attend training. The development which we have seen in both



teams has been phenomenal. From the start of the season both teams have only lost handful of games because of the commitment of the players who have turned up regularly each week. That is also down to the parents who have supported their journey all season.

Attendance at training has been really good with over thirty girls with us. We will have three teams next season - U9s, U10s, U11s and are currently recruiting for an U12s - due to the sign ups and enthusiasm shown.

Harjeet Singh Bhullar & Tara Medlicott

AIRFIELD

U11s

The U11s have had their most successful and enjoyable season to date!

After the summer break we came back raring to go but with only sixteen players and aspirations to field two, nine-a-side teams we had to have a big recruitment drive. We've since welcomed boys from all over and now have a fantastic squad of twenty-seven players.

We entered two teams in two separate divisions of the OYFL - Rangers in Division C and the Colts in Division E.

The Rangers have had a fantastic season and although at this age, league tables aren't published, have certainly held their own in a very competitive Division C. The Rangers also had a brilliant run in the League Cup and in mid-March won a thrilling final, defeating Didcot Casuals 4-0 to win our first ever, proper silverware!

The Colts have also had a fantastic season with performances that get better and better every week.







With six boys in the team that haven't ever played football before this year, we started the season very much, up against it. It took us until mid-November before we managed to get a win, but we haven't looked back since. Winning games and keeping a clean sheet is becoming a



We had the brilliant experience in late November of being the guard of honour at championship club, Oxford United in their fixture against Millwall. An unforgettable day for all involved and a memory that we'll have for many years to come.

All in all, a very enjoyable season and we're looking forward to doing it all again next year but aiming for even bigger and better successes and memorable moments!

Sam Edmonds

U12 Colts



Wow, what a season for the Colts! I always find it really hard to put into words the achievements this group have made and how proud we are.

Comparing this season to the challenges we had to last, it's like chalk and cheese and with 80% of the same

squad. It just shows not only what great little football players they've become but as boys growing up and starting secondary school.

We took a different approach to this season. Wanting to be more competitive, win more games and more than anything, enjoy winning as a group.

This season we played nineteen games including development fixtures. Won seventeen, lost two, and scored seventy goals. The numbers don't lie! To score seventy goals in nineteen games is an average of 3.6 goals a game. Wow!

I have to give all the credit to our boys who turn up every week. Listened, learned and then put it into practice on match day. Scott and I have loved the whole season. We can't wait to watch them all walk out at the League Final in May!

Of course, none of what we have done can be achieved without the endless support and commitment of all parents. We have done it together like a great big Colts family.

Finally, I would like to finish by saying a huge thank you to all the Colts boys who have trusted Scott and me. Because of all the efforts this season they have been rewarded for their hard work with the opportunity to play in the end of season final game against Prestwood at Thame Utd in the stadium in front of friends and family. We all believe in you, and whatever the outcome we all know what a success the 2025 season has been.

Thank you so much.

Ben Johnson

U12 Rangers

Following a great season in 23/24, U12 Rangers were merged into a top league in Wycombe and South Bucks Minors, joining some of the larger towns of the county. The first few games were tough, playing against some very strong and well organised teams. Both Ali and I thought we may have been promoted to this league too early but decided to work hard with the boys and proceed with the league.

Our decision was worthwhile, the boys stepped up their game and pushed on, working as a team and getting stronger and stronger to break down. They then went on



to win a few games and sneak a few draws. Ali and I are very proud of the lads, we had some tough games but they continued week in, week out to work hard at training and then produce some great football on the Sunday which was a delight for us as coaches to watch.

Looking forward to next season already, which I hope will be as competitive as 24/25.

Daniel Bayliss



The U12s squad had a great evening in April where they were Guard of Honour for Oxford Utd as the Yellows took on QPR. Whilst the result didn't go the way of Oxford, all the boys had an amazing time and memorable experience.

U13 Girls

Girls' football has gone from strength to strength since its introduction and the U13 Girls are proud to be part of the ever-growing popularity of women's football.

The U13G have always been an all-inclusive team of mixed abilities and following last year's league success have



continued to grow and are on course to finish the season comfortably near the top of a much more competitive and bigger Berkshire league.

The squad has grown this year and we look forward to continued development next season where we hope to be even more competitive.

The strength of this group comes from their amazing team spirit and that comes from the number one priority being that they have fun and enjoy playing. We are very proud of the team for ensuring that philosophy continues to be the key to our success for many years to come.

Adrian Small

U13s

We started the season in transition, moving to 11-a-side and aiming to retain both Rangers and Colts teams. Some players moved on or away from football and we did not secure quite enough new regular players to sustain two sides.



Our Rangers team continued but the stretched squad had made for a difficult start to the campaign in Division A of the OYFL, having finished as Division B champions in 2024. But with a dedicated set up of eighteen players, the boys made great progress.

After switching back to Division B, U13 Rangers have delivered some great performances and look set to finish strongly in the league.

Meanwhile, the boys have taken us on a cup run all the way to the OYFL U13 KO Cup Final on 11th May!

The strengths of this group are their hard work, resilience and togetherness on top of terrific skills and pace. Every player has developed, but it has been particularly



rewarding to see the journey of those who graduated through the Colts and have established themselves with the Rangers.

Our personal thanks to Chris Garraway who has led training, been the tactical mastermind and managed fixture arrangements. A word too for Phil, who has been an invaluable part of the coaching setup, and Richard and Lee who have run the lines in style.

Kevin Johnson & Alex Wagstaff

U14s

The start of this season for the U14s was fraught with uncertainty. We had moved to the OYFL with barely enough players to field a team. The initial weeks were challenging and serious doubts lingered about whether we could fulfil our fixtures for the entire campaign.

The start of the season was an uphill struggle with losses in several of our early fixtures leaving us sat at the bottom of the table.



Thankfully, the tide turned with the arrival of several new players which gave us the numbers and fresh energy for the squad. This boost seemed to be the catalyst for a significant shift in fortunes. The team began to gel, confidence soared and the performances on the pitch transformed.

What followed was a fantastic run of form. The early season anxieties faded into memory as the team won their next six games and steadily climbed the league table, proving themselves formidable opponents. Their determination wasn't confined to the league; an inspiring and close-fought cup campaign saw them earn a well-deserved place in the Under 14 Plate Final – an incredible achievement considering how the season began.

As we approach the final few games, the team is in high spirits. The upcoming Plate Final represents a chance to cap off this incredible journey with some silverware. Furthermore, their strong league position has fuelled ambition, and the squad is now setting its sights on pushing for a top three finish next season.

This year has been a powerful demonstration of resilience and teamwork, and as coaches, we could not be prouder of the team's attitude, commitment and development.

Alex Giles

U15 Rangers

The U15s Rangers have had another great season where we've had some memorable performances and demonstrated great team spirit and camaraderie throughout.

As the season started the Rangers were on fire, winning our first league game 7-0 followed by three other straight victories all against strong opposition. We remained unbeaten in the league until the Christmas break and our confidence was high.

The bad weather following the Christmas break meant that we had an unplanned six week break which disrupted our season somewhat. It was very challenging to maintain our early season momentum, nevertheless the boys battled hard in every game to do their absolute best. Our form picked up in February. We have five league games left this season and are looking forward to ending the season strongly.



This season we had a great cup run, reaching a quarter final. We lost narrowly against very strong opposition. Having never got this far in a cup before, we were all very proud of the team's achievement.



It has been a real privilege to have a settled squad with sixteen players committed to both training and match day squads this season. Having a larger squad than in previous seasons has made a real difference, where we've been able to make more substitutions and give players a rest during matches. This has only been possible because of our great collaboration with the U15 Blues team of which we're equally proud.

There have been many stand out individual performances during this season across all positions, including in goal, defence, midfield and attack. Every single player has contributed to the team's success.

We've had players join from other clubs, integrating themselves into the team quickly, making new friends and becoming integral to the team's success. We've also had several players move between the Rangers and Blues squads. We remain committed to working together with the Blues team to offer development opportunities across both squads.

As always, the team have conducted themselves exceptionally throughout the season. It's great to watch them mature and develop as footballers. The coaching team are extremely proud of them and are looking forward to next season.

We welcomed Darren to the coaching team this season - we all very much appreciate his commitment.

Thank you to all our parents for their continued support.

Andy Duffin

U15 Blues

Where do I start? I guess at the beginning. After finishing fifth in Division 7 last season, to balance out the leagues we were asked if we would move up to Division 6. It was a difficult decision to make, considering we had just lost four first team players, with Steve Witty and myself just about to embark on our first full season coaching the side.

However, we are both great believers in pushing the boys as far as we can. Boy, how right we were in every aspect of the decision we made to go up to Division 6 and we have exceeded our expectations.

We embarked on a huge job of recruiting players and brought in seven new faces, which took a few weeks to bring together.

After a slow start, we currently sit in fourth place with a few games to go. An incredible achievement. Opposition teams have probably taken us lightly and that has been a big mistake. The lads have fought hard every game and left everything on the pitch.

As many in Club know, our team reached the Final of the Challenge Cup, which was played at Slough Town FC. An amazing experience and we clawed ourselves back



from 2-0 down to take the game to penalties. The noise created when we drew level at 2-2 with just minutes left was something I will not forget. Losing 4-3 on penalties was hard to take, but the boys deserve high praise for the way they conducted themselves and getting to the Final in the first place.

Other highlights of the year included a victory in the League Cup against a mid-table Division 5 side - another incredible achievement. The scenes at the end, with the boys all together, was something that will last in my mind. We also have a new coach involved with the group, Dave Stock, who is a great addition to the team.

Considering we are a development team and how many new players we have introduced this season the team has come together so well in a short space of time. They play for each other, win, lose or draw.

Hopefully we will finish the season well, continue down this path; we may have a chance of promotion.

Iain McFayden

U15 Girls

If last season was about rebuilding the team, this year's focus has been consolidating and getting results. Losing three players from our already small squad didn't help (especially as two of them went to Chinnor!) but, as ever, the team pulled together and showed what they're made of.



We started with a flying 6–0 win over Easington, before facing the Division’s strongest sides, including a heavy 8–2 loss to Chinnor. The team didn’t let their heads drop, and by the time we faced them again, we held them to



just 3–0—a clear sign of how far we’d come. A superb 8–1 win over Easington in November was a turning point, and the second half of the season saw us picking up wins and draws against teams who had beaten us earlier on.

Our proudest moment came in the Oxford League Cup. In a dramatic penalty shoot-out, the girls slotted home six out of seven to claim their first ever cup win—against Headington yellows from the Division above.

With four wins and two draws, this has been our most successful season yet. It’s been an honour to coach this fantastic team. Bring on their final HYFC season!

Stephen Courtnadge

U16s

The 2024/25 season for the U16s has exceeded last season’s high standards, currently sitting second in Division 1 and in the League Cup Final.

With recent additions of three new players Christian (LB), Daniel (MF) and Daniel (GK) we started the season incredibly strong with back-to-back victories and were it not for some bad injuries to our captain Alex, our GK Dan and winger Isaac we may have well challenged for the league.

Regardless of the league position, we are incredibly proud of the boys, in a year with many distractions including GCSE preparation, the boys have approached the season with dedication, professionalism and fun. It’s been great to witness strong friendships from across the team and a real team spirit which makes training, dressing room and match days all the more enjoyable for all involved.

The football has been absolutely superb with all the boys buying into the ‘team first’ philosophy which has resulted in some terrific performances, a highlight for me was the Berkhamsted coaches coming over to our boys after a game to tell them that they are the best team he’s seen. What’s also pleasing was seeing the boys compete against some of the more physical sides who in previous years may have got the better of us.

Our Cup Final is on 27th April at Flackwell Heath and we would love some support from our HYFC family.



Regardless of the outcome on 27th, we remain incredibly proud of our boys and wish them the best of luck in their end of year exams. I’m positive they will all go onto great things in the future as they are a fantastic bunch of lads, full of potential.

Nick Cuthbert

U16 Girls

This season was a bit of mixed bag for the U16 Girls. After a chastening season last year, we were relegated to the Oxfordshire C Division. The league was close, with not much between the top six teams. We won more games than we lost and beat everyone in the league except the league leaders - with a bit more consistency we would probably have been challenging at the top.

But this season was really about the girls - we have a squad of eighteen this year and while we occasionally struggled some weekends to have enough players due to Saturday jobs and competing sporting commitments, we regularly had the full squad for training on Thursday nights.

This group never ceased in making us proud - always having fun, committed in games, backing each other; not once having a cross word with each other during



matches; always magnanimous in defeat and humble in victory.

Sadly, both Lucy and I are having to step back from coaching next season but it has been an enormous privilege to coach this group and to be part of the



Haddenham set up. We are exploring options to ensure that the girls keep playing next season as we are very keen that they can stay together as a team.

Donald Lunan

CUDDINGTON

U17s

After a very successful 2023/34 season which saw this team win Division 4, we started the 2024/25 season with high hopes. We exceeded expectations remaining undefeated for the first ten league games of the season, with seven wins and three draws.



In the meantime, we advanced to the quarter finals of both the County Cup and Referees Cup. Unfortunately, we played a strong Maidenhead team from Division 2 in both matches, losing on penalties after a 4-4 draw in the County Cup and losing in the Referees Cup.

Our final four league games saw us losing 2-1 in two tight matches, one against eventual league winners Hughenden and another versus the third-place finishers Holmer Green, before beating Naphill 3-2 then Tring in our last game of the season in a 5-4 thriller.

As a newly promoted team - finishing second in Division 3 and achieving back-to-back promotions - makes all the coaches and players very proud of the season and we look forward to continuing our momentum into our final year on the Haddenham journey.

Roly Baldwin

U18s

Having been in the Wycombe & South Bucks Minor Football League since we began all those years ago, for this last season together as U18s we decided to try something different and joined the Oxfordshire Youth Football League.



There was only one division. The format was to play everyone once and then split into top & bottom half league in the second half of the season.

The league was competitive and it was a nice change going into fixtures with no pre-conceived ideas about what to expect. The first half of the season was good, finishing in the top half of the division and playing some of the best football I have seen the boys play. We were also having a good cup run in the Berks & Bucks County Cup,



but unfortunately lost a penalty shootout against a very good Slough Town team.

The second half of the season was a little stop start because of the weather and it was also a lot tougher as we were playing the top teams again. We also had a few injuries and illnesses to contend with. Unfortunately, we were on the losing side of another penalty shootout, but this time in the League Cup.

With only a few games of the season left, I can thoroughly say I have enjoyed watching the games this year and hope the final few games will be just as good before the boys we have been coaching for all these years move into adult football.

Chris Duncan

SENIORS

Haddenham Ladies

Gaining promotion to the Thames Valley League Division One this season has seen Haddenham Ladies compete at the next tier.



Our season has been challenging. However, picking out some positive highlights our coaches have seen a variety of talent on display and development - both individually and as a team. A 2-2 draw away to Wallingford and Crowmarsh, with Kikat scoring a last-minute free kick, to pick up an important point on the road stands out.

A further highlight was the home game against Yateley Ladies Football Club, our side only having ten players available and going down to nine at half time. Our final result was a close 5-4 defeat with the players doing everyone proud.

The team had the opportunity to compete in the Ladies FA Cup away to Camden and Islington United, only narrowly missing out by one goal to nil.

As we draw the season to a close, I look forward to working with our group of players into the new season. I would like to extend my thanks to Alex and Gareth for welcoming me into the club and for all the support around matchdays and admin.

My thanks to all players, past and present; our captain Megan, for building key relationships during training and matchdays and for helping me settle into the managerial role.

Finally, a thank you to James, Jordan and David for all their assistance and support with the planning, communications and helping me transition to Haddenham Ladies.

Enjoy your summer break.

Aiden Knowles

Haddenham Walking Football

Wow, what a season for the Haddenham Walking Football Squad. Although we had the sad loss of our oldest member in 2024, Haddenham WF had a rather successful season considering the small squad of only eight regulars.



We started in July with the Bucks Walking Football Cup at the AVA, Aylesbury. It was great that the guys wanted to take part and we managed to muster seven players for the day. The competition had sixteen teams of mixed



ages involved and Haddenham were up against MK Irish Over 55s, Tring Athletic Over 50s and Aylesbury Over 60s in their group stage. A high scoring group, Haddenham and MK Irish went through to the knockout stage with one goal for and one against over the three games!

Quarter- final stage began with Haddenham up against a strong and determined Maidenhead Over 50s. Haddenham held them to a 0-0 draw and then won 2-1 on penalties to reach the semi-final against MK Irish again, losing 2-1 on penalties. What a great achievement from a bunch of lads who only turn up for a kickabout!

September came and a match versus Amersham Over 50s was arranged where Haddenham comfortably won 4-2. Despite the loss Amersham agreed to come for the return fixture in October, but they lost again, 3-0.

The loss of our eldest player, Nibbo, was marked with an 81-minute match, each minute to celebrate his 81 years of a fun-filled life and a great passion for football.

Between the Christmas and New Year break another fixture was arranged against Tring Over 55s where Haddenham had a tougher match but still managed a 2-1 win.

Further matches are arranged for the summer, a visit to MK Irish and Dunstable are planned, and we are hopeful of the Bucks WF Cup happening again. Plus, our interest has been put forward to Summertown for their annual tournament.

Two players from our group also play for Aylesbury United Over 60s who are currently at the quarter-final stage of the WF FA CUP, after beating Wokingham, Evesham and Romford along the way. They have also won the Winter WF League at Bisham Abbey.

Walking Football is played on the HCJS MUGA on Friday evenings at 6.30pm. All abilities and ages from 45+ are welcome.

Andy Roff

Haddenham Veterans

Haddenham Veterans started back in 2012. Over the past thirteen years, we've been playing open-age friendlies, mainly with players of a similar age at the time.

We're completely self-sufficient, with two full kits, 12 training balls, 5 match balls, 2 first aid kits, 40 knee supports....plus all necessary medication!

You can watch us train at various locations on most days of the week...The Rising Sun, The Kings Head and The Whistler!

Several years ago, we were invited to join the Over 50s League. Unfortunately, we never quite met the requirement of having a minimum of eight players aged 50 or over—although, judging by the look of some of us, they thought we were too old anyway!

While the Over 50s League was getting up and running, we played friendlies against most of the teams who had free weekends from their league fixtures. These included Goring, Chinnor, Wootton Bassett, and the legendary Headington Butchers, to name just a few.



We enjoyed plenty of victories—helped, at times, by having the age advantage!

Fast forward to this season, and we were invited to join the inaugural Over 40s Veterans League with the Oxfordshire FA. Five teams entered, and more are expected to join next season. Like the Over 50s and Over 60s leagues, this one is set to grow.

A big thank you to HYFC Chairman Wagga and Club Secretary Helen for supporting us with all the affiliation requirements. Wagga's reward—thanks to his age—is that he's now officially part of the team. Helen: you're far too young, I'm afraid!

Personal thanks also go to Paul Moore and Dan Weller for registering players and sourcing pitches. Your support has been invaluable.



Our league season has just come to an end, and we finished runners-up:

Played 8 | Won 3 | Drew 3 | Lost 2
Goals For: 16 | Goals Against: 15

No bookings, no sendings-off, no broken bones... but 497 minor injuries!

The Final is at Thame United on Sunday, May 18th - stick it in your calendars!

We now have 32 players signed on, including a few of our very own youth coaches who've reached the ripe old age of 40 plus.

Win or lose, the Veterans—some of us still turning out in Over 60s matches—are proving there's life in the old dogs yet.

Finally, thank you to HYFC for having us - and for being our carers!

Gary McCarron





HYFC Committee

Alex Wagstaff (Chairman)
Kevin Johnson (Vice Chairman)
Gareth Cheeseman (Club Treasurer)
Tim Dixon (Child Welfare Officer)
Helen Thawley (Club Secretary)
Nick Cuthbert (Football Development)
Alex Giles (Festival & Fundraising)
Nick Heath (Digital and Kit)
Ali Holmes (Commercial Development)
Sarah Robertson (Community and Events)

Acknowledgements

Pitch Rotas: John Mitchell and Andy Duffin
Facilities Manager: Adrian Small
Coaching Support: JR Sports Group and GK Icon
Official Kit Supplier: Chiltern Leisure

Season Review 2024/25

Editor: Kevin Johnson
Design: quenchedesign.co.uk



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Festival of Football



Saturday 30 August – Sunday 31 August 2025

Sign Up: tournify.uk/live/hyfc2025

6-a-side

£50 team entry • £5 car parking • £2 walk in • FA affiliated teams • No Academy or JPL
Selection of refreshments

Saturday 30 August U8s • U10s • U12s • U14s
U11 Girls • U14 Girls • Ladies

Sunday 31 August U7s • U9s • U11s • U13s
U15s • U16 Girls

Age groups for 2025/26 season. Depending on entries,
separate Rangers and Colts events may be run.

Join us for the 2025/26 season curtain raiser...

festival@hyfc.club

www.hyfc.club/information