

PRESS NOTICE



SAFFRON WALDEN COMMUNITY FC NAMED ESSEX FA'S CLUB OF THE YEAR 2018

Saffron Walden Community FC has been named by Essex FA as the Charter Standard Club of the year for 2018. The highly regarded accolade was announced by the FA on Friday (29 June), and the club will now go forward to the National FA award, and go up against winners from each county in England. The winner will be chosen later in July and announced at the Community Shield match at Wembley on Sunday 5th August.

This comes at the end of a highly successful first year for the new club, formed in June 2017 following a merger of Saffron Walden Town Youth FC and Spartak YSC78. SWCFC entered 39 teams from u7 to u18 into league football in its first season, and also has a thriving Mini Soccer School for Reception and Year 1 pupils, based at Herbert's Farm, now with around 70 players. The partner Girls' Club – PSG – has 9 teams, and its own development squad for younger players. In total, including PSG, the club had around 750 registered footballers at the end of the season just finished, drawing participation from across the District.

SWCFC Chairman Martin Johnson said:

'The award from the FA is fantastic news for the club and I want to thanks all our volunteer coaches and others who help out for making it possible. This is great recognition from the FA for that work – they have visited us a number of times and have been impressed. I don't know what our chances are of winning the award for the whole of England, but being in with a shout is amazing!

We are really trying to raise standards in terms of how we run the club. We are ensuring the highest levels of qualifications we can for our volunteer managers and coaches, improving our communications, we now have an online portal for players' registrations, and we are looking to improve the kit and equipment we can offer teams. If anyone is interested in helping out in any capacity please contact the club and let us know. There are contact details on the website at: www.swcfc.org.uk



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www.swcfc.org.uk

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The Football Association has been very supportive to us, and recognise what we are trying to achieve, and our charitable status. We are also in ongoing discussions with the FA about improving football facilities in the town and the potential to deliver a new 4G pitch. In the year ahead, as well as continuing to improve what we offer, we will be focussing on progressing the 4G plans, and also looking to bring disability football to Saffron Walden for the first time'.

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