

Shiptonthorpe United U13s

Dear Parents,

Having reached the end of a difficult season we are now in a position where some important decisions need to be made.

Last season

The move from 9-a-side to 11-a-side was one of the main problems due to the size of the squad. Although we began with 14 players signed on, this quickly dropped to 12 as two players had left the team by November.

Of the 15 games we played, we only had a substitute in 4 of them, whilst in 5 other games we had a bare 11 players. This meant that in 6 of our games we only had 10 players – We lost 5 of those games scoring 3 goals and conceding 48 goals which was very demoralising.

Attendance at training averaged out at around 10 players each week, but on occasions there was a somewhat negative attitude amongst some of the players, possibly brought on by some of the difficult match day situations.

Moving forward

The team has now completed 6 full seasons and as a whole group we need to find out if it is going to continue into next season. We have been made aware at times this year that some of our current group of 12 have said that they are not going to play next season – we now need this confirming one way or the other.

During the season Kris has tried to recruit new players, but with very little luck. The main club are about to run an advertising campaign to encourage more players to the club which may help.

Before making any decisions, we need some honest responses from current players and parents. It is important that, whatever decision is made, that careful consideration is given to whether your child is enjoying their football at Shiptonthorpe as this is important to us.

Please could you talk to your child and choose one of the following as soon as possible.

Option 1

My child no longer wishes to play for Shiptonthorpe and will not be available for matches next season.

Option 2

If the team continues my child will be available and keen to play. They will consistently be available for training on Wednesdays and matches each Sunday.

If enough children choose option 2, then we will continue to advertise for more players and aim to have a larger squad ready for the new season.

If it **does not** seem that enough players wish to continue playing for Shiptonthorpe, then we can help players find a new club if they wish to continue playing football as we have contacts with local teams.

If the team **does not** continue we could alternatively offer a 5-a-side practise session each Wednesday just amongst ourselves, if enough players want to do this. This would not be coaching but would be a chance to play football weekly – again we would need at least 10 children to want to do this. This would also give us the chance to enter some of the summer tournaments if players wanted to.

Please let Kris or Martin know as soon as possible what your child would like to do. If the team is to continue we need to enter them into the league by the end of April so a quick reply would be very much appreciated.

Please text your child's preference to Kris 07723 370429 or Martin 07791 380378

Many thanks,

Kris and Martin