



WALKING FOOTBALL GOUP

NEWSLETTER



Issue 8 (April 2026)

The winter season is coming to a close so there are a number of loose ends to tie-up in this latest newsletter.

[1] Winter League results:

- SFA >50s - 7/8 3 wins, 3 draws & 8 losses. Our first season was a steep learning exercise with no settled team and Tucks forced to play in goal.
- GFA >60s - 5/8 5 wins, 7 draws & 6 losses. Again is our first season and a creditable performance with our average age nearer 70 than 60!
- Clevedon >65s - 4/8 7 wins, 11 draws and only 3 losses and top scorers to boot! A story of what could have been but encouragement for the future.
- Hutton Moor >65s – with one round remaining we find ourselves 5/5 but a fielding one of our stronger teams a good set of results should elevate us to 3rd albeit way behind Clevedon & Abbeymead.

[2] Training Sessions:

- 29th April - change of plan - no training of any nature as PTFC have their play-off match at home.
- Wednesday evenings in May could be subject to timing changes to accommodate junior cup finals. Again, details will appear on SPOND.
- Wednesday 10th June will be a >50s v >60s game at the usual time followed by our annual AGM. Key dates for your diaries – everyone.
- Sunday mornings - remain on Gordano (green pitch) until 7th June when we switch to PTFC (hooray!!!)

[3] SPOND:

- The Club has asked that we cease paying-in cash and with this format also being a burden to session organisers the time has now come to move fully to SPOND for all session bookings and payment.
- Wednesdays – SPOND only from 6th May
- Sundays – SPOND only from 7th June.

This is a proven and secure system and if you need support setting-up please contact Paul Tucker. For the time being team managers will continue to collect fees for tournament games.

[4] Portishead Lights Fundraising:

As a group we have committed to raising £100 towards the fund for replacement lights for 2026.

We have devised a little World Cup related fund raising game – we will be calling upon everyone to pay £5 cash to Colin and pick a number between 1 & 48 which will correspond with one of the participating countries – see attached, we are sure you will get the general idea. Numbers will be matched to countries at the AGM on 10th June.

You can start contributing from 3rd May.

Our fund raising is referenced in the April edition of Enjoy magazine and lookout for an article on WF in a forthcoming edition.

[5] Important Diary Dates:

- Wednesday 10th June – our first AGM. This will be a short formal gathering covering (a) Team Managers' season end reports (b) confirm/elect members of the committee for 2026/27 (c) World Cup draw. Full details to follow in the May newsletter.
- Friday 12th June - Annual Awards for all community teams to be held at PTFC. Details of the WF awards will be set out in the May newsletter.

[5] C&D Tournament Dates:

- >50s - 24th May, 28th June & 26th July (Sundays)
- >60s - 13th May, 17th June & 15th July (Wednesdays)
- >65s - 20th May, 24th June & 22nd July (Wednesdays)
- >70s - 6th May, 10th June & 8th July (Wednesdays)

All rounds will be held at PTFC with an expected start time of 11.00 (t.b.c.). We are looking to build on the experience gained in the Winter leagues and hope members in all age groups will offer their support to team managers so they can field strong, competitive squads.

[6] Laws of the Game:

As you should be aware from communications issued by both The FA and The WFA they are in talks with a view to establishing one set of Laws, and this is viewed as a most welcome development.

With an ear to the ground there is optimism the new Laws will be agreed and issued before the start of the 2026/27 winter leagues in September.

We should expect a compromise/blend of existing Laws but with strong emphasis on the two core principals of – **NO CONTACT and WALKING.**

It is quite possible the new set of Laws will have a totting-up of fouls and non-walking offences against a team, resulting in a penalty to the opponents.

This could be viewed as a harsher punishment but after recent tournament experiences there is clearly a need to take a stronger line on protecting players.

We will take every opportunity to remind members of these principals in every session and improving our techniques, discipline and knowledge of the laws over the summer period will stand us in good stead as and when the new laws come into force.

***** STOP PRESS *****

Somerset >70s win 4 of 5 games in the final round to close the gap to runaway leaders Dorset to just one point. Today we beat Dorset 5 – 1!!!

The team was ably captained by Glenn who notched up another 2 goals with and a mention for your editor who scored 6 (six) goals today and no seagulls were injured.

