Rampant Horse FC

The Rampant Horse Football Club was formed 2009, after the Team decided to shape its own destiny and moved away from Fakenham Town FC where we played as Fakenham Town ‘A’. The decision to move was unanimous, Fakenham helped as they were replacing me as Manager despite a good season) and the club was formed following discussions with Alan Baker at the Rampant Horse Public House in Fakenham, who provided the Team with their first Kit. At the start we played our Home games at the High School in Fakenham for the 1st 3 seasons.

With the club being completely self-sufficient, the early days were very difficult to ‘keep our heads above the water’ however with loyal players and the determination to prove we could do it ourselves we got through the first 3 seasons in the 2nd Season (2010-11) we were promoted to Division 3 and the 3rd season (2011-12) saw us promoted again to Division 2.

In 2012, our 4th season, Karl Gray (now assistant manager) spoke with Ian Riches about the possibility of using the Playing Field and Facilities for our Home games, discussions were very short and once the idea was voted on by the team, was agreed very quickly that we would relocate to Little Snoring.

Our 1st season playing at Little Snoring went didn’t go well, struggling for players on a regular basis, but managed to maintain our place in Division 2 due to other struggling teams folding.

2014-15 brought many changes within the club with players moving on, some retiring from playing through injury or age, others moving to clubs playing in other Leagues, some higher others lower. This brought with it a lot of problems for myself, as manager and the other players, just trying to put 11 players on the pitch every week was difficult and saw us compete with only 10 available on 2 occasions.

Following the 2014-15 season I felt that the running of the club on my own was too much and after discussions about stepping down from managing it was decided that instead of this I would have an assistant, who would be there when I couldn’t to sort the team and Karl Gray took on the role. The 2015-16 season was much the same as the previous and though we initially signed some 28 players, there were times when I had to call off a game as not enough were available. With the squad (many who came with us from Fakenham A) getting older, injuries are harder to get over.

The 2016-17 season has seen us complete our 8th Season as a club, many changes have taken place over the 8 seasons with many players moving on to bigger clubs playing at a higher level than we do, we still have a core of 7 or 8 players who will do everything they can to be available for all matches. However we have played the last 8 games with only the bare 11 players and no substitutes. The search for younger players has brought us 2 new faces this season and after shaky starts they have shown much promise playing the game. The obvious thing is that we need to get more young players involved and though the doors are always open, very few come through them to try.

2017-18 may indeed be the last time the Rampant Horse Football Club competes in the league. Many factors are now affecting the team such as – Continental Shift patterns, Family matters (Children to be looked after) and of course, age.

The average age of the current squad is 35 with the oldest player being 50 years old. The average is brought down by our 2 latest signings who are 17 and 18.

Anyone over 16 years old who interested in playing Adult Men’s football should come and give it a go.

Regards

 Adam Guymer, Manager/Secretary/ Player

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