



Spartans Youth
Update

2021/22



www.spartansfcyouth.com

 @spartans_youth

 @SpartansFCYouth

Youth Section Committee - Who Are We?



Les Atkinson
Chairman, Spartans FC
Youth Trustee,
U20s Head Coach



Stuart Gray
Coach Development Officer



Steve Thurlow
Treasurer, Spartans FC Youth
Trustee



Carolyn Embleton
Club Manager
Child Wellbeing &
Protection Officer



Roger Ashworth
Trustee,
Youth Section Team
Coach & Mentor



Michele McNab
Trustee



Colin Boyes
Transition Support,
Goalkeeping Coach



Vacancy
Girls' Coordinator

*Working in collaboration with
first team leaders*



Craig Graham
Chairman, Spartans FC



Douglas Samuel
Chief Executive, SCFA
Spartans 1st Team Manager



Debbi McCulloch
Business Ops Manager,
Women's Head Coach

The Youth Section Committee is made up of volunteers with a long history with the club. All have been parent coaches and volunteers before taking on other roles on the committee. Les, the Youth Section Chairman is also the Head Coach of Spartans U20s.

There are no full time employees, everyone volunteers in their spare time except for Stuart and Carolyn who work on a part time basis.

Thanks for your Support



Continuing to pay subs in lockdown, helping with food deliveries

Being flexible with changing training times due to COVID adjustments

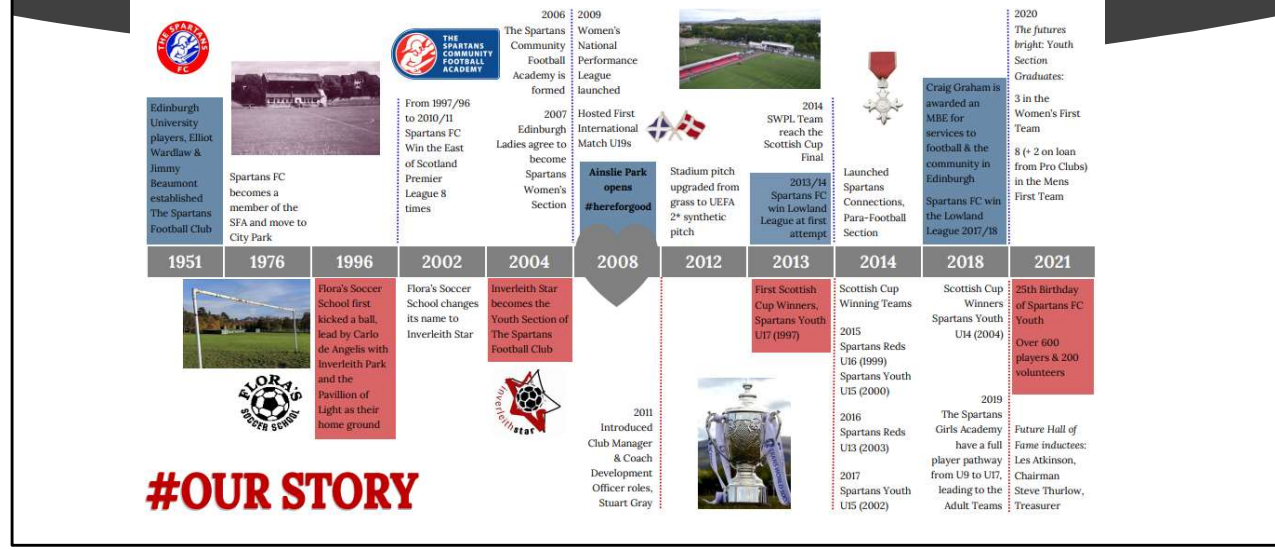
Supporting us to abide by SFA COVID guidance

We would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who continued to pay their subs during lockdown when you didn't have to, the funds raised during this period have been held and have been used to support The Academy's work in the community.

Thanks for being flexible with the ever changing training times that we had to put in place to make sure all teams got the opportunity to train during all the COVID restriction.

Finally a big thanks you for staying away from matches in line with SFA guidance when we asked you to, we know how much everyone enjoys watching their child play football, so we really do appreciate your support with this.

25th Anniversary



#OUR STORY

In 2021 we celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the Youth Section. The timeline above shows the different parts of the Spartans family and how we have come together over time. The top half of the timeline in blue shows the rest of the Spartans family and below the line in red shows the history of the Youth Section.

The Adult Football Club was set up in 1951 when Edinburgh University students were looking for somewhere to continue to play football after they finished at University. The progress of the club since then can clearly be seen. The establishment of The Spartans Community Football Academy a key point in the journey, where Spartans become more than a football club and starts to make a real difference in its local community through the many programmes that it offers including Youth Work, an Alternative School, Football Coaching and so much more. Please take a look at their website to find out more.

For the Youth Section the story began in 1996 when a dad, Carlo, was looking for somewhere for his child to play football in North Edinburgh. As there was no where he set up his own club, linked initially to the Flora Stevenson Primary School but which grew quickly far beyond just one school. It was 2004 when we became the Youth Section of Spartans FC and moved away from the muddy grass pitches of Inverleith Park.

What's New this Season



Launching Club Values



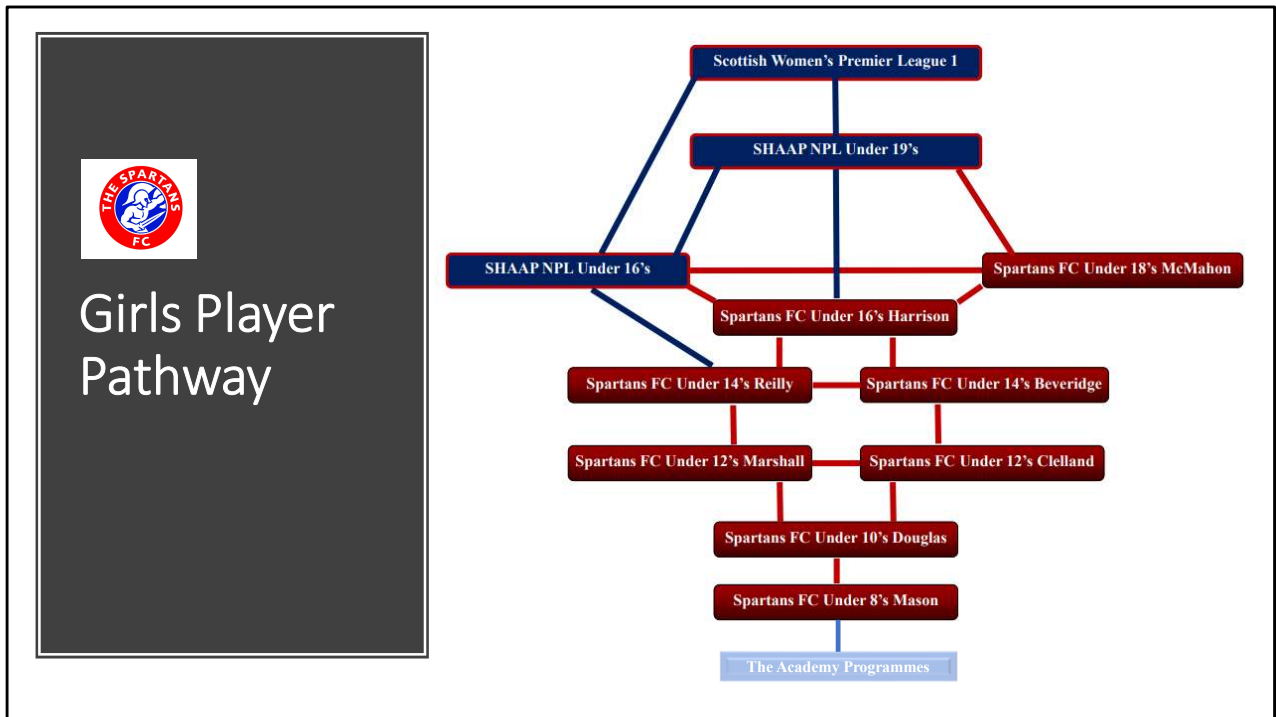
10 Year Awards



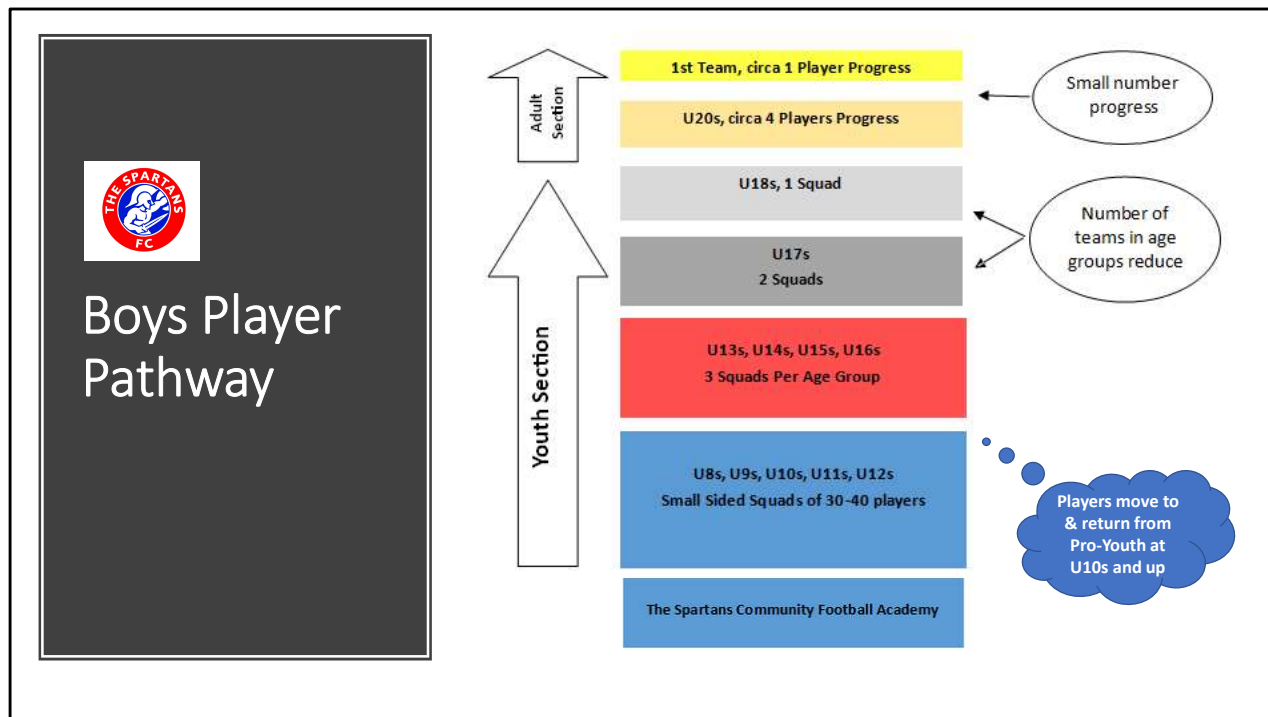
Our Club App



This season we have several new initiatives for you to look out for. We will be launching our Club Values, we have introduced a long service/loyalty awards for coaches and players, and also launched a new Club App. Our Club App can be downloaded from any App store and is a one stop source of all information you need as a member of the club, with regular news and updates too.



This chart shows the Player Pathway for the Girls Academy. The navy blue teams are our elite pathway. Girls progress through the age groups in line with age and ability. The pathway allows for girls to choose to compete at the level that matches their desire, ability and ambitions.



This chart shows the Player Pathway for the Boys Section. As the players get older the player pathway narrows as the club focuses on developing talent for the first team.

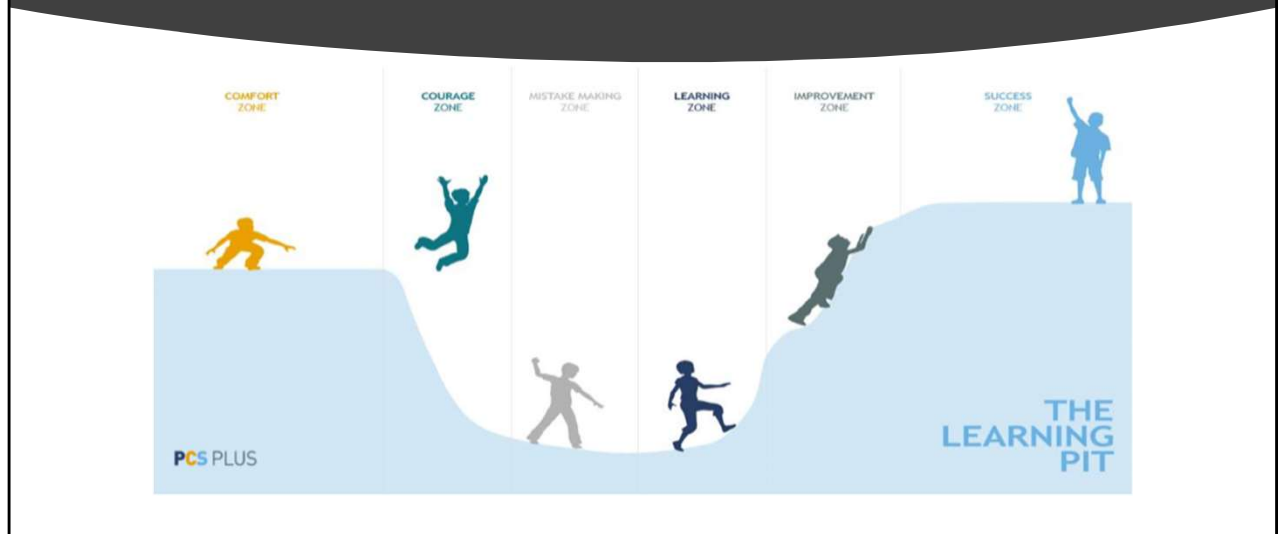
Our Goals – A Reminder



- Good people
- Good footballers
- Two footed players
- Brave, intelligent and creative players
- Players with a desire to learn and improve
- Players who succeed
- Players who have a respect for the game
- Inspiring a love of football / sport

A reminder of the main goals that we are working towards at Spartans Youth.

Remember - It's a Journey



Players develop and progress at different times, depending on their maturity, age and desire. To learn the players must make mistakes and find the answers for themselves. It's a journey and takes time. At Spartans Youth we encourage our players to learn for themselves. We guide and support them on their journey.

Reality Check



Manchester City lose possession about 130 times each game



Messi scores with only 15% of his shots



Busquets fails to get 1 in 10 passes to where he wants

Before you get frustrated at your own player/team missing a pass or goal, take a note of these facts.

Parental Responsibilities



- Commitment - Ensure Regular Attendance
- Volunteer/Support the Team
- At Matches Stand away from the Coaches
- Let the Coaches Coach
- Let the Players Play
- Support All the Team / Encourage Teamwork
- Encourage Practice and Good Habits
- Keep a Check on Reality – focus is on progress not results
- **Abide by our Parents & Spectators Code of Conduct**



This is the role of a Spartans Youth parents

Positive Coaching



You should not shout from the side lines, because...

- Reward effort and learning
- Mistakes are okay – it's how we learn
- Promote fun and enjoyment



As Spartans Youth our coaches will always guide and not instruct on match days. If a coaches tells the players exactly what to do every step of the match then how with the player learn for themselves and what would they know what to do if the coach was not there. We ask the same of our parents, please do not should instructions at the players during a match.

There are good reasons for this as you can see in the slide above.

Children's Wellbeing & Protection



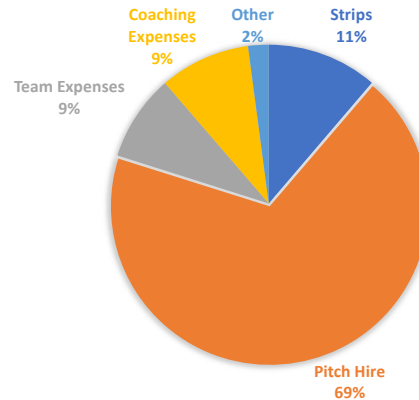
- The Club has:
 - Children's Wellbeing & Protection Officer – Carolyn Embleton
 - Child Protection Advisors
- We carry out checks on all volunteers
- What to do if you have any concerns:
 - Contact your Team Lead Coach/Head Coach or CWPO Officer
- Find our policies on www.spartansfcyouth.com website
- Take photographs/videos only with permission first

If you have any questions at all on Child Wellbeing and Protection please get in touch via clubmanager@spartansfcyouth.com

What Your Subs Payments Go



- Youth Section Expenses
 - Pitch Hire
 - Coach Education & Development
 - Team Expenses (equip, registrations, referees)
 - Match Strips
- Team Funds are held centrally
- Assistance with subs available



This slide gives you an understanding of where your subs payments go in the overall running of the Youth Section.

By far our biggest cost is to hire the facilities at The Academy for training, which amounts to £86,500 in the last financial year. The facilities are top class and we are lucky to be able to hire them. The added benefit being that all The Academy is a social enterprise, so all the money raised enables them to continue to provide social impact in the local community.

Making Memories



Being part of Spartans Youth is more than about football, it's about life experiences and making great memories. It's really important that volunteers step forward to fundraise and to help to organise events like bowling nights, quiz nights, going to tournaments and so much more, so that friendships can grow and memories made.