MEN’S FOOTBALL CLUB 2016/2017

Membership:
Once again, with over 150 members, we have reached record membership numbers this year. This was thanks to another hugely successful preseason training camp, bringing back 64 players current players, whilst attracting and integrating eight freshers into the club. A week later, around 100 new players registered at our freshers trials, that ran Monday-Thursday of Freshers Week.

Varsity:
With the help of a capacity crowd at St. Leonards, we sent all five Dundee teams back across the Tay empty handed, which provided the perfect excuse to celebrate our inaugural varsity after party in Club 601 that evening. This event was an enormous success, and with the help of women’s football, we've built a platform to make our football club varsity a bigger and better spectacle in the years to come.
1st Team:
Despite finding themselves sitting top of 2A at Christmas, after suffering two successive last minute equalisers to Glasgow and Herriot Watt, and after letting a two goal lead slip away at our rivals Dundee, a final day victory against Stirling 3s was too little too late. Losing one game all season (the first game away to Aberdeen), the first team finished runners up to Glasgow and will be hoping next year finally is their year.

2nd Team:
This year, the 2nd team reached the dizzy heights of 3A, and after losing a wealth of playing and coaching experience, it was always going to be tough. Relegation was not confirmed until the last game of the season, and with a young and stable squad, the 2nd team will be hoping to bounce straight back up next year.

3rd Team:
The 3rds are no doubt this year's standout performers. Many of the players have played together in this squad since they arrived, showing how far stability and experience can take you. Under the careful guidance of new coach Sean Park, who has been nominated for coach of the year, the 3rds went on to win the 5C title, setting up a mouth-watering contest between the 2nd and 3rd teams in the league above.

4th Team:
The 4ths have put in some very impressive performances this year and neither they (nor the 3rds) will ever forget their win against our 3rd team at the start of the season. Now that the 3rds have been promoted out of this league, the 4ths will be hoping to follow in their footsteps and win a 5C title of their own.

5th Team:
Despite mixed results, the 5ths have benefitted both competitively and socially from training twice a week with new coach, Luis Calabria. There is no doubt that their strong chemistry went a long way to securing a derby double against our 6th team.
6th Team:
It is a testament to the programme, and the attitude of the players and coaches in it, that many of last year's 6th team squad, are now playing in higher squads, one of whom played 2nd team football this year. Introducing a 'full-time' coach and captain has ensured that 6ths have kept growing as a team this year; a collective effort that culminated in a 3-1 win over Dundee 5s.

Development Squad:
We have been delighted with the attendance and standard of our development squad sessions that run every Thursday 5-6pm. These sessions provide players of any standard the chance to work towards joining one of our competitive teams, or the chance just to play socially. We are hugely excited to introduce a new position within the club, a Development Squad Co-ordinator, who will act as a coach-come-captain for these players, to bridge the gap between the performance and recreational programme.
Fife League Squad:
Our Fife League squad, who play every Saturday, has undergone radical changes this year. Two years ago both our first and second teams were playing Fife League football, but after pulling the 1st team out to focus on BUCS, the 2nd team’s commitment towards this aspect of the programme wavered. This forced us to recently establish a ‘Fife League Squad’, for those most committed. This is open to any player from the 2nd to the 6th team, which gives players a chance to impress. The commitment and trust in this change is echoed by a ‘full-time’ Fife League coach and captain being implemented for the up and coming academic year.

Core Values and Club Motto:
The club has made a huge effort to make itself more marketable and attractive to prospective players and sponsors. This drive is reinforced by the introduction of a new committee position, a Marketing and Media Officer. Over the course of three meetings with our Director, the men’s and women’s section established three core values and a club motto:

Core Values:

Respect, Passion, Excellence.

Club Motto:

Our legacy. Be remembered.

Can’t Walk:
After the success of our main fundraising event, Can’t Walk 2016, this year we aimed to make our mock fashion show bigger and better. Bringing over 250 people into our sponsor’s bar Rascals, our take on fashion made over £1500.

Floodlit Community Programme:
Committee members and 1st and 2nd XI players volunteer every Saturday to help develop local schoolchildren’s football ability and potential.
Saints Stellenbosch Outreach and Volunteer Zambia:
Not only do we strive to develop the game locally, but we have members, both in the male and female sections of the club, volunteering to coach the game and other sports in South Africa and Zambia this summer.

Overview:
Despite mixed fortunes for our squads, this was a year characterised mainly by change. We believe these changes give us the best chance of reaching record membership again, securing more promotions and cup victories and ultimately regaining our Club of the Year status of 2013 and 2015.

2017/18 Goals:
● 1st team promotion into 1A
● 2nd team promotion
● 3rd team survival
● 4th team promotion
● 5th and 6ths finish as high up their respective tables as possible.
● Achieve record membership again
● Expand our alumni database
● Achieve some form of corporate sponsorship
● Make varsity bigger and better again: Host the 1st team fixture at Tannadice
● Host Can't Walk 2018 in the union, potentially with the girls’ section
WOMEN’S FOOTBALL CLUB 2016/2017

Membership:
This season started off with an extremely successful Preseason camp, with just over 30 returning players and 8 new first years joining us for the week. After our Give-it-a-go trials and throughout the rest of the year, we were able to acquire a record amount of members—just over 75 players by the end. This coming season we plan to welcome more first-years to our Preseason camp and continue to increase our membership throughout the year.

1st Team:
The Women’s first team has had one of the most successful seasons in USAWFC history. The team took on 9 new players and managed to score a record amount of points in the BUCS 1A league. The 1st team also made it to the semi-final of the SS cup—travelling throughout the UK to compete (including Manchester and Lancashire). This coming year the team hopes to continue to find success in both the BUCS league and the SS cup.
2nd Team:
This year, the 2nd team acquired a great amount of new players—including 6 first years. With this roster revamp, this season included a lot of experimentation with player positioning and player cohesion. Coming into their third year in the BUCS 2A league the team hopes to continue to develop and find success.

3rd Team:
This year the 3rd team welcomed a new coach, Olivia Blair, who proved to be an excellent addition to the club. Olivia helped the 3rd team gain the most points they have ever achieved in the 3A BUCS league. This was the 3rd teams second year in the 3A BUCS league and the team hopes to continue to grow coming into their third competitive year.

Development Squad:
This year has been the best yet for the development squad. All of the weekly Saturday sessions were highly enjoyed and attended. Our Saturday sessions provide players the opportunity to either play socially, or work towards joining one of the competitive squads. In the upcoming year, we are excited to introduce a new position in the USAWFC committee, a Development Squad Coach, whose job will be to coach Saturday practices and become a liaison between the social and performance teams.

Core Values and Club Motto:
This year we worked together with the Men’s Football club to establish a collective set of principles and goals. The clubs created a motto and list of core values that will be used to market the club to prospective players and sponsors. Over the course of three meetings with our Director, the men’s and women’s section established three core values and a club motto:

Core Values:
Respect, Passion, Excellence.

Club Motto:
Our legacy. Be remembered.
Varsity Blast from the Past and Mardi Gras:
At the beginning of this year we introduced two new events in 601, Blast from the Past and Football Club Varsity. The joint event with the Men’s club, Football Club Varsity, included a day of competition at the Sports Centre followed by a successful Varsity After Party at the Union’s Club 601. The Women’s Club also introduced their new event, Blast from the Past, which was a decade-themed event that was also held at Club 601. The club also continued the tradition of our Mardi Gras event that started in 2016. Each event was very profitable for the club and we hope to turn these new events into annual occurrences.

Floodlit Community Programme:
Committee members and 1st and 2nd 3rd team players volunteer every Saturday to help coach football to local schoolchildren.
Saints Stellenbosch Outreach and Volunteer Zambia:
Not only do we strive to develop the game locally, but internationally as well. This summer, we have members from the male and female sections of the club, volunteering to coach Football and other sports in South Africa and Zambia.

Overview:
Overall this was an extremely successful year for the Women’s football club both on and off the pitch. On the pitch the 1’s and 3’s had their most successful seasons to date. Off the pitch, our fundraisers continued to be popular, each event generating over £1000.

2017/18 Goals:
● Achieve record membership again
● Continue our Blast from the Past and Mardi Gras Events
● Expand our alumni database
● Collaborate with the Men’s Club on their Can’t Walk event