

# February Newsletter

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Welcome back everyone,

We haven't shared an update since Christmas, largely because there hasn't been much to report. Unfortunately, the weather has continued to disrupt our return to football. While this is out of our control, we are doing everything possible to improve the condition of our pitches.

## **Pitch Improvements**

As some of you may know, the land our club sits on differs from many others, with a clay-like base that makes drainage difficult. Over the years we've tried several solutions, and we have now agreed on a new grounds maintenance schedule costing approximately £20,000. We are hopeful this will make a significant improvement moving forward.

## **Fundraising – 4G Pitch**

We continue to push hard to raise funds for a 4G pitch at the club. Matt spoke about this in detail at last year's presentation, and while we regularly post updates on social media, newer members may have missed previous communications.

Our dream of having our own 4G pitch is getting closer. With support from a football charity, The Football Foundation, we hope to achieve this within the next 2–3 years (hopefully sooner).

Some may feel this won't benefit older age groups, but it absolutely will. Alongside our youth teams, we now have three men's teams and one ladies' team, providing clear progression routes for players. All teams would benefit from the 4G facility. Additionally, the pitch would support the wider community, including schools and colleges, during periods when the club does not require it.

We understand that with the cost of living, not everyone is able to donate or attend events. However, we kindly ask you to support us in any way you can — every penny helps, and together we can continue to chip away at our goal.

**GoFundMe link:** <https://www.gofundme.com/f/ware-youth-fc-proposed-4g-pitch-development>

We are an extremely small committee of just nine people running a large club, and many of us wear multiple hats. As a result, it's been difficult to dedicate enough time to fundraising. One of our managers, Nicky, has kindly volunteered to help push this forward, but if you're able to assist in any way, please get in touch at: [socialmedia@wareyouthfootballclub.co.uk](mailto:socialmedia@wareyouthfootballclub.co.uk)

Additionally, a parent from our U13 EJA team has created a survey. If you're able to complete it, we'd really appreciate it: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd5xsD-pMPCrxxFqT7vIEtkC6DTTdwOpKZnPZqmuQDy8mUOfg/viewform>

## **Current Fundraising Events**

- Poker Night – 21st February, Ware Youth Football Club – £30 buy-in
- Football Scratch Card – 100 teams to choose from
- Winner receives £200 cash + £100 One Glove voucher - £10 per entry

- Mediumship Night – 28th March, Ware Youth Football Club – £20 per ticket
- Race Nights – Host a race night for your team
  - You pick the date, we organise the rest
  - A great social event and fundraiser

If you're interested in any of the above, please contact Dan on 07534 810062.

As the weather improves, we'll also be looking to host more family-friendly events at the club. Please keep an eye out for updates throughout the year.

### **Presentation**

Our presentation evening is currently booked for 20th June at Allenburys Sports and Social Club. We are discussing the format, as the last two years have run slightly differently. Please speak as a team and share any suggestions on how we can make the day run smoothly.

### **Veo Cameras**

We have two Veo cameras available for home games. Managers are aware of the booking process via the club spreadsheet. Parents — if you'd like to rewatch your child's match, please remind your manager to book a Veo.

### **Father's Day Tournament**

Unfortunately, we have taken the decision not to host a Father's Day tournament this year, unless managers step forward to organise it. At present, this event will not be going ahead.

### **Parent Representatives**

We have a parent rep group, with one parent from each team acting as a link between parents, players, and managers. Due to recent changes and new teams, if your team does not currently have a parent rep, please get in touch with their details so they can be added to the WhatsApp group.

### **Ware United**

Ware United currently consists of our three men's teams, one ladies' team, and two EJA teams. As mentioned previously, our long-term aim is to bring the club under one name, one brand — Ware United. This is not an immediate change and will be a gradual transition, but we wanted to make you aware of the direction we're heading.

That's all for now. Apologies for the length of this update — there's been a lot to cover, and it can be challenging to communicate everything across WhatsApp, social media, and newsletters.

Please make sure you follow our social media channels and regularly check the website to stay up to date with the latest news, events, and important information.

**Instagram: @wareyouthfc | @wareunitedfc**

**Facebook: @wareyouthfc**

**X: @wareyouthfc**

Kind regards,  
Laura Slattery