



Kensington Dragons FC



Our shared culture and how we operate

Loyalty Deserves Loyalty and leads to Sustainable Success

The Youth Teams

The Club is decentralised and each squad is responsible for its own performance.

The Committee will not register a squad unless it is satisfied responsible adults are in charge and that they run the team in a manner commensurate with the Club's agreed values.

Each squad will have a minimum of two identifiable adults in charge who work closely together as a team:

The Manager: Usually a parent, concerned primarily with the squad's administration eg: collecting subs, organising transport etc.

The Coach: Usually qualified, concerned with footballing matters, who takes training sessions and runs the team on Match days.

The Manager is ultimately responsible for the squad but would normally defer all footballing decisions to the Coach.

The Dragon teams are coached and play to win in the competitive HYFL.

The Dragons are not concerned with goal difference and will substitute and/or play players to give them opportunities to play football - even at the cost of winning by a smaller goal difference.

The decision as to whether to register a player is taken by the Coach and Manager working in unison. Once registered the Club recognises that it has a responsibility to that player. The club will be loyal to players that show loyalty to the club.

The Dragons define player loyalty as: attending training; being punctual and well behaved; listening to coaches and trying to improve; eating, drinking and sleeping sensibly.

The Club will in turn be loyal to loyal players by giving them the opportunity to play football commensurate with not losing games.

If a player is not loyal the Manager and Coach are entitled to recruit a replacement.

As a guide the club finds that a squad of 15/16 committed loyal players is about right. Any fewer and the squad risks losing games through illness or injury. Any more and

existing players are effectively deregistered as there is not the opportunity for every player to play football.

All players would normally play a subscription with the proviso that no player is prevented from playing football through being unable to pay the subscription.

The Adult Teams

The Adults section was started to offer an outlet for the youths graduating from the U18's squad. Players under 18 would normally be expected to play for the youth not adults teams.

The Adults section plays serious football not social football.

The Adults sides should share the same general ethos as the youth sides in a similar way to the Youth sides. The importance of sustaining success is recognised and the part played by reciprocal loyalty is recognised.

The aim of the Adults section is to progress up the football pyramid in a sustainable manner.

Players graduating from the Dragons youth U18's side are entitled to attend 3 training sessions and play at least half a game in an Adult friendly or midweek game.

The Adult's section currently comprises a Reserves and 1st team side who are treated as one large squad. During the season players might reasonably expect to play in either side.

The Adult teams' focus is the Middlesex County Football Association Saturday League.

The Adults section is managed in a different way to the Youth section:

Management

The management of the Adults section presents three differences from that of the Youth section:

1. There are less likely to be parents of players available to carry out the administrative duties of running an team
2. In the general wider adult football world the term "Manager" means something different to the way it is used in the Dragons youth section where the term is used to mean an "Administrator".
3. Goal difference matters

The Adults management model is evolving

Finance

The Adults section is self-financing.