

# South Bank Cuaco

## Secretary's Report 2016/17

This season I must congratulate the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI on their winning of the third Division of the SAL Intermediate Section by four points with the loss of only one League game during the season.

The wet weather during the season was not so destructive as in the two previous seasons and the pitches at Dulwich Sports Ground, in the main, stood up well during the season with only two Saturdays at the ground being a complete washout. It is hoped that this improved pitch performance will continue into the 2017/18 season as a result of the pre-season drainage work planned to take place at Dulwich Sports Ground.

Ryan Hayes was co-opted as the Club's Match Secretary during November and quickly got to grips with intricacies of this very important role within the Club proving to be competent in his first season with only two mid-week fixtures being required and all matches being completed by 22<sup>nd</sup> April. This was a great achievement because the Club did not have to source other pitches, at inflated cost, away from Dulwich Sports Ground.

Our Treasurer, Toff Choudhury, continued to keep a watchful eye on the Club's funds as well as mastering the related role of Club Registration Secretary in addition to being responsible for the submission of match results and team sheets. The two latter responsibilities are critical and require the co-operation of team captains as, if not completed accurately and competently, the playing of an unregistered player or the non submission of a result or partial completion of a team sheet will burden the Club with fines imposed by either the AFA or the SAL.

The Club completed successfully its required FA Charter Standard Club "health check" in January 2017 to enable continuation of its Charter Standard status and the benefit of a reduced SAL League subscription which amounts to a saving for the Club of £255.00. A new FA Charter Standard Club application will be required for the start of the 2017/18 season in order to maintain this Charter status for the Club.

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI managed by Chris Judd and captained by Ben Thomas had a poor start to the season from which recovery was not seen until the start of the new year. The moral of the team was maintained but this alone did not prevent the team finishing at the foot of 11 teams in SAL Senior Division 2 and thus will be returning to Division 3 for the 2017/18 season.

The team's progress in the Cup competitions was also not impressive with a loss in October to London Lawyers in the AFA Senior Cup followed by losses to Dorkinians in the AFA Surrey/Kent Senior Cup and also to Broomfield in the SAL Senior Challenge Cup.

Top goal scorer: James Smith; Player's player of the season: Ben Thomas; Manager's player of the season; Sammy Taylor

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI captained by John Gregson, as previously mentioned, had a magnificent season and won SAL Intermediate Division 3 and will therefore be promoted in season 2017/18 to Division 2. The team also progressed to the semi-final stage of the AFA Surrey/Kent Intermediate Cup when in March, they lost 4-0 to AFC Oldsmiths. In SAL Intermediate Challenge Cup there was an early defeat in September to Polytechnic and in November the team was eliminated from the AFA Intermediate Cup by NUFC Oilers.

Top goal scorer: Jon Hanna; Player's player of the season: James Perry; Manager's player of the season: Nicky Martin.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI captained by Dan Rolfe finished in second place out of 10 teams in SAL Junior Division 3. Any promotion will be dependant upon the outcome of the proposed re-structuring of the SAL Sections and Divisions. In the AFA Junior Cup the team suffered a 4-5 loss on penalties to Alleyn Old Boys 3<sup>rd</sup> in September. The tables were turned in the SAL Junior Challenge Cup in January with a convincing 2-1 victory over Alleyn Old Boys 3<sup>rd</sup> which was followed by a 1-0 defeat to West Wickham 3<sup>rd</sup> in March.

Top goal scorer: Malik Ellis; Player's player of the season: Sheldon Haruna; Manager's player of the season: Joe Day.

The 4<sup>th</sup> XI captained by Tom Cole, finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place out of 9 teams in SAL Minor Division 3 South. In October the team suffered a severe 10-1 loss to Alleyn Old Boys 4<sup>th</sup> team in the AFA Minor Cup. In November the team lost 2-1 to Actonians Association 7<sup>th</sup> team in the SAL Senior Novets Cup. As the 4<sup>th</sup> team, playing in a Division of only 9 teams finished their League season relatively early the opportunity was taken to enter the team in the Spring Cup which was a competition run jointly between the SAL and the Amateur Football Combination which provided an extra 3 games for the 4<sup>th</sup> team; resulting in one drawn, one won and one lost.

Top goal scorer and Managers player of the season: Andy Williams; Player's player of the season: Sam Holloway.

The 5<sup>th</sup> XI captained by Neill Robertshaw finished in 7<sup>th</sup> place out of 10 teams in SAL Minor Division 4 South. In October the team lost 6-5 to Reigatians 5<sup>th</sup> in the AFA Senior Novets Cup. In the SAL Senior Novets Cup a 3-2 victory over Kew 3<sup>rd</sup> in November was followed in December by a 3-1 defeat to Crouch End Vampires 5<sup>th</sup>.

Top goal scorer: Anton Simmons; Player's player of the season: Mark Payne; Manager's player of the season: Jamie Hall.

The 6<sup>th</sup> XI captained by Toff Choudhury finished 10<sup>th</sup> out of 11 teams in SAL Minor Division 5 South. In November the team lost 4-1 to West Wickham 6<sup>th</sup> in the AFA Intermediate Novets Cup and in the SAL Junior Novets Cup it was not possible to raise a team for the tie and a walk over was conceded to the opposition.

Top goal scorer: Julian Howell; Player's player of the season: Kiernan Ali; Manager's player of the season: Solomon Adedeji.

The Team of the Year awarded to 2<sup>nd</sup> team.

The Ralph Salter Clubman of the Year Trophy is awarded to Colin Ferris.

These awards mentioned above were presented at the Club's end of season celebrations, organised jointly by Toff Choudhury and Luke Howard and held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at Dulwich Sports Ground .

Edward Watson again took charge of the Club's training which commenced in Dulwich Park and later continued at Crystal Palace. As in previous years the thanks of the Club go to Edward for his training skills and enthusiasm which he contributed to the Club.

The Club's Discipline record for the season deteriorated with two serious offences one of which resulted in the membership of the player concerned being withdrawn. There were a number of cautions received for offences which could be avoided easily, mainly for dissent. The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> teams both committed six or more dissent cautions which resulted in each team receiving an administration charge of £10.00 from the AFA as a warning as to the teams' future conduct during the current season and the imposition of a fine for a significant amount if dissent offences continued.

Clearly an improvement in players conduct, particularly for dissent offences, is required for the forthcoming season.

Enjoy your summer, retain your fitness and look forward to a challenging forthcoming season.