

## WITNESHAM WASPS FOOTBALL CLUB REPORT FOR 2025/26 SEASONS

More changes for the Wasps club this past season as we continue to grow. 4 new youth teams joined our ranks at U10 (new), U12 (from AFC Chilton), U16 (from Kesgrave Kestrels) and U18 (new) as well as two more adult teams (a reserve team on Saturdays and a Sunday morning adult side).

Our plans to continue to expand into next season include the possible introduction of a Ladies' team.

As at the time of writing, the current progress of our teams is as below:

Adult First team → Promoted to Division 1 (now called "Championship") from division 5. Currently sitting 7<sup>th</sup> and likely to finish in the top half. A strong performance for the team given the jump from Div 5 to Div1.

Adult Reserve team → A new introduction to Div 5 but have struggled, partly due to managerial changes but the new management team joined in December and have stabilised the squad as we look forward to a full season under solid management and leadership into next season. Likely to finish 8<sup>th</sup> in Div 5.

Adult Sunday team → have struggled for players but on a good cup run. Currently into the Semi Finals of the cup and sitting 8<sup>th</sup> in Division 1.

U18s → a new group of players and have found results hard to come by. Sitting bottom of the "Championship" in the SYFL U18 divisions. Contains a lot of U17 players so will have a second season at U18 next season.

U16s → a new team joining Witnesham from Kesgrave Kestrels. Sitting bottom of Division 3. Will look to create a second U18 team for Witnesham next season.

U15s → currently 8<sup>th</sup> in Division 3.

U12s → currently 7<sup>th</sup> in Division 6.

In addition, the club continues to promote grassroots soccer to children of all ages, and we have 8 teams from U7s through to U11s in development leagues with two teams reaching cup and plate finals for their respective age groups.

In total we have 164 boys and girls registered to the club as well as 96 adults.

The pitches at Witnesham continue to churn up in the wet and wintry weather which inevitably leads the club to use alternative pitches for winter training.

It would also help to have transparency on when the field grass is due to be cut as it has often been left to grow quite long.

With growth of the teams within Witnesham Wasps, we are forever seeking more playing facilities, as well as trying to juggle attendances at Witnesham field. Currently we play football not only at Witnesham School Field but also at Grundisburgh, Gainsborough, Melton St Audry's, Whitton Sports Centre, and Kesgrave.

As such, if the parish has or knows of any other land or facilities that can be used for youth or adult football, we would be more than happy to have a conversation that moves as much of our club into the local area as possible.

Finally, the club are planning to hold this year's Fun Day on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2026.

Peter Rolland

Club Secretary – Witnesham WASPS

07/04/2026