

The Merton Way



Sort of.....

A word from the Chairman

Well here we go again! It is that time of year when we are all getting ready for another season's football at Merton. There are the last few weeks of friendlies and then the SAL season kicks off for all teams on Saturday September 8th. In order for us all to be ready for that start, if you have not already done so we need you to join up, complete the forms and pay the membership (details of how to do this are set out later in this newsletter). This enables us to register you with the AFA and the League and so play for the club. It also lets us know how many members we have and how many teams we can run and budget for the season accordingly.

New members will be given a new black badged Merton Polo. Existing members whose old one is getting a bit worn can buy one for £5.

One innovation over the summer that makes paying for things easier is that we have signed up to SLATE which helps collect all sorts of payments - details of which are set out later. As is explained later we have now signed up to SLATE and make all payments to the club easier!

Also set out later is our programme of events for the first part of the season. This has our BBQ and Bank holiday events, a Quiz, The Christmas jump-off and more, so note these great club events down.

This year we are also organising a club tour from May 8th -11th to Albufeira on the Algarve in Portugal. We will be entering two teams in a 7-a-side competition. We are just finalising full details and will shortly be taking bookings with a deposit on a first-come, first-serve basis.

During the summer Denys and his friend Roman, with some help from members, have been redecorating the club and repairing our fence and gate. A huge thank you to them. But sadly the council has got involved and has put a stop to any external decorations by volunteers. We will be taking this up with them ASAP so that we can continue with our improvements.

With the league programme due to start on September 8th, pre-season training continues at the Hood on Wednesday evening but will switch to St Mark's Academy, Mitcham Eastfields, CR4 1SF from September 5th! There are still concerns about the condition of the Hood. We are likely to have only one pitch at the Hood for the September 8th season opener unless we get some good prolonged spells of rain. We are continuing with our programme of friendlies (set out later).

The Youth section continues this year with Dan Woollard heading it up helped by a good group of managers. There will be only three teams this year but they are all paid up and keen to go. Good idea to get down to the Hood on a Sunday morning and support the lads.

Max Herbert

2018 Events: AUG – DEC



SATURDAY 1st SEPT – MEMBERSHIP DAY
(BBQ, Friendlies, Bar Open, Live football on TV, Pay Membership)



SUNDAY 2nd SEPT – WELCOME TO MERTON DAY (YOUTH)
(Pizzas, Training, Parents & teams, Live footy in bar)



SATURDAY 8th SEPT – ENGLAND V SPAIN (New Season Drinks)
(Eng v Spain live in bar 7.30pm new season drinks for all)



SATURDAY 13th OCT – THAT'S THE MERTON QUIZ
(Classic Quiz, Teams of 6, Fish & Chips - £10pp)



SATURDAY 20th OCT – VETS v OLD WEST CITZ (VETS GAME)



SATURDAY 10th NOV – MERTON RACE NIGHT
(TV horse racing / bets / prosecco bar / race-cards / £10pp)



SATURDAY 8th DECEMBER – THE MERTON XMAS JUMP OFF
(Traditional Christmas Jumper Night, Christmas DO for Merton)



The Hood, the bar, Vets & Old Boys reunion

Welcome to the 2018/19 season at Merton Football Club.

This summer we embarked on new & exciting projects at Merton FC. The first was a complete refurbishment of the hood. This was all going along nicely with a team headed up by Denys Zhurbiy..... then along came a man from the council!

We had to stop work as our beloved council in their wisdom decided that in our efforts to improve the building, we might damage it! As well as that old onion, "health & safety" fears. Therefore, in our efforts to improve the look of the building & make it more pleasurable to the eye, that man from the Merton council has thwarted our plans yet again.

However, all is not lost ... He has said he will put in a chit to get the council to carry out the work, costing the good folk of Merton borough £££££'s. Is that not kind of him? (just if and when this will happen is not known). Still, we owe a huge thanks to Denys and his team for cleaning up the outside the clubhouse...thanks lads!

The other major change taking place at the Hood is to the "Roy Applegate" bar. After looking into ways of improving the freshness, quality & wastage of our draught beer, it was decided to bring in a brand new system. So on the 22nd of August, we are undergoing a state of the art transformation in the way we supply your after-match pint (or three). We can now offer you 3 lagers, being Carlsberg export, Poretti 3 & Leaky Bucket (a cloudy lager).

As usual a selection of bottled beers, ciders, wines, spirits & soft drinks will be available all at club prices. I will also be putting up kegs of bitter from time to time (depending on demand).

Our annual Vets game against "Old Westminster Citz" will take place on Saturday 20th October 2018 with a 12:30pm KO. Interested in playing? 35 & over? Contact me please to ensure your place... Dodge roger.cetic@gmail.com, rogerasling@yahoo.co.uk or 07879546090.

This being a social occasion, a meal after the game will be provided. Subs for the day will be £5. The beer will be flowing, stories of past encounters will be shared, and plenty laughter will reverberate around the Hood.

Also on the same day as the Vets match (20th Oct) there will be an Old Boys reunion/get-together. All Merton old boys will be welcome & if you fancy a run out in the Vets game, please let me know. The more the merrier...

Extending a very warm welcome to all you new members - enjoy your time at the best club ever! Please support your club and guests by socialising & interacting with other members.

Enjoy & have fun - it's the Merton way...

Slate and Membership fees

It's the end of the month, payday is here - so what better time to cough up the money to pay your Merton membership for the 2018/19 season than right now?

Following the AGM, it has been agreed that fees for the year will be as follows:

Adult members - £90

Refer a Friend - £50 each

Under 21s - £30 each (21 or under when the season starts)

Social members - £20

The good news is that match fees will remain at £10 (£5 for U21s). And, as ever, some of the most competitive bar prices you could ever wish for.

Slate

And, to make things even easier for you – both in terms of membership fees and match fees – you can now pay either/both via a click of a button through the new Slate app.

If you haven't done so already, head to <https://app.slateapp.co.uk> or download the app. Click on register and use the email address you supplied Merton FC when you joined. Once registered you will receive an 'activate your account' email (check spam) and follow the instructions in the email.

After you have activated your account you will receive another email asking you to set up payments for your slate account. Follow the instructions in the email to do this.

Any questions, then please get in contact with Darren Avey.

Last Man Standing

Signing for Slate will also enable you to get involved with our new Last Man Standing game – one which has already proved very popular with the 30-odd members who have signed up. In short, it's a really fun predictor game whereby you pick an EPL team to win each week - <https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/tippd-last-man-standing/id1185126669?mt=8>). It's a £5 entry fee with 70% of the pot going to the winner and 30% of the pot going to the club. We use an app for this game so you make your picks through that.

Be sure to get involved when the next game starts - you will need to pay through the app, bank transfer or give cash to a responsible party, after which we (as in Darren Avey) will share the invite codes.

Merton FC Friendly Schedule 2018

DATE	1ST TEAM	2ND TEAM	3RD TEAM	4TH TEAM	5TH TEAM	6TH TEAM
Saturday 25/08/18	Old Blues (HOME) 11:00hrs KO	Old Wilsonians 2s/3s (2 x 60 mins) (HOME) 13:00hrs KO		South Bank 4s (HOME) 15:30hrs KO	Alleyn Old Boys 7s (AWAY) KO – TBC (£67.00)	South Bank 5s (AWAY) KO – TBC
Saturday 01/09/18	West Wickham (AWAY) 14:0hrs KO	Alleyn Old Boys 3s (HOME) KO - TBC	Old Wilsonians 4s (HOME) KO - TBC	Tansley (HOME) KO - TBC	Old Wilsonians 5s (HOME) KO - TBC	Alexandra Park 6s (AWAY) KO - TBC

Merton FC Managers 2018/19

1st Team – Simon Clapperton

2nd Team – Graham Willgoss

3rd Team – Darren Fitzgerald

4th Team – Ed Plaistow

5th Team – Luke Newman/Aaron Ackerman

6th Team – Dave Golding

