



COVID-19 UPDATE #4

Key dates, League Updates & What's Next

Dear all players, parents, spectators and our whole community,

First of all, we hope you are all well! We thought we'd bring you up to speed with what is going on at the club. Behind the scenes at Vogue Park the work still goes on. Players (Youth & Adults) are training individually; team meetings are taking place online and even a few quizzes and lots of laughs. We would also like to reassure supporters that the club is in a healthy position. In particular because of the continued dedication of club volunteers really shines through in difficult times and we truly believe we have the best support network around. We know these times are difficult and football has been the last thing on our mind, but we have been thinking of our supporters and wish to extend our warmest best wishes and good health to those familiar faces that we miss around the ground. Please stay home, stay safe and reach out if you need us! When we get through this, which we will, we will open the gates to Vogue Park for you again.

Current Funding Secured

We have managed to gain £5,000 from Sport England to pay the bills as the running costs of our clubhouse are in the region of £800 a month so that is a welcome help.

From the Football Foundation we have had £1,400 to help pay for the storm damage caused at the club during last winter. With this money we replaced doors, the dugout roofs and advertising boards as well as upgrading old signage with new modern signs and information. The Football Foundation 'Pitch Preparation Fund' will also hopefully come to fruition and help our facilities. We have put in a request for a grant to receive £2,500 and are waiting to hear back to see if we were successful. If we are lucky enough to receive the money it will be used to maintain and improve our football pitches and training and warm up areas.

Pedal To level Virtual Road to Wembley

This is a fundraiser that we had planned to do in April, so that the whole club could raise funds for the extension. However, we are hopeful that other pot(s) of money may help towards the extension so we are looking to complete a fundraiser to help level our major dips/undulations we have on both of our pitches. A job not normally able to be completed due to cricket and football overlapping, so now is an obvious time to do this work. It has been estimated by contractors that 410-420tons of material is going to be needed and their time, a total projected cost of £8,000-£10,000 but we have this window of opportunity not normally given.

PLEASE DONATE WHAT YOU CAN, WE APPRECIATE THE HARD TIMES WE ALL CURRENTLY LIVE IN. Please donate via our crowd funding page: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/pedal-to-level-road-to-wembley>. You could decide to donate 50p per mile (or less), you could donate a sum of money or just join in for participation. If you do decide to donate and give over £25, you can receive a FREE club hat or scarf, if you donate £50 or more, you can receive a club hat or scarf & club umbrella or mug.

Instead of going to borne fit, as originally planned, we are asking people to let us know how many miles they have done, out with their family/individually and it does not, just need to be pedalling it could also be walking, jogging or running too. The route will go around our league clubs in England, Wales & Scotland. It will start at St Day AFC and end at Wembley with the total needing to be covered of 3458.6 miles and travels to 136 grounds in total. Please can you communicate your miles by downloading the app - Strava or just email/texting/commenting to Pete Carpenter who will keep the running total going. Every time we reach a league club, Pete is uploading information about the club along with interesting facts and a trivia question. Please follow all of this on the club's social media platforms so that you can obtain this excellent knowledge. We are looking for the whole club; children, adults, families etc to help towards gaining the total and joining in any way they can to rack up the mileage and allow the club to complete this project. So, start Pedalling (or otherwise) to levelling by helping us reach Wembley.

Dave Searle Cup

Many enquiries have come in to see if the tournament is still going ahead this summer. We have already taken many application forms and payments plus this year more than ever, for obvious reasons we are keen for this event to run, it maybe something to kick start football in our community once again. As you know the date has been moved to the **Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th August** and we are closely monitoring the situation but are hoping for it to go ahead. Let's keep our fingers crossed and we will be making a final decision five weeks prior to this, that being by 4th July 2020,

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Vogue Park

The groundsmen, volunteers, players, coaches and parents have been very busy at Vogue Park working there most days; cutting, strimming, putting up new advertising boards, painting and pressure washing. Further to this new goal sockets have been installed and new easy to use net supports have been made for both of our pitches. The bottom pitch has had further drainage work completed too. The training area, behind Vogue Pub has undergone more work and further floodlights are being installed thanks to D&R electrical and Western Electrical, Truro and Andrew Pooley. We would like to reassure everyone that all social distancing was adhered to, in order to keep everyone safe and we must say a very big **THANK YOU** to everyone that has helped keep everything looking fantastic until we return. We are about to upgrade the clubhouse, we are planning to redecorate the interior, and install sliding doors leading unto the balcony. See social media for updates on all progress at Vogue Park.

Update from the Leagues

The St. Piran League, LWC Drinks Combination League, Trelawny League, Kernow Youth League and the Cornwall Girls League have all been in touch in regards to next season and AGMs are taking place in the coming days. Behind the scenes, football is at least carrying on and preparing for a restart.

The **Cornwall FA**, as previously reported, have been very keen to hold-off making any final decision regarding the viability for these predominantly semi-final and final county cup games to be played to a conclusion in the hope that a sensible time-frame would emerge. It is still not clear whether this will be possible or not but we do understand the desire from those clubs still competing to have their opportunity to play these games and we will continue to leave this on hold for the time being. In terms of the 2020-21 county cup programme, the entry will be free to clubs but the viability of any, and all, county cup competitions in the next season will be based on the ability to run the programme of fixtures and will be constantly reviewed. Please note the proposed changes to cup competitions and structures will now not be effective for the 20/21 season and all competitions will remain as in previous years.

In the **St Piran's League (St Day First)**, interest in joining the league via promotion was very healthy with applications to join being received from Pendeen Rovers and Porthleven Reserves for the West Division and Foxhole Stars, St Dominick, St Minver, St Stephen and Veryan for the East Division. Penryn Athletic and Hayle from the West Division applied to join the South West Peninsula League. Sadly, with the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic no promotions were possible but Porthleven Reserves applied to fill a vacancy in the West Division and subject to being accepted by the clubs in the AGM process they will be welcomed to the league. As far as cup competitions go, our First Team are through to the semi-final of The Kernow Stone Cup, this is not yet voided, and it remains the intention to play the cup to a conclusion if possible. However, there will come a time where, if the 2020-21 season has still not commenced, that this will simply not be a viable option.

In the **LWC Combination League (St Day Reserves)**, the AGM which will be conducted by paper this year. Here are the main points from the paperwork received - 1. Due to the early end to last season there will be no affiliation fee payable for next season. 2. There are now six applications to join the Combo League - Gerrans & St Mawes, Holmans, Illogan Res, Ludgvan, Probus and St Newlyn East. 3. All player registrations must include the players full email address as the registration will not be verified without this. 4. Proposal from John Mead, seconded by Kevin Knowles - the clubs mandate the Combination League Management Committee to commence early discussions with the Trelawny League with the aim of achieving an amalgamation of the two Leagues for the beginning of the 2021/22 season.

In the **Trelawny League (St Day Thirds)**, the officers are requesting clubs to fill in applications to join the league so that they can gauge how many teams will be registering next season. The League Committee can then start to work on sorting a possible Divisional setup. It may be then they need to make contingency plans to introduce another division with reduced numbers if we cannot resume playing in mid-August as looks likely. We will be entering our thirds into the league as per normal with the vision of the majority of last year's side along with the a very high proportion of last years promising U16s taking their places in our adult setup.

In the **Kernow Youth League**, the management committee are now looking at the season as it stands and will prepare for the 2020/21 season. Plans are being made for the league AGM, which will either happen as usual in person or via an online platform, depending on the guidelines in place nearer the time. Team allocations based on information that they receive from

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us will determine the league structures for next season. Coaches and managers have been asked to contact our club secretary; Clair Richards to instigate this. Whatever we decide and the outcome, the committee members of St Day Youth will ensure, as we always do, that the league in which we compete, is the one that gives the right challenge and maximum progress for that individual group of players.

In the **Cornwall Girls league**, like the KYL above they are generally awaiting further notice from other authorities. Unlike the KYL league the Cornwall girls league have only 4 age groups which alternate between being even age groups and odd ages. They have confirmed that the age bands for the 2020/21 season will be odd and take the following specification U15s - Yrs 9 & 10 (w.e.f. Sept '20), U13s - Yrs 7 & 8, U11s - Yrs 5 & 6 and U9s - Yrs 3 & 4. We were successful in our bid to the Football Foundation for a "Grow the Game" grant last year and, for the first time in the club's history we entered a girls' team into the U10s league, tournaments and many futsal competitions. This team will continue in their journey onto the U11s age group and we will look, as per our agreement with the Football Foundation to start a new age group. This will be confirmed in the coming weeks but will either be at the U9s age group or younger.

Player Registration

All players will become 'free agents' in the eyes of the leagues and the FA from Sunday 31st May. Therefore, all players will need to confirm their willingness to sign to St Day AFC (Adults or Youth) after this date. This will be done via the FA Whole Game System (WGS) and is effective from Monday 1st June. Can we ask you keep an eye on your email inbox and reply if appropriate to that email to confirm you are signing for the club again in the 2020/21 season. Can I ask that all adult players ensure they can login, update all details and renew their photographs. Youth parents and players need to do the same, however all youth players must have a parent linked to their account. The parent as well as the player needs to have a FAN (FA Number) account created and attached to the youth player's details. Without this and all the details in place we cannot submit to any of the leagues. Many are done, as we did this at the start of last year, but please can everyone ensure they can access the Whole Game System and update where required so that when the email is sent, requesting consent to join St Day AFC or St Day Youth we can do this process with as much ease as possible. If you have any issues with this, please contact the registration secretaries of; Shane Hodges (adults) and Clair Richards (youth) who will be able to assist. All of their details and any club official can be contacted by visiting our club website.

What's Next?

Realistically we may not be back playing sport in 2020, but the club is doing everything it can to ensure we kick a ball the moment restrictions are fully lifted and it is safe to do so. We are making sure we follow all of the guidelines laid out by Cornwall FA and the Government. The club will hold virtual AGMs (via zoom), the youth will take place on Wednesday 1st July at 7pm as scheduled and the adult AGM will take place Wednesday 15th July also at 7pm. The link to the meeting will be placed on our closed Facebook groups and into any WhatsApp or messenger groups. All proposals or nominations to join our committee's must be sent to myself (markl@stdayafc.co.uk or 07875596798) 7 days prior to the AGM. Can I remind you of the need of more people on both our committee's in order for us to keep making the progress and commitment to all our members and our community.

We are looking forward to seeing you all back at the club as soon as it is safe to do so.

My very best wishes and health to you all

Mark Leah
Proud Chairman of St Day Youth
& Vice Chairman of St Day AFC