



WIGHT EAGLES LADIES FC

CLUB DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2025-26

INTRODUCTION

Wight Eagles Ladies FC is a women's football club serving the whole of the Isle of Wight. It comprises a senior team and an Academy formed of 90 players in the U10-U16 group. The Academy teams play in the age-related county leagues organised by the Hampshire FA, except for our U10 group which is being trained and developed to a stage where it can undertake competitive football. The senior team plays in Hampshire County Women's League Division 2.

While our purpose is to develop player skills within a competitive environment, the emphasis, particularly at the junior levels, is on participation, teamwork and having fun. We teach respect for one another, for other teams, for coaches and match officials and for oneself.

The club is run by its management committee and its officers and members are elected at the AGM. The Club Rules are modelled on those of the FA and we subscribe fully and enthusiastically to FA policies on child safeguarding, diversity and Respect.

Players currently pay fees to the Club to cover our costs and FA affiliation fees. We have also instituted a programme of scholarships for players whose parents cannot afford fees as a result of the current cost of living crisis.

OUR VISION

A high-quality football club which maximises the potential of its players in all age groups and at all levels to participate and excel in the game.

OUR MISSION

To provide opportunities for women and girls to participate in football, develop their skills and attain their full potential on and off the field.

CLUB VALUES

An open and inclusive club, welcoming women and girls of all ages.

Respectful to the traditions of fair play on and off the field.

Respectful of players, coaches and match officials on and off the field.

Responsive to the needs and welfare of players.

Valuing the contribution of the club's volunteers.

OUR SWOT ANALYSIS

Our strengths:

Effective management and coaching structure in place.

Large and enthusiastic player membership.

Use of high-quality facilities for training and playing.

Our weaknesses:

Need to introduce new players at senior level to supplement our Academy graduates in sustaining our Division 2 status.

Reliance on a small core team of volunteers.

Difficulty in recruiting players in a fully socially inclusive manner because of our need for fee income to sustain our activities.

Insufficient winter training facilities of the required high standard.

Our opportunities:

Good reputation of Club increasing demand, helped also by the growth in women's football nationally.

Increased sponsorship should underwrite our expansion plans and could enhance our social inclusivity.

Greater parental engagement should strengthen volunteer base.

Our threats:

Competition for players from other clubs on the Island.

Ongoing cost of living crisis jeopardising fee income.

Costs of travelling to team fixtures on the mainland.

Reliance on traditional grass pitches in winter weather.

OUR AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To manage the club in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Develop our senior team, including the recruitment of players from within and outside the club.
3. To preserve the club's reputation for high-quality football and to extend our offer to the youngest players, and to those whose parents may not be able to meet the full cost of fees.
4. To develop our club welfare function, covering the physical and emotional well-being of our players.
5. To develop our training and playing activities in high-quality facilities.

CLUB MANAGEMENT

Aim

To manage the club in an effective and efficient manner.

Objectives

1. To ensure continuity of service by proper succession planning.
2. To improve communication with parents to secure their greater participation in the club's activities.
3. To manage the budget for 2025-26 and monitor expenditure in-year.
4. To grow sources of income, including sponsorship opportunities.

Objective	How	Who	When	Cost	Completion
Succession planning	Identify succession candidates for key posts	Chair and other senior officers	Ongoing	Nil	Ongoing
Improve communications	Regular e-newsletter	Chair/ Special Projects Officer (SPO)	Ongoing	Nugatory	Ongoing
Budget 2025-26	Monitor 2025-26 budget	Treasurer and Committee	Ongoing	Nil	April 2026
Grow income	Monitor fee levels and sponsorship opportunities	Treasurer and Committee	Ongoing	Nil	April 2026 and ongoing (sponsors)
Enhance Club's tax position	Examine case for seeking	Treasurer and SPO	Summer 2025	Nil	Autumn 2025

	Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) status				
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SENIOR TEAM

Aim

To develop our senior team, including where necessary the recruitment of players from within and outside the club.

Objectives

1. To supplement the existing team by recruiting high quality players both externally and from the upper levels of the Academy.
2. To coach those players to the highest possible standard consonant with their potential.
3. To obtain new training facilities for the team.

Objective	How	Who	When	Cost	Completion
Recruit high quality players both externally and internally	Identify and recruit players	Senior team manager	Ongoing	Nil	Ongoing
Coach players to the highest standard consonant with their potential	Construct coaching programme and add to coaching team if necessary	Senior team manager	Ongoing	TBA	Ongoing
Obtain new training facilities for the team	See Club Facilities section below				

COACHING

Aim

To preserve the club's reputation for high-quality football and to extend our offer to the youngest players.

Objectives

1. To maintain and improve coaching standards throughout the Club.

2. To continue recruiting for our new U10s section and to develop them further with the aim of their reaching a standard where they can begin playing competitive football.
3. To present coaching opportunities for older players, including their obtaining recognised qualifications.

Objective	How	Who	When	Cost	Completion
Maintain/improve adult coaching standards	Ensure new coaches have minimum Level 1 FA standard	Director of Football	Ongoing	£600	Ongoing
Extend player membership at U10 level and develop their skills and attitudes.	Recruitment in recognised age group and provision of regular coaching for them.	Director of Football	Ongoing	Nugatory	Ongoing
Present coaching and refereeing opportunities for older players	Discuss and promote available courses with relevant player groups	Special Projects Officer	Summer/Autumn 2025	TBA	Ongoing

CLUB WELFARE

Aim

To develop further our club welfare function, covering the physical and emotional well-being of our players and to examine the scope for extending our social inclusivity.

Objectives

1. To improve the physical health of our players.
2. Keep Management Committee regularly informed about welfare matters.
3. Improve advice available about emotional health.
4. Examine how we might offer places to players whose parents/ carers would find difficulty in paying fees.

Objective	How	Who	When	Cost	Completion
To improve the physical health of our players	(i) Ongoing fitness sessions (ii) Access to physiotherapy services (iii) ensure pitch-side	(i) Team coaches (ii) Secretary (iii) Club Welfare Officer	(i) Ongoing (ii) Spring 2025 (iii) Summer 2025	TBA	(i) Ongoing (ii) Summer 2025 (iii) Autumn 2025

	access to female assistance in applying first aid				
Keep Management Committee regularly informed about welfare matters	Produce and circulate monthly record of welfare concerns and complaints	Club Welfare Officer	Spring 2025	Nil	Ongoing
Improve advice available on emotional health	Produce new webpage listing sources of advice and help for emotional welfare issues for parents/ carers and players	Club Welfare Officer	Spring/ Summer 2025	Nil	Autumn 2025
Extending opportunities to players where their parents/ carers would find it hard to pay fees	Look for support from sponsors and appropriate charities	Club Welfare Officer and Director of Football	Summer 2025	TBA	Autumn 2025

CLUB FACILITIES

Aim

Where necessary, to improve our training and playing activities in high-quality facilities.

Objectives

To monitor the use of Academy facilities at East Cowes (GKN and Queensgate); to find new training facilities for our senior team; to find 11 v 11 playing facilities for our second U14 team; and to try to hire G4 pitches in the Cowes area for winter training.

Objective	How	Who	When	Cost	Completion
Monitor usage of pitches at GKN and Queensgate.	Liaison with pitch owners and our coaches, and periodic	Secretary	Ongoing	Minimal	Ongoing

	inspection of the pitches				
Obtain new training facilities for the senior team.	Identify and hire appropriate facilities	Senior Team manager	Spring/ summer 2025	TBA	Summer/ Autumn 2025
Use of G4 pitches in Cowes area.	Research availability	Secretary	Spring 2025	TBA	Summer 2025
Find new pitch for our second U14 team, now they will be playing 11 v 11 football on a full-size pitch.	Identify and hire suitable pitch.	Secretary	Spring 2025	TBA	Summer 2025

CLUB PRIORITIES

1. Maintenance of robust governance and financial arrangements.
2. Provision of safe and inclusive environment for all our players and coaches.
3. Development of senior team.
4. Maintenance of high-quality coaching, and its extension to any interested cohort of players.

CLUB CONTACTS

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