

Our 21 22 season was one of building towards normality as covid restrictions eased.

Last year we had 15 teams that played in the South Suffolk Youth league. These teams play a football match against another club once a week and also a weekly training session too. We have also added an under 7 team and a nursery for 5 to 7 year olds.

8 of these teams played at Simon's Cross Wickham Market, but because of lack of pitch space and car parking space 4 played at Sutton and 3 at Rendlesham. Wickham Market school are very helpful allowing us to use their car parks.

This meant the club had 226 children from 5 years old to 18 years old.

The winter training this year, because of the need of lighting and an all weather surface, was at Rock Barracks.

The club has 45 volunteers who have, or are working towards, the Football Association accreditation's compliant with youth football of course they are also DBS checked.

The club had a safeguarding audit by the football association this year and was found to be compliant.

The club continues to be financially stable receiving a subscription from each parent for their child. We are also able to attract some sponsorship enabling us to cover costs such as winter training, kit, equipment, rents affiliations and the upkeep of the pavilion at Simons Cross.

We retained Registered charity status but are currently not using it

Historically we have two main events each year

A presentation day where every child's contribution is celebrated, usually in the Village Hall on Party by the Pitch day (senior football club event)

A summer tournament at Simon's cross playing field inviting teams from other clubs to take part in a football tournament.

Unfortunately because of covid we have been unable to do these over the past two years but are currently planning to do so this year

The club is thriving and has grown year on year and we would very much appreciate the opportunity to talk to the parish council regarding the challenges and opportunities the growth of the club for local youth brings

Richard Caley