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"Who's a pretty boy"

# COACHING: WHY AND HOW WE ARE DIFFERENT

## First Touch Football Coaching Philosophy

At First Touch we aim to develop each player to a higher than average standard. To be able to achieve this outcome it is vitally important that we recruit only those youngsters that have shown a higher level of football potential.

First Touch prides itself on the positive atmosphere during coaching sessions. This enhances a learning environment that improves the development of the players.

Our dedicated team of highly qualified and experienced coaches, work closely together to ensure organisation of the highest standard.

There is a comprehensive Technical Programme, which progresses from Under 7 to Under12 level. Each level is carefully tailored to suit the relevant age category.

The programme has a guided repetition style of coaching where players are exposed to a number of technical sessions on a consistent basis. The sessions replicate situations that occur during games, specific to a player's general role on the field.

These sessions, combined with small sided games and technical ball warm ups compromise the bulk of the twice weekly sessions.

In addition to the Technical Programme a large emphasis is placed on the development of the 'whole player'.



## KEEPY UPDATE THE NEW NAME

The winner of our competition to name our newsletter is Nicki Jaimeson with his inspired choice of "Keepy Update". The name came out top in an opinion poll completed by a cross section of boys, parents and coaches. We had a great response to the competition. Thanks to all boys who put so much effort into the competition. Nicki wins £25 worth of sports vouchers. Well done

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# First Touch Policy on playing with other clubs

By now, each group has been addressed regarding our policy decision not to allow boys from First Touch to play for other football teams.

From the outset, First Touch was never intended to provide for regular competitive matches. Instead, our focus is on the development of skills and technique that, we believe, will far better prepare the boys for playing games when they move on at the end of their primary education.

Over the past few months we have become increasingly aware of a number of our boys playing regular league matches for other teams. Predictably, this has given rise to a conflict of interest and, at times, we have lost out on the boys' availability to attend for coaching.

We apologise to anyone who was not aware of our position at the start of the new season and for any inconvenience caused but we feel the time is right to be clear and consistent before this becomes a bigger issue.

We fully understand that you may decide that First Touch is no longer in your boy's interests and, if this is the case, please let us know if this is what you decide.

The only exceptions that are being made relate to organisations such as Boys Brigade, Beavers, Cub Scouts and schools. Boys can continue to play. The only potential conflict here is that we are now trying to organise some small tournaments or occasional games. We shall, however, endeavour to give you as much notice as possible.

If anyone wishes to discuss this particular topic in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact one of your

## OCTOBER Coaching Week



**This year's coaching week will run from Monday, 17th October to Friday, 21st October 2005.**

**All boys who are currently in First Touch, including First Touch Kickers, and also boys who have left First Touch over the past two years have the opportunity to attend morning sessions from 9.30am to 11.30am.**

**The cost is £30 per child and £50 for two children.**

**If you wish your boy(s) to attend please inform your coaches as soon as possible, as numbers may have to be restricted.**

## SENIOR CLUBS

First Touch has, for the past few years, endeavoured to provide our players with the opportunity to showcase their skills against senior clubs such as Kilmarnock and Morton, and we continue to try to develop those relationships.

We are also delighted to inform you that plans are being advanced to invite some of the boys to test their skills against players from Blackburn Rovers and Rangers Youth Academies. Further details will be provided in due course.



## KIT ROOM

All the boys have been issued with a full set of kit which includes Jacket, Training Sweat, T-Shirt, Shorts and Socks. It is the boys responsibility to take care of all items and report any loss. Any problems should be reported to Billy Clark.

Coaching Session Times  
**Kickers Wednesday**  
**Kilmacolm 6 -7.30pm**  
**Thursday Session**  
**5.30 for 5.45-7.15pm**  
**Sunday Session**  
**9.45 for 10-11.30pm**

# This Month's Competition.

Can you guess who these bonnie bairns are?  
 Clue – they are all coaches. Prize for the winner! Entries on the attached form to be submitted no later than 13th October 2005.

## MATCH REPORTS

As indicated we are now trying to introduce the boys to occasional competitive games and more news will follow as and when these are arranged. Since the last newsletter, the following matches took place:

### Group 1 Boys

#### Fulham Boys Club 1 First Touch 21

This was a fantastic performance in what was, for many of our players, their first game of 11-a-side football. The boys displayed some fantastic team work and individual skills, with some wonderful goals being scored. They were a credit to themselves and First Touch.

Fulham was not the strongest of sides but we would have beaten most teams with the football we were playing. Only sore point of the day was McAuley's penalty miss. Mr McBryde is now responsible for showing him how to score them in future!

### Group 2 Boys

On 10th September 2005 we fielded two sides in a number of friendly games against Dunoon Boys Club and Ardgowan Football Development.

Again, our boys acquitted themselves excellently with both teams recording convincing wins. The occasion was only marred by some controversial refereeing decisions in the game when we played each other (training courses available, Mr McCole).

In both teams we were extremely impressed by their passing of the ball, some terrific individual performances and brilliant goals. Well done to all our players.

Also, thanks to all parents and other adults who turned out to offer your support. It is very much appreciated.



**A**  
 "Whatever this coach says to you, just take it on the chin".



**B**  
 He's a chip off the old block!



**C**  
 This man used to be called superboots - now he plays like he's wearing moon



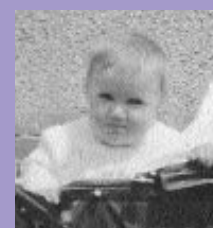
**D**  
 The Peanut!



**E**  
 Any cheek, and you'll be seeing this coach at a Panel Hearing



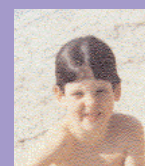
**F**  
 The Krays-but who's who.



**G**  
 The quiet man - give us a smile!



**H**  
 "Hair today, gone tomorrow".



**I**  
 This coach spends more time at Inverclyde Hospital than he does at the Battery Park

**" BUT MUM DES SAID I'VE GOT TO PRACTICE, PRACTICE, PRATICE"**



### Rio Ferdinand

Manchester United and England

I first started playing football on the Peckham estate where I grew up with all my mates.

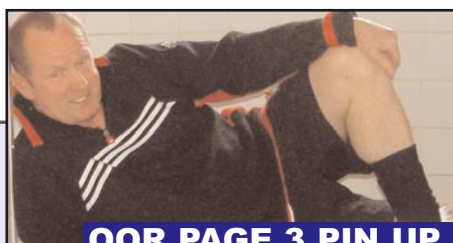
I was always playing football around the house - **I was always getting told off for knocking things over and breaking ornaments!**

I can't remember what the most expensive thing I broke was, but I know there were a lot of broken things. I was a nightmare.

## Bidge is the big 50!

Bidge, congratulations on reaching half a century on 20th September. By the time you get this message on your return from your holiday, everyone else will have read it!

We know you're a miserable old beggar, but you didn't have to go to America to avoid buying us all a cake. We're waiting.....



**OUR PAGE 3 PIN UP**

# REPRESENTATIVE FEEDBACK

## FUNDING

In order to finance the organising of tournaments and one off games, and the purchasing of new strips and equipment, we are actively seeking support from within the community in terms of donations or sponsorships. If you are aware of anyone who may be potentially interested in helping us, please let one of the coaches or Jim Black, the parent representative, know.

## TESCO VOUCHERS

Tesco Sport For Schools and Clubs  
 You may have already read in the national newspapers that Tesco have launched the new Tesco Sport for Schools and Clubs Scheme aimed at inspiring kids to become fitter and healthier. One voucher will be given for every £10 spent. We appreciate that you may have other children in different sporting clubs or at school, but simply ask for your support in collecting vouchers for First Touch to assist with the buying of equipment.

## SOCIAL NIGHT

A number of parents have been asking Jim about any plans to organise a social night, some have even come up with ideas such as a race night/disco. Jim is looking to get a few people involved in arranging a social night for early November. If you are interested or, indeed, have a suggestion please let Jim know on 07984 443 331.

## THANKS

We like to express our sincere thanks to Derek Kavanagh, a friend of Soup Campbell's grandfather, who kindly donated £75.00.

# PLAYER PROFILE

## DON GALLI SQUAD NO. 23

A new regular feature where we will profile boys from different groups throughout the season. This month we kick off with Don Galli.



<b>Name</b>	<b>Don Galli</b>
<b>Age</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>School</b>	<b>Highholm</b>
<b>Favourite Team</b>	<b>Rangers</b>
<b>Favourite Player</b>	<b>Marvin Andrews</b>
<b>Favourite TV prog.</b>	<b>Still Game</b>
<b>Favourite Food</b>	<b>Pasta</b>
<b>Favourite Joke</b>	<b>There was a wee ginger called Strachan                  In tactics he was found to be lacking                  When the fifth hit the net                  He places a wee bet                  On the Quickest time for a sacking!</b>
<b>Ambitions</b>	<b>I would love to play for Rangers                  or be a professional golfer</b>

### CAPTION COMPETITION PRIZE FOR BEST CAPTION ENTRIES TO JIM BLACK



IF YOU WISH KEEPY UPDATE TO INCLUDE ANY NEWS OR ITEMS THAT COULD BECOME A REGULAR FEATURE PLEASE PASS IT ONTO JIM BLACK  
**NEXT ISSUE WILL SPOTLIGHT THE FIRST TOUCH KICKERS**

# BIDGE

