



*We only do positive.*



**RESPECT**

The ArcOframe Stadium, Ruskin Drive Sports Village, St Helens, WA10 6RP

9<sup>th</sup> July 2025

TO: ALL PARENTS, CARERS, COACHES, ASSISTANTS

RE: **PRE-SEASON UPDATE**

Hello there

Welcome to another Pilkington FC Juniors Pre-Season Newsletter, ahead of the 2025/26 campaign.

Last season saw over 300 players register with the Junior section of Pilkington FC, and whilst we've lost three of our teams through the course of the year, we welcome three more groups of U7's children into the Club for their first season, along with two additional Girls Teams under our 'Lilies' banner.

This communication will be the first of several 'mini updates' being circulated over the course of the next few weeks, with the intention of keeping everyone updated on several key topics that affect every player and their respective families ahead of the League Season kick off in September.

Key topics covered in these messages will include information about registering players for the new season, monthly subs payments and news of the Club's New Teamwear agreement with Nike/Kitlocker.

Another key development in the coming months will be the re-election of the Junior Section Committee alongside a call for new and additional Volunteers to assist in the running of the Junior Club. The past 12 months has seen the demand on the existing volunteers grow to such an extent that we urgently need more help to keep progressing our section. More on that topic in due course.

For now however, we'll kick off the series of updates starting with the Club's Review of Player Subs for the upcoming season and more information on the Club's New Teamwear agreement.

If there are ever any questions or queries throughout the course of this pre-season, please do get in touch via the 'Contact' page on our website and we'll endeavor to deal with your enquiry in good time.

Best wishes,

Darren Roberts  
Junior Chair  
On behalf of the Pilkington FC Junior Committee

[www.pilkingtonfcjuniors.co.uk](http://www.pilkingtonfcjuniors.co.uk)



*We only do positive.*



**RESPECT**

The ArcOframe Stadium, Ruskin Drive Sports Village, St Helens, WA10 6RP

## PILKINGTON FC JUNIORS – PRE SEASON UPDATE 1

### SUBS FOR THE 2025/26 SEASON

The vast majority of the funds needed to run the Junior section of Pilkington FC are generated by player subs and by the time the current year of subs comes to an end on 31<sup>st</sup> July, the total amount collected in a single season will have reached record levels.

However, the growth in player subs over the course of the season has been more than matched by the increase in the costs of running the section and in a scheduled review of the Playing Subs, a decision was made to increase the current level to an amount required to ensure we meet our stated aims of running an annual budget into the new season that provides a small surplus (as opposed the prospect of running at a loss).

The outcome of that review by the Junior Committee has made the following recommendations:

- The current, standard Monthly Player Subs for the 2024/25 Season was £25.00 per player, payable over 12 months
- That headline rate of £25.00 has been in force for the past three seasons
- **Effective 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025, the standard, monthly subs will increase to £30.00 per player**
- 'Standard' Monthly Subs apply to all players registered to play in the Club's Main League Association – Warrington Junior Football League (WJFL)
- Teams who play in alternative League Associations may pay slightly differing levels of subs dependent on the League Fee/Referee arrangements in those Leagues
- Such Subs are deemed 'Non-Standard'
- For those Teams paying 'Non-Standard' subs, it can be assumed that any such monthly subs from the 2024/25 will rise by the same £5.00 per player per month as Standard subs
- The Club's 'Siblings' Policy will remain unchanged
- The Siblings policy reduces the monthly player subs by £5.00 for each and every player where an individual family has more than one child registered to the Junior section
- Where a single player plays for more than one Pilkington FC Junior team (Saturday & Sunday), the Club will apply a £5.00 per month discount to each amount due to each team
- However, the Siblings Rule cannot be applied IN ADDITION to the Single player/playing for more than one team concession, i.e. the maximum discount per player is £5.00 per month

In conclusion, the Committee deal with Subs Reviews in a sensitive and responsible manner. Many of the committee are parents of players themselves and we treat all subs related considerations with care.

We trust you appreciate the approach taken and hope you will continue to support the Committee in its attempts to oversee and operate our Junior Section in the diligent and respectful manner it deserves.



*We only do positive.*



**RESPECT**

The ArcOframe Stadium, Ruskin Drive Sports Village, St Helens, WA10 6RP

## **PILKINGTON FC JUNIORS – PRE SEASON UPDATE 1**

### **TEAMWEAR AGREEMENT / POLICY FOR THE 2025-26 & 2026-27 SEASONS**

The current Junior Section Teamwear agreement with Kappa started in the Summer of 2023 with a two-year arrangement supported by our Teamwear Sponsors Pilkington Automotive and Just Financial.

Back in January of this year, a small team of Junior volunteers commenced the process of reviewing our options for the renewal of that agreement for the 2025/26 season and as a result of that process, the recommendation was to sign a Club-wide agreement with Nike who work with a firm called 'Kitlocker' to provide not only the clubs home and away playing strips, but a range of Nike branded goods which will be made available to everyone via an Online Club Shop.

Designs for the Home and Away Playing Strips have been finalised in recent weeks and for the first time ever, the same manufacturer and the kit design will be shared across the Senior First Teams and all Junior section teams ensuring the majority of Pilkington FC players will represent their club in the same team kits for the 2025/26 season.

Provision of playing kits to Junior players for the coming two seasons will consist of the same policy as was adopted with the Kappa arrangement over the past two seasons:

- Each registered Junior player will be entitled to a Green Home & Blue Away/Training kit
- Team shirts have been funded by two main kit sponsors as per previous
- Shorts & socks for both kits are funded by player/parent contributions of £30.00 in total
- Such purchases mean that if a player leaves the club, the shorts and socks remain the property of the player/parent
- Playing Shirts will be handed to each player at the beginning of their season/time with the Club but will remain the property of the Club throughout the agreement

Each player will be expected to pay £30.00 during the course of July/August to ensure that when the new kits arrive before the new season, each team's kits can be released to their respective squads. Such payments will be made through the usual Subs Collector/Coach in your respective team groups.

More details of the ordering process will be forwarded to each Team Coach who will, in turn, need to organise the sizes and order numbers for their individual squads.

Should parents, players or coaches have the need for additional teamwear items, including coats, training tops, additional shorts/socks, etc, then all items will be available to order direct from the Kitlocker:Pilkington FC online store. (Home/Away Playing Strips will only be publicly available for purchase AFTER the start of the League Season to ensure a managed release of playing kits to each team during pre-season).



*We only do positive.*



**RESPECT**

The ArcOframe Stadium, Ruskin Drive Sports Village, St Helens, WA10 6RP

It is important to note that the Teamwear Agreement with Nike:Kitlocker forbids any Pilkington FC team to obtain Teamwear from any other manufacturer for the period of the agreement. Failure to adhere to that agreement may result in withdrawal of concessions that have made the price points of our playing kit what they are. In other words, breaches of this agreement may have financial consequences on the Club.

Our thanks go to the volunteers in the Junior section for the work undertaken to finalise not only the arrangements with Nike:Kitlocker, but for their work in securing sponsorship for the Junior Section teamwear which make this arrangement possible.

Further thanks go to our long-term partners at Just Financial Group who have extended their sponsorship support by a further two seasons, taking their commercial relationship with the club into a fifth and sixth term.

We also welcome new sponsors PSD to the Junior Section and again, thank them for their support that now extends from their existing arrangement around the naming of the main Ruskin Sports Football facility.

In summary then. All registered (Junior) players will receive home and away (training) kits for the coming season for a parent/player contribution of £30.00. Additional items such as outerwear, zip tops, polo shirts, etc, will be available from the Online Shop.

Finally and as ever, if teams wish to raise sponsorship to purchase such items for their individuals groups, you are entirely welcome to do so however, we must insist that any such sponsorship is approved by the Junior Section PRIOR to such purchases, to ensure we do not attract sponsors who may be rival firms to our main kit sponsors, nor do we wish to align any of our teams with sponsors who's business may not be appropriate in a Junior environment e.g. betting, alcohol, adult-themes, vaping, etc.

Kitlocker:Pilkington FC Online Store: [www.kitlocker.com/pilkingtonfc/index.php](http://www.kitlocker.com/pilkingtonfc/index.php)