

FIFE DARK BLUES – 17 months on

It has been just over a year since the Fife Dark Blues were formed, and like the majority of people connected to Dundee FC, I think that we, as a club have excelled in everything that we tried to do. We have put a lot of time & effort into projects, and in my opinion, have gained pass marks in everything.

This newsletter is just to highlight, since the inception of The Fife Dark Blues, the work, effort & commitment by members to make the club the success that it is.

August 08

The Fife Dark Blues is formed after an informal meeting at the Clansman in Leslie.

The committee is formed.

Membership reaches 41 by the end of the month.

September 08

We are donated the massive FDB flag by Neil Marshalsey. Dawn Stewart obliges by doing the stitching of the club name.

Memorabilia items were donated by members to raise funds for the Club. These were put on eBay & we raised £50

October 08

We run our first bus to an away match.

We invite members from a local U14 football team to join us on the trip, free of charge.

We are donated another 2 items to sell on eBay from tam Miller. These raise £65 for club funds.

We are given a £150 donation from a Dee fan in Canada, who wishes to help the Youth development.

November 08

The Fife Dark Blues website is created by Brian Scott.

We enter the Dee Promotions lottery, costing £104 par annum.

Members dig deep for raffle & auction lots for the Race Night, next month.

December 08

Xmas gifts of signed DFC calendars were issued to junior members.

The festive race night takes place raising in excess £1300.

Discussions are held with John Holt regarding use of donation.

January 09

A donation in excess of £750 is given towards DFC youth development, presented at half time of the Dunfermline match at Dens.

We run a full 49 seater to Parkhead for the Scottish Cup Tie.

February 09

March 09

The Fife Dark Blue logo is selected by members.

The POY trophy is purchased at a cost of £60.

We raise £70 from ticket sales for the DSA raffle.

April 09

The season falls flat on its face as we draw 3 away matches on the bounce, losing goals in the last 5 minutes in each game.

6 points dropped – season over.

May 09

The POY dinner at the Hilton Hotel, which 10 members attended, although more wanted to go. Colin McMenamin is voted our POY

The FDB's enter the DSA 5-a-side competition, and progress to the knock-out stages.

We hold our first AGM.

Dougie Horne steps down as Chairman – Colin Reid replaces him.

June, July 09

Always a bumper time, with no football to watch, but work continues behind the scenes, coming up with supporters packages that suit all.

We lose 10 members, but gain 15 new members.

The FDB predictor league is formed, raising £250

August 09

FDB's have their first multi club function, prior to the Raith Rovers match. Over 120 Dundee fans turned out.

We raise over £600 from the event

Pre-season Badges are moulded, and put on sale.

September 09

Membership tops the 60 mark.

We start advertising local businesses on the website, raising £200

We start selling FDB merchandise, raising over £650 up to December 09.

October 09

We hold our Race night raising just under £1000

November 09

We book 25 spaces for hospitality at the Dundee v Raith match in April 2010.

We fill a 49 seater to the Alba Cup Final

December 09

World Cup predictor league is advertised & sales start.

We donate £100 to the Junior Dees Xmas party.

We start the 50/50 bonus ball lottery for our members only.

Away Day Over the Tay 2 is in the planning for February.

A donation to the DSA, well in excess of last years £750 is in the offing.

On a personal note, I was the founding member of the Supporters Club, back in September 2008, and along with other committee & club members, have put in many an hour, towards the smooth running of the club of which most have been a pleasure. I am proud of what we have achieved in such a short time, and hope that we continue to be at the forefront of Dundee FC supporters clubs, for years to come.

We have a few ideas that will be on future agendas, that we hope will raise the profile of the club, even more. Exciting times lie ahead for the FDB's.

I, myself, feel that perhaps a new organiser of events, buses, etc would be good for the club. I would still be willing to advise & help out with duties, but feel that the time to step aside is coming close. I have come to a decision regarding this.

If Dundee wins promotion to the SPL at the end of this season, I will stay on in my roll of Secretary, until Saturday, 14th May 2011, unless anyone else would like to be elected for season 2010/2011. At this point, I will step down from my duties.

Should we fail to win promotion, this season, I intend to step aside as club Secretary, on Saturday, May 15th, 2010.

My reason for this is that after 2 seasons in Division 1, there is only so far that I can take this. New challenges lie ahead if we win promotion to the SPL, which I would look forward to.

What I will say is that after all the work that we have put into running the club, it would be very sad to see the club be disbanded after only 2 or 3 seasons. Should I step aside at the end of this season, I would hope that someone will take over the day to day running of the club.

This is not a statement saying that I will not return to office at a future date, but feel that I need a rest for a while, and also want to enjoy the functions that we have, as part of the audience, rather than being part of the entertainment.

May I, and the rest of the Fife Dark Blues committee, wish all our members, and all Dundee fans, a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year.

Ross Barrie

