



# Football Focus



## Your Premier Update for the Cirencester Town Football Club Junior Community – October 2025, Issue 1

### Welcome to the First Edition of Football Focus!

We are thrilled to bring you the first edition of our bi-monthly football newsletter which showcases the junior and youth football section within Cirencester Town FC. With the season now in full swing, there's excitement on and off the pitch. Dive in for match highlights, key statistics, and inspiring stories from across the junior football scene at Cirencester Town FC.

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### Club Announcements

The Club's grass pitches have been ravaged over the summer rendering them unplayable with cracks likely to swallow your hand and arm! The rain has helped but the addition of 6 tonnes of topsoil is now being used to fill the cracks and, with some more rain and a lot of grass seed and rolling it is hoped by mid November they will start to look and feel pitch perfect. Thanks to all those who have assisted so far but there is still work to do and volunteers are required. The 3/4 pitch is filled, the Academy pitch still needs some work on it but the focus will now be on the 7v7 pitch over the coming week.

### Welcome to the Teams

In this first Newsletter you will get to know teams representing Cirencester Town from u7 to u18. This season we welcome the newest members to Cirencester Town. It is the u7's. Two squads known as the Gladiators and Centurions who have started their football journey with early season games in the North Wilts league and their first football tournament below ending in **SUCCESS** for **BOTH** teams.

An incredible effort by all the coaches and players with all the players looking fantastic in their Cirencester kit and medals around their necks.



Cirencester Town FC u7 Centurions

# Cirencester U7 Centurions and Gladiators – Tournament Triumph!



## Sunday 12th October

Cirencester U7s arrived on Sunday morning full of optimism and excitement, ready to take part in their **first ever football tournament**. The stands were packed with proud supporters – coffees in hand and voices ready to cheer – as the Centurions took to the pitch.

Drawn against **Stratton Youth U7s** in the opening game, the boys burst into action with enthusiasm and determination. It was a closely fought contest, but Cirencester edged a **well-deserved 2–1 victory**, thanks to two fine finishes from **Henry Lawson** and two crucial, game-saving stops by **goalkeeper Harrison Burden**.

With confidence soaring, the Centurions carried their momentum into the second match against **Draycott Evolution**, delivering a commanding **2–0 win**. **Elliot Field** opened the scoring with a clinical strike into the bottom corner, before **Henry Lawson** doubled the lead with a perfectly placed direct free kick.

Game three came quickly against **Liden Community Tornados**, and Cirencester showed no signs of slowing down. Another strong display earned them a **2–1 win**, with Henry continuing his hot streak and **Kit Richardson** drilling home from the edge of the box.

Next up were the **Fairford Chinooks**, and this time the Centurions truly found their rhythm. In their most dominant performance of the day, they cruised to a **5–0 victory**. Both **Henry Lawson** and **Kit Richardson** bagged a brace, before **Rory Hughes** capped off a brilliant team move – the ball passed through every outfield player before Rory smashed it home.

In their final game against the **Marlborough Falcons**, tired legs began to show. Despite hitting the post and missing several chances, Cirencester were narrowly beaten **1–0**. But the result mattered little — with **12 points from five games**, the Centurions **topped their group** and took home their well-earned medals.

It was a fantastic morning of football — full of teamwork, energy, and smiles. A massive well done to all the players (and parents!) for making it a debut tournament to remember.



## Cirencester Town u7 Gladiators

It was **Cirencester Gladiators U7s** first tournament outing on **Sunday 12th May**, and we couldn't be more proud of the lads. Facing some tougher competition than in the early league games **we topped the group winning all 5 matches** and **not conceding a single goal** following some crucial saves and defensive work.

A team full of **cohesion** and **support** for one another was really rewarding to see as well as the progress the lads have made in the first couple of months threading some passes together and working together for one another when the opposition had possession - **goals** came from **Léon, Stanley** and **Deagen**, with **support** throughout the team from **Otto S, Otto W, Charlie** and **Theo** resulting in our first silverware for the team this season!

## Meet the U9's & u13's



### Cirencester Town

#### Centurions u9

Led by coaches Rob and Joe this team have started life playing 7 v 7 in the Purple league of the NWFYFL.

It took a few games for the Centurions to adjust to the transition from 5 v 5 as you would expect but they have since won two of their last three games and have a habit of not knowing when they are beaten. Long may that continue and they maintain their enjoyment of the game and continue to develop their skillset.



Paul and Dom are the coaches of the u9 Gladiators who play in the Green league of the NWFYFL.

They have had a good start to their 25/26 season winning two and losing one. Players of the month were Harley Lavender and Rex Fellows.

#### The U13's coached by Stephen Ollie and managed by Mark Wilavoy

The u13's have had a turbulent start to the season underpinned by some solid performances. 2-0 up in the cup with 10 mins to play, the weather against us and sadly the ref (with a lot of persuasion by the opposition team coach) and the game was called off!!! Two losses ensued in the cup but we turned that around with an opening league win. The boys showed real grit against a rather unpleasant opposition! The next game was a thriller 4-1 up but sadly we lost some composure in the last 20 to lose 5-6.

A really encouraging start to the season with great attitude being shown at training and the game.

Coach—Stephen Ollie



#### Cirencester Town u9 Gladiators

## Cirencester Town u11's all smiles!



Under the management and coaching of **Richard Poulton**, **Simon Carter** and **Dave Gibbons** these boys are improving year on year. Playing in the U11 Development Blue league they have been showcasing their skills against the best in their age group. Be sure not to miss them in the next edition in their new kit.



## Cirencester Town u12's Nwyfl Team say Thank You to D&J Sports for their kit sponsorship



Cirencester Town u12 would like to thank **Mark Savage** owner of **D&J Sports** in Cirencester for his generosity in sponsoring the u12's for this and next season with a Home and Away strip.

U12's seen sporting their training and Away kit at the Talent Hire Corinium Stadium.

The u12's have had a tough start to the 2025/26 league season having lost 5 players since the end of last season but have regrouped and are enjoying playing football with a positive intent supporting each other. Playing in the Nwyfl Division 3 with three lads playing up a year in age they are competing with the top teams in the league which have all been our opposition to date. Player of the month for September was **Jack Lywood**. **Well done Jack**.

Manager /Coach **Tony Wood** (back row left), **Paul Greener** (Coach and Matchday Manager) 2nd Back Row . **Mark Savage** Owner and Sponsor from D&J Sports (Far Right).



## Cirencester Town u12 JPL

The u12's JPL team bounced back brilliantly after a disappointing result in the first fixture of the season. A strong South Glos team used their strength and determination well to come out on top in early September.

However, since that match the young Centurions are unbeaten and have been improving each week with particular successes demonstrated with clean sheets and wins against North Somerset and Mid Somerset.

New additions this season are the tough tackling Lito De La Fuente and wizardry Louis Endicott. Unfortunately Louis has suffered an elbow injury which rules him out for some time. We wish him well in his recovery.

The boys have done brilliantly considering the energy required in transitioning to secondary school and playing JPL football. They are all superstars.

Coaches Lee, Terry and Owen continue to be impressed with the development, character and attitude shown at training and in matches from these talented local lads. Our continued thanks go to the parents for their help and support this season.

Without doubt, our biggest thanks goes to our Sponsors Beswick Stone—Cirencester for our match kits and Graeme Little & Samsung for our Veo!

Thank you all



Onwards we go

### Cirencester Town FC u12

Junior Premier  
League (JPL)  
Team 25/26

season



## Welcome to our u14 Saturday and Sunday teams



### Cirencester Town FC U14 Gladiators

This team are  
playing on a  
Sunday in the  
Cheltenham  
Youth League

#### U14 team in the Severn Valley league

Led by the first team manager Jonah with his trusty assistant coaches, Cirencester Town have 2 u14 teams playing on a Saturday and a Sunday but in different leagues.

On Saturday's the u14's play in the Severn Valley League. They've had a great start to the season winning 5 games, losing 1 and have progressed to the next round of the cup.

A mixture of the Sunday team and other players who wanted to join the Club but due to the full quota in the Sunday side it has been possible for them to play on a Saturday.

Playing 11 a side has been a real eye opener after playing on the smaller 3/4 pitches but the players have adapted well.

Their best performance to date was going away to top of the league Tetbury Town and winning 5-0.

Saturday's **player of the month** was **Caden Juste**.

**Fantastic performance guys. Keep it up...**

#### U14 team in the Cheltenham Youth League

Cirencester Town Gladiators u14's play on a Sunday in the Cheltenham Youth League. The manager says they "joined the Cheltenham League to try new teams and pitches etc. It has been great so far although results haven't always shown that, we are finding the league very physical and it's taken us a few weeks to figure out how to deal with it"....

A couple of losses at the start of the season to teams who are looking like the strongest in the league and as Jonah said:

**"we didn't know that at the time so had a little panic".....**

We have followed that up with a couple of really good wins including a county cup away win at Winchcombe who are currently 2nd in the league.

Sunday's team **player of the month** was **Henry Lock**

**Well done and great to see the Cirencester Town FC name in the Cheltenham Youth League which is a strong league.**



## This month our Ciren Spotlight is shining on the Manager/coaches in the u9 section

Dom, Paul, Rob and Joe are four dads who share a passion for football. They've all lived in the Cirencester area for the past decade but originally hail from Berkshire, Yorkshire, Staffordshire and Lincolnshire respectively.

Their paths first crossed when their then pre-school son's started "Kickabout" football sessions at the Arena. Fast forward 18 months and the four dads were all keen for their lads to join a football team. But there were no free spaces at their local teams, so a couple of year's ago they bit the bullet and set up their own team—what was then Cirencester Town u7's.

It was just their four sons and a couple of other lads at the first training session, but this quickly snowballed as word got out and before they knew it, the playing squad was in double figures.

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But the team had become a victim of its own success. The boy's game time was dwindling due to a bloated squad and the format was 5 a side so the one team became two. Centurions U8's and Gladiators U8's were born ahead of the 24/25 season.

Now, in their second season as separate entities, the two U9 teams now playing 7 aside are made up of 20 children from across ten different primary schools.



While the coaches footballing allegiances Sunderland (Dom), Chelsea (Paul), Wolves (Rob) and Grimsby Town (Joe) are far from joined up, their ethos and aims for both Centurions and Gladiators are aligned.

Both teams are encouraged to play the right way—passing out from the back while keeping the ball on the deck as much as possible.

Aside from playing style, equal weight is given to playing in the right spirit of the game. We want our player's to be competitive and to challenge themselves, which is why we teach them humility, to win and lose with grace.

Our three overriding goals are for the players to grow a love for football, make new friends and ultimately have fun whatever the result come full-time on a Sunday.



## Young Centurions bow out of FA Youth Cup after valiant effort



Cirencester Town U18's FA Youth Cup run came to an end at the hands of Tiverton Town u18's at the Corinium Stadium.

Cirencester with Manager Si (pictured centre).

It was a battling performance by the Centurions who had only lost once prior to this fixture. The visitors were strong in attack and a penalty, a couple of set plays and some good finishing by the Tiverton forward line gave them the win.

Well done to the U18's for a good cup run.

### Date for the Diary

### The Food Hut is back Open!!



### Sunday 2 November 2025 from 9:30 through to lunchtime

5 Cirencester Town Junior Teams playing at Home from 9:30 onwards..... U7 Gladiators, U9 Gladiators, U9 Centurions, U12 Youth (Wood) and U13 Youth (Wilavoys)

Jonah (First Team Manager) will be manning the food hut doing drinks and food. Volunteers required to assist him please. Speak to your age group coach for those teams playing if you can assist for an hour or so.

The next edition of **Football Focus** will be out in December. Please provide the editor with news of your team's highs and lows so we can keep the junior and youth football section of Cirencester Town up to date. If you have not been featured please get in touch and join the manager's Whatsapp group. Details from the Ed.

Editor Antony Wood