

Boldmere St. Michaels Walking Football Club

a.k.a. The Walking Mikes



*“Welcome to BSM WFC a.k.a. The Walking Mikes. We are a (family) members club and belong to Boldmere St Michaels Football Club and affiliated to the Football Association (The FA). The Walking Football section (men’s teams and separate ladies’ teams) has many members, and it is our aim to make you welcome, help you settle in and enjoy this wonderful sport we all love to play, regardless of age, ability and gender. We have published this welcome letter to help you understand who we are, what we do and how it all works. The facilities here at BSM are fantastic. We are so lucky to have a thriving walking football section and so our aim is to help you settle in – and like me – I thought I would give it a go and then have a think whether I want to get back into football – and have never left. And now look – I have just been voted in as the new Chairman.” **Steve Morris***



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Managing Committee

We run the club through a Managing Committee (Man Co). These are volunteer members who give up their time to ensure the Walking Football section runs as smooth, professional yet friendly as we can. Man Co look after the Finances, Training sessions, League Teams, Tournaments and Social Events plus the occasional Walking Football trip abroad.

Steve Morris Chairman m: 07970 722836 e: stevegmorris@icloud.com or walkingmikesfc@gmail.com

Tony Waldron Secretary m: 07783 695896 e: tonywald@hotmail.com or walkingmikesfc@gmail.com

Chris Chapman Treasurer m: 07720 546007 e: christopherchapman@hotmail.co.uk

Communications with members is via a number of Whats App Groups – make sure you get your name down in order not to miss out on vital messages and of course the banter.

“There is always a great atmosphere at the Club both on and off the pitch”. I always look forwards to Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays” **Tony Waldron, Walking Footballer & Guinness Zero Drinker**



Regular Training Sessions

Currently, we run 3 main men's walking football training sessions per week: Mondays @ 1.00pm until 2.00pm, Wednesdays @ 7.30pm until 8.30pm and Fridays 4.25pm until 5.25pm. Ages range from 48 – 73 currently with mixed abilities.

Ladies WFC train separately on a Wednesday, also at 7.30pm until 8.30pm

There are changing room and shower facilities and then most of us head to the Clubhouse Bar for a well earned drink and chat. For new players the first 2 training sessions are **free** to allow you to see how you get on.

Thereafter it is £5.00 per session unless you become a BSM WFC member and fully paid up member of the 50/50 Club – see below for more details. The money for each session is used to cover the costs of the football pitch hire from BSM FC.

The Serious Stuff

Constitution: We have a Club Constitution and will provide you a copy on request. This sets out how we operate, including the rules of walking football, behaviours expected of members and visitors alongside the purpose of our existence: *“To promote the physical and mental wellbeing of local people, regardless of age, ability and gender”*

Walking Football Rules:

1.No running 2.Ball must remain below head height 3.No tackling from behind

Football Boots:

There is a BSM FC club rule that football boots must be moulded studs to allow play on the Artificial Grass pitch. No trainers, no blades. This is strictly enforced for the benefit of the pitch and the players.

Registration:

We will need to register you with BSM Football Club / FA Portal and so you will be asked for information and data to enable us to do this. Normally: NAME, ADDRESS, DOB, MOBILE, EMAIL, ANY DECLARED HEALTH CONDITIONS, EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO

League Teams

For the more competitive members, BSM WFC compete in the Birmingham Walking Football League (BCWFL) on Sundays and Wednesdays throughout the main football season. This is voluntary and certainly not mandatory. We currently have three teams, Over 55s, Over 60s and Over 65s. We also have a fledgling O50s Team that we are recruiting for, for next season.

BSM FC and the FA require us to register you if you are playing in any League or Cup game representing BSM WFC and BSM FC require a £30 annual fee to cover BSM membership. This entitles you to represent BSM WFC plus you get various additional benefits such as discounted drinks behind the bar.

*"I love playing walking football at BSM WFC. It keeps me fit, gets me out of the house and the people are great fun to be with" **Steve Pace, West Brom supporter and all-round nice guy***



Tournaments & Events

At BSM WFC we run two main intra-club tournaments a year. The **Family FA Cup Tournament** (FA Cup Final Day before the main FA Cup game) + **Absent Friends** (held as a pre-season friendly Tournament with other clubs across the Region). In addition, we run regular social events including curry nights, live bands and we have access to Main Club events which are always popular.

Fees and Finances

Like any (football) club we have expenses to pay (pitch hire, balls, bibs) and so we need to bring income in to run the club efficiently and effectively. We publish our Income and Expenditure statement in line with FA Rules & Procedures and publish all records at the AGM.

Membership of BSM WFC is optional and costs £1.00 per annum. This allows you voting rights at the AGM.

We have 2 sources of regular income: Training Fees (Subs) and the 50/50 Club (weekly draw)

Training Fees

We charge £5.00 per walking football session. This is the charge if you are a non-member. Therefore, if you are a non-member and play Wednesday and Friday in the same week then you will pay a total of £10 - £5.00 for each session. (First two sessions are free)

However, if you are a BSM WFC member, have paid your £1.00 annual subscription + you are a member of the 50/50 Club with at least 1 ball number (see below re 50/50 Club) you will only be charged £5.00 per week, regardless of how many sessions you attend.

50/50 Club

This is a random weekly draw, held every Wednesday after the training session. You can purchase one, two or more ball numbers (see Treasurer for remaining numbers left to pick) at a cost of £1 per ball number (or £52 per annum per ball).

I have 4 numbers 😊 and a chance of winning the First Prize of £20 and/or the Second Prize of £15 per week and/or the Third Prize of £10 each week.

The reason it is called the 50/50 Club is that we pay out roughly 50% of the total income received in cash prizes and BSM WFC retain the other 50% to go towards our fixed and variable costs. It's a bit of fun, and a way of earning BSM WFC some revenue whilst allowing members a chance to win a guaranteed pay out every week.



*"As I mentioned at the beginning, we are a sociable walking football club that love to play walking football in our ageing years. This helps promote the physical and mental wellbeing of local people of all ages, abilities and genders. I hope you enjoy your time here at BSM FC as much as I do" **Steve Morris, Chairman BSM WFC***