



## North Camp Football Club Chairman's Report 2021

**DATE:** 02/06/2021 | **TIME:** 07:30  
**LOCATION:** The Swan, Farnborough, GU14 6TL

Thank-you all for coming and hope you're cracking into your Guinness's (UTNC). As I'm sure you're all aware we're here for North Camp FC's first (under new management) Annual General Meeting. Since we took over back in May 2020 we've always been adamant that this is your club and decisions taken that affect the club and yourselves should be taken by the players (with supervision unless Kingy would have us playing in Green & White hoops) so with the AGM, this is your opportunity to voice your thoughts and help direct the club as we move into Division 3 (UTNC) and beyond.

I'm sure we can all agree, we couldn't have possibly envisaged the circumstances that have unfolded over the past year, with the unprecedented effect this virus outbreak would have on all of our lives. As with many walks of life, the football season of 2019-2020 was brought to a very abrupt end back in March 2020. From the pinnacle of premiership football to grass root level, no football training or games; hell. And the with the conclusion of the 2019/20 season, James and Simon decided to step down and born from that decision was the new North Camp FC (UTNC).

Without football for what seemed like an eternity, it gave us plenty of time to grapple with the new policies, administration and guidance being thrown at us by the FA. Over this period the club managed to establish an online presence through [northcampfc.co.uk](http://northcampfc.co.uk), created the new crest (UTNC), submitted all the countless forms and admin for the (hopefully) upcoming season, Gurney had spent at least 72 hours on hold to the bank, and managed to obtain two sponsorship deals to give us fit and fighting chances as we moved into the unknown.

Fast forward to sometime in the summer where we could all, finally, meet and ping a ball around; Pre-Season was upon us. After a VERY successful recruitment drive (UTNC) new faces (and red shorts) abound. And as we progressed through pre-season, we were blown away by the quality on show and the commitment by you all, new and legacy players.

As we moved into our first friendlies with effectively an entire new squad, there was great excitement and anticipation. There were many debates about players, formations and starting XI's – it was a headache but what a headache to have. Impressively we navigated pre-season un-defeated (UTNC), a tremendous feat for a bunch of lads that until recently, had never kicked a ball together. Nearly as impressive as Ed's gains, you might say.

6<sup>th</sup> of September 2020. A day when history was made. North Camp stepped onto the pitch for their first game of the season. A belter of a performance as we came away with a 6-3 win, vs Southwood Royals (UTNC). And we didn't stop there, North Camp continued to progress

through the league, seeing off Rectory Road, Sandhurst (Dan will show you the video of the penalty if you ask), Southwood Royals again, we were unstoppable. And then we lost three on the trot, conceded two cup runs and succumbed to Morley Road, but we wont dwell... maybe the second lockdown came at the right time as after a month off we replayed the elation of the return of football again with a quick game before Christmas v Bowenhurst. We came away with a 5-3 win before we moved into the Boris Johnson COVID dystopia of Tiers. Merry Christmas.

But it was to be another long break as we didn't play our next game until 11<sup>th</sup> April. But boy it was good to back and did we come back with a bang or what. Pickey got pervey and as the results started to pour in on the 4<sup>th</sup> April, the rumour was spreading that we could get promotion (UTNC). The long break had shaken off the pre-Christmas defeats and we progressed to smash 18 goals in 3 games (UTNC), turning over AFC Raiders, Farnborough Athletic and Phoenix (rumour has it Gurney spent the night in the toilet). That was it. North Camp, in their first season as we are now, re-invented and looking fresh in new kits, had secured promotion into Division 3 (UTNC). With the league polished off, the only thing left was some silverware.

After some weird, but highly exciting re-formatting by the league (safe to say the league sec is off Barnett's Christmas card list after removing an assist), North Camp had their eyes set on a cup final. Three-games stud in our way. And we started where we picked up, brushing aside Farnborough, Bowenhurst and Sandhurst, putting away another 15 goals in three games, we'd confirmed our place in the final (UTNC). Now we wait for the league to confirm the date of the cup final at Farnborough FC's ground vs the local youth club.

North Camp finish the league with 7 wins, 0 draws, 1 loss, 39 goals scored, averaging 4.8 goals per game, 18 conceded, 21 points and in second place. The Chorley Crespo taking the league top-goal scorer on 20 goals, the Assist King Barnett on 11 assists, topping the table, and Kingy being pipped to the post, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Yellow Card leader board. What a season and what a year.

And on that note, some thanks. I would like to express my gratitude to Gurney and Pikey for the continued hard work behind the scenes to make sure we're eligible to play, have some where to play and can pay the ref. And a thank-you also to Dan, although no-longer managing, for all your work during the first half of the season and securing one of the sponsorship deals. A huge cheers to Bobby for his commitment, cracking shots and full-time crossbar entertainment and Ben for the full-time Guinness, keeping us all topped up as the pubs were closed.

[Even though they're not here} I would like to thank Knight Security for the initial sponsorship and of course, Dom for his support as we began the season and his continued help throughout. I'm sure I don't have to remind you all that Dom's very kindly putting some money behind the bar at the end of the seasons awards (UNTC). Also, a big thanks to James and Simon for answering all of our questions at the start of the season to ensure that we had everything in-place ready for the start of the season. And last but not least, a massive thank-you to all of you for what has been a bloody unbelievable season and here's to another belter next year. (and of course, a special shout out to Ed for carrying the team, rest those shoulders for next season).

God bless the North Camp.