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## **HISTORY OF THE LEAGUE**

Peter Houseman played for Chelsea in their "Golden Years" of the late '60's and early '70's. He moved to Oakley in 1967 and soon became involved in coaching local boys in the art of football. Obviously, as Peter was a 'star', word soon got around and Peter found his group getting larger and larger. From this he thought that these players should be formed into teams and set about encouraging other people to join in. Soon after, Peter and other members of the community formed The Basingstoke and District Boys Sunday League.

They played their first league games on 9th February 1969 with six teams making up the league. The original six were Oakley, South Ham, Wellington, Buckskin, Rotherwick and Worting. Today the league has grown to over 50 clubs and well over 200 teams ranging from under 7 to under 16. Whilst it may not be the largest of leagues, it has always tried to remain as Peter intended in that it gives boys and girls a chance to play football in an organised fashion.

In the early days Peter was aided by his wife Sally and the two of them would often be seen going to football matches with a car full of lads. Peter was elected Secretary of the League but later stepped down due to FA rules, and was inaugurated as the first league President. Sally volunteered to take up the post and served as Secretary for 3 seasons. She had to retire owing to the fact that their own family had arrived and demanded more of her time, but she kept in touch as Vice President.

In March 1977 they were both tragically killed along with friends in a motor accident. They left behind 3 young children, many friends, and the legacy of this League. In memorial to Peter, his name was added to the League in 1977, and the playing fields at Oakley were also dedicated to him.

Recent years have seen a number of significant changes such as the introduction of Divisional Secretaries, in 1993 at the Annual General Meeting a new rule book was adopted and since then various changes have been made to the League's administration and the expansion of the Executive Committee and League Council, which have been necessary for the development of the League. Also at the same Annual General Meeting the league changed its name again to its current title of the 'PETER HOUSEMAN YOUTH LEAGUE'.

The League became the first affiliated League in the County to introduce small sided football for under 9's and under 10's in 1997-98. In the following season 1998-99, this was extended to include under 7's and under 8's, this same season also saw the introduction of mixed football within the small sided competition. In 1998-99 we saw the introduction of girls football into the League.

### **CHILD WELFARE IN FOOTBALL**

Our focus is on safeguarding the welfare of all young people who participate in the Peter Houseman Youth League, and protecting them from physical, sexual, or emotional harm, and from neglect or bullying.

Serious causes for concern are fortunately comparatively rare, and should be reported to the Hampshire County F.A. for further investigation. There is however equal concern for incidents which affect the conditions under which youth football is played, particularly those which are considered poor practice. These range from conflict between opposing teams' parents, spectator incursion onto the pitch, and general threatening behaviour towards players, officials, and supporters.

Such incidents have become too common, and every club needs to work towards their elimination, to ensure that the children in their charge are provided with a safe environment in which to play. Clubs are held responsible for the behaviour of their managers, coaching staff, players, parents, and spectators (and may incur considerable fines for neglect of this duty), and are expected to engender responsible behaviour by way of education and example.

A mandatory requirement under F.A. rules is the appointment of an officer (Child Welfare Officer) by each club, and these persons have an important role in the implementation of the spirit of child welfare. They are trained to a high standard, and act as a first point of contact for anyone having concern in such matters. Names and contact details of club CWOs are now published in this handbook

For help or further details, contact PHYL Child Welfare Officer, Dave Watton, on 01256 422368 or [cwo@phyl.co.uk](mailto:cwo@phyl.co.uk)

### **F.A. RESPECT PROGRAMME**

Following from the **Child Welfare in Football** detailed above, the Peter Houseman Youth League, and all of our member clubs, are committed to the F.A. RESPECT programme, which has been developed to eliminate poor practice at all levels within our sport of football.

We expect ALL participants of the League to vigorously support the programme, and trust, in turn, that ALL will benefit by its adoption.

**LEAGUE DIARY & KEY DATES**

August	08	Management Committee Meeting
	20	Minimum number of players must be registered
	24	Secretaries & Managers Meeting including Mini-Soccer
September	04	Eleven-A-Side and Mini-Soccer Non-Competitive Development Leagues commence
	05	Hampshire Schools Autumn Term commences
	11	Mini-Soccer Non-Competitive (U7 and U8) Leagues commence
	12	Management Committee Meeting
	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R1
October	04	PHYL League Cups ~ R1
	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R2
	10	Management Committee Meeting
	23	Hampshire Schools Autumn Half Term
	30	
November	01	Mini-Soccer Leagues Non-Competitive Trophy Events commence
	14	Management Committee Meeting
	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R3
	tba	PHYL League Cups ~ R2
December	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R4
	tba	PHYL League Cups ~ R3
	12	Management Committee Meeting
	18	Christmas & New Year Break – no League fixtures
08		
01		
January	01	Commencement TRANSFERS
	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R5
	09	Management Committee Meeting
	17	PHYL League Cup Semi-Finals U/12, U/14, U/16
	31	Last day to complete TRANSFERS
	31	Deadline for Proposed Rule Alterations (to League Secretary)
	01	Deadline for League Trophies to be Returned to League Secretary
February	07	PHYL League Cup Semi-Finals U/13, U/15
	13	Management Committee Meeting
	tba	Hampshire County Cup ~ R6
	19	Hampshire Schools Half Term
	26	
March	13	Management Committee Meeting
	tba	Hampshire County Cup Finals
	tba	PHYL League Cup Finals
	26	BST commences
	31	Last Day to Register Players for Season 2016-2017
April	09	Hampshire Schools Easter Holiday
	23	
	30	May Bank Holiday
May	10	Management Committee Meeting
	30	Deadline for Nominations for League Officers & Management Committee
	01	Deadline for AGM Proposals under Any Other Business
	tba	Adam Clark Memorial (U15s) & Hawkfield Challenge (U14s) Trophies
	08	Management Committee Meeting
	09	Last Day of Playing Season
15	Deadline for Submission of League Applications for Playing Season 2017-2018	

# PETER HOUSEMAN YOUTH LEAGUE – HANDBOOK 2016 - 2017

## League Diary & Key Dates (cont'd)

June	11	Presentation Day
	14	AGM

### **Notes**

B & B Cups                      Dates vary for differing age groups and rounds, Check PHYL website for details.