Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all staying safe during this difficult time.

As a club we were hugely disappointed that grassroots football was mandated to cease all matches and training activity for the duration of the current lockdown. There has been a lot of effort from coaches, volunteers and parents to keep our club safe for the players involved and yet despite this, we have been forced to pause all activity.

As you will all be aware, the club offers the opportunity to pay fees in instalments and the second of these instalments is due to be paid by the end of November. The committee have discussed this situation as it is difficult for us to ask for further payment when we know that some of our families are facing reduced wages due to furlough or have been made redundant. We are also acutely aware that many of you paid in full last season which was unfortunately cut short due to Coronavirus and that you are now missing out on matches and training for a further four weeks this season.

However, the club has to pay the largest of it outgoings for the pitches and training facilities in early January and therefore we are not in a position to defer the second payment.

The committee would therefore instead like to offer a discount on the third and final payment which will be due in January-21. This will be a reduction of £25 for Juniors and £10 for Tots, meaning the last instalment will be £30 and £25 respectively. This discount will be offered to all parents and carers who have their fee payments up to date by the end of November 20.

If you have already paid in full for the season, the committee would like to offer you the equivalent refund and you will shortly receive an e-mail with details on how to claim this back through a bank transfer.

Please if you are unable to get your fees paid up to date by the end of November, do talk to a committee member or coach so we can come to some arrangement with you.

It is with regret that any player who is not up to date with payments (or who has not come to an alternative arrangement with the club) will see their membership expire at the end of November and therefore will not be covered on our insurance. The coaches therefore will have no choice but to prevent players from attending training or playing matches until this situation is resolved.

It is our intention to resume our activities as soon as the lockdown is lifted, and we sincerely hope this will be in early December at the end of the current four-week restriction imposed by the Prime Minister on 5th November 20. Whilst league matches will not resume until 10th January 2021, the council have indicated that they will be ready to open facilities, so we are expecting 3G and grass pitches to be available for training as soon as the lockdown ends.

We hope that the offer of reduced fees this season will be of some help and that you understand why we need to ask you to pay the second instalment in November despite the pause in activity.

If you have any further questions or require more information, contact us on the e-mail below.

Regards

The Committee

Middleton Park FC