



CENTRAL AJAX

TEAM TALK

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It has been an exciting but difficult season for Central Ajax with many of our teams winning awards and gaining promotion. Most of us however will remember the rain, rain and more rain. We had a record level of rainfall for over 120 years and we have played more games away from Ajax Park than at home. We have got plans for a series of improvements over the next few seasons but all the improvements we can do would not have prevented a lot of games being postponed this season.

The Clubhouse is now being built at last and we aim to have it completed by the Autumn if we can raise the rest of the money needed. See the attachments to see how you can help.

Players, dads and mums regularly ask me what professional clubs are looking for in a young player and it is the same thing our managers are looking for. Liverpool's academy have four banners flying in their indoor training centre, Attitude, Balance, Speed and Technique. Balance and technique can be taught by good coaches and practised by players. The more you practise the better you will be. Speed is in the genes, you can help a quick player get quicker and a slower player a little quicker but you can't make a slow player be very quick. Attitude is about listening to the coaches and practising on your own and with the team, never think you can do it all. Even the best players train every day. I hope your attitude is right if you want to enjoy your football with Ajax.

UNDER 7's & 8's

Poor weather has meant that we have had only a few friendly matches and training has had to be cancelled on several occasions. Numbers are well down on previous years, hence we have kept the two age groups together. The standards are as high as ever and a bright future is anticipated for this squad.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - BENJAMIN LEE This player has been with us for nearly 2 years and all the coaches have commented on his rapid development; he is still currently within the U7 age group but is strong and has considerable ability

TEAM PLAYER - ASHLEY BRADBROOK - Another popular team player and a pleasure to coach; he is fast, very skilful, and has an excellent goal scoring ability

PLAYERS' PLAYER - CONNOR BETTS - a regular goal scorer for the under 8's; he rarely misses training, and is one of the most enthusiastic players in the squad

Under 9's Colts

A very successful first season in league football, with the Colts winning both the League and the Cup. All the players in the squad have worked hard and their enthusiasm and commitment has shone through.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - DANIEL RIST - If he could this player would play football 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. His skill and confidence have improved considerably and he has done extremely well for the team playing up front and in goal.

TEAM PLAYER - MATTHEW ACKRILL - Another enthusiastic and committed player. He is a valuable member of the squad and doesn't complain about which position he plays or even occasionally when he is sub.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - MATTHEW GRIFFIN - A very popular player with his team mates, he has been rock solid in defence for the Colts this season. The manager and coaches feel this award is well deserved for all the commitment he has shown

Under 9's Juniors

These players have come together this season, and played league football for the first time. Despite overwhelming problems at times they have won 50% of their games, and are now starting to gel together as one unit. I am proud of what they have achieved and well done to all.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - PHILIP McCORQUODALE - This young man battles every week, whether in training or playing a match. He has improved considerably over the season, and has earned this award for determination to win

TEAM PLAYER - J.J JOHNSON - A player who turns up week in and week out, who never criticises his team mates, or other players. Enjoys the game immensely, and this his first season has never had a penalty put past him

PLAYERS' PLAYER - BRADLEY ROBERTS - Goes to a young man, who deserves this tribute from his fellow players. He is a player who gives his all on the pitch, and is well liked by everyone on and off the field

Under 10's Colts

Another superb season for the Colts, a cup quarter final place, a cup semi-final and finishing 5th in Division one of a tough league. This shows all the hard work these boys have put into the season

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER – THOMAS HARRIS - This player's confidence and ability this season has made him shine amongst his fellow teammates

TEAM PLAYER – MATTHEW COMPTON - This player's position is not always his favourite one but he shows his commitment to his team by rising to the challenge each week

PLAYERS' PLAYER – MARC PASSEY - This player's performance in front of goal has been outstanding and has been noticed and appreciated by the rest of the squad.

Under 10's Juniors

A very mixed season regarding the results in the league, the boys have improved in their skills in many ways giving 100% to each game they have played and not always getting the result they deserve, although still making it a very enjoyable season.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER – LAURENCE STERN - This has been a difficult one to choose with all players improving throughout the season but we have a set of twins and this one has made himself a good solid defensive player.

TEAM PLAYER - MATTHEW READER - This player is a very keen team player who has fought hard to win his place in the squad and is always willing to stand and support his team if not picked to start.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - JAKE DODD - This lad has progressed 100% this season both in confidence and in his game and because of this the rest of the team are confident knowing he's the last line of defence.

Under 10's Rangers

A fantastic start for this newly formed team, with many of the boys never playing football together before the start of the season. Finishing 4th in their division shows all the hard work and commitment they have put in during the season.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - RUSSELL PARTRIDGE - This player's dedication to improving his skills have been outstanding all season. He encourages the rest of the team in a very sporting manner in every game he plays making him a very popular member of the squad.

SPORTSMAN - DANIEL BUCKINGHAM - This player has enjoyed his position in the team and always tries his best. His positive attitude towards the game makes him a very valuable member of the team.

PLAYERS' PLAYER – LUKE SLATER - This player's season with the Rangers has been a good one. He has been with Central Ajax for 3 years now and has always worked hard for his team in whatever position he has played. Enjoying a very good season in front of goal has made him a popular choice for this year's Players Player.

Under 11's Colts

This season has been a learning experience as the team has had to adapt to 11-a-side football. Adapt they did and very quickly and, in division 1 of the a tough league, will end up mid table.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - CHARLES LUMLEY - This boy felt he was undeserving of a place in the Colts side at the beginning of the season. His hard work has now made him a major asset to the side and has earned him the respect of all his team mates.

TEAM PLAYER - SAM MORGAN - This award goes to a boy who has had his problems this year but has never let the team down either at training or matches. In addition he is the team's top scorer and averages a goal a game.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - IAN CHERRY - This award could relate to the last 4 years not just this season where this player is concerned. Week after week this very talented boy gives everything he has and his contribution is always of the highest class.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - LIAM MEADE - This year's winner has been with the club longer than any other boy in the side. Year after year he has been a major factor in the team's success which has now been recognised by his teammates.

Under 11's Juniors

An amalgamation of two teams formed the Juniors but they quickly knitted together to form a formidable team. There are few star performers but a team of stars. They have gained promotion by finishing second and beat a 1st division team to reach the semi-finals of the cup

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - ALEX UNIT - For the first half of the season, this player struggled with his form and never seemed happy playing in his "anchor" role at the back. But he knuckled down and finished the season in blistering form, contributing to what has been a very robust defence.

TEAM PLAYER - JACK ALLISON - This player was a new member to Ajax this year. He missed most of the first half of the season through illness, but when he recovered he made a very big impact and added a new dimension to the right side of the team. With hard work and determination, he has become a great team player.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - JACOB DIRIENZO - Although there were many consistent players this season, the majority of the votes went to the same two players as for Players' player. The winner of this award is the Team Captain.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - AARON O'TOOLE - As said, two players received the majority of the votes in this category, both are strong left sided players. By the time all the votes were in one of them ran away clear winner. The winner is also the highest scorer this season.

Under 12's Juniors

Once again the Juniors have done credit to their Club. They have finished second in their league gaining promotion to Division 1 having lost only two games all season. Sportsmanship and a good attitude, coupled with much improved footballing skills and great support from parents formed the basis of their success this season.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - TOM GOUGH - A veteran of the team, the confidence and ability of this player have improved beyond recognition and he thoroughly deserves the title of Most Improved Player.

TEAM PLAYER - DAVID LAWRENCE Although plagued with injury and illness this season, this player has battled back to once again give 100% effort to the team. Voted by his team mates and their parents for the third year running.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - ALEX BURRELL - A new comer to the side this season, this player's speed and determination in every game that he has played have been the scourge of many an opponent.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - JAMES SMALLEY - Solid as a rock probably best describes this player. He inspires confidence in his fellow players by a tower of strength in defence and it is no surprise that his team mates have overwhelmingly voted for him this year. The Players Player award goes to.

Under 12's Colts

The Colts finished as runners-up in both the league and league cup, losing narrowly to Stratford in the final. They have kept up the high standard they set themselves last season. Well Done

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - STEPHEN ASPINALL . The whole team has improved greatly throughout the season , but one lad has improved by 200%. He is exciting to watch , uses his speed wisely & scored a few crackers. In training he works very hard to improve his ball skills.

TEAM PLAYER - JOE OWEN - This player came 2nd in the players player award and is shy and quietly spoken but lets his feet and his wide range of ball skills do the talking. He is very talented, finishing the season in brilliant form

MOST CONSISTANT PLAYER - LUKE STREETER - This player has fitness & no fear and this is coupled with a never-say-die attitude. He has performed to a very high standard. He is a quiet & polite young man who lives to enjoy life.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - ADAM KNIGHT

A very quiet young man who has scored many vital goals, & won't quite believe he has won this award. This is the one award all players cherish more than any other. Well done, you are very well thought of by your team mates.

Under 13's Juniors

Disappointing league position after improving the two previous seasons but an incredible cup run, winning the league cup in impressive style against the league champions. When it failed to rain we played some nice football but going weeks without games has not helped the kids this year.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - DAVID SHIELDS - I think everybody concerned with this team knows this result as his game has improved so much. More known for his defensive and passing qualities he scored his first ever goal, in a semi-final, which took him three attempts. Well done

TEAM PLAYER - LUKE COAD - This award goes to a lad who never complains whether its a bad tackle against him or a wrong decision, he just gets on with his football, he also is a pleasure to coach. Well done.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - MARK WARDZYNSKI - This lad was in the running for all the trophies. He is a pleasure to coach a joy to watch and he has a very good attitude for the game. This season he has performed to a high standard. Never lets me down. Well

done.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - JAMES LOCKYER - Its been a long time coming, runner up a couple of years running he has finally got his just reward. A natural leader, well respected, always gives everything. Very well done.

Under 13's Colts

Relegated from division 1 last season this year proved to be just as difficult. Able to compete with most teams in the league on the day but over the whole season we just lacked the concentration & determination to win. With the drop to division 3 looming it is time for a change. The team will be moving into the Mid-Warwickshire League next season with the current manager handing over the team to Jamie Morris

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - ADAM FINCHAM - This player has been played up front, midfield & defence in the hope of finding a position that suites his style of play. Not always happy with the manager's views & certainly not happy with most referee's decisions.

TEAM PLAYER - CHRIS HUGHES The quietest player in the team but one that always gives 100%. An excellent defender & key member of the team.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - DAVID AYMES - The award goes to a player who has played in every game & has impressed throughout the season. The late move into midfield has given him the freedom to perform, a deserved winner.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - DAVID AYMES - The players were unanimous in their choice, the natural leader of the team & this years outstanding player,

Under 14's

The team were promoted into Division One for this season and worked hard to keep their place

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - DANNY SHAW - This player came into the team this season and worked hard at training. He eventually got into the team and got better every match.

TEAM PLAYER - TOM EDMUNDS - He supported the team from the start of the season to the end, trained hard and played hard. He was team captain.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - CRAIG CHAMP - Not only the most consistent but also one of the busiest players this season, this player being the goalkeeper and the team having been promoted. A great lad to have in the team as he doesn't drop his head no matter what the score

PLAYERS' PLAYER - JOHN DIFFER - This player works hard attacking and defending for the team as a midfielder. He has stunning pace and is respected by all the players

Under 15's

Through out the season we have always been in contention, however with so many games to get played in the last few weeks and having several players missing for various reasons we managed to finish third.

While writing this my final team talk report it has brought back many fond memories i have had in my eight years at Central Ajax, and I would just like to thank all the lads and their parents for all their support throughout the seasons. Best wishes to everyone concerned with the club - Clive Waite

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER- BEN HALSTEAD -SMYTH - Worked hard on his game this year, good work rate. Biggest improvement has been his tackling which has made him a very solid player in defence.

TEAM PLAYER - TIM RAINBOW Couldn't go to a nicer lad, in fact he gets criticised for being too nice. Never complains when things aren't going his way and a pleasure to have in the squad.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - SUNNY MATHURA - First year at Ajax for this player, worked hard for the team, nothing flash about him just does the simple things but does them well.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - LUKE HALL - Very popular character amongst the lads likes a joke and a laugh but is totally 110% committed when playing and a very worthy winner of this award.

Under 16's

At the beginning of the season The u16's were in danger of folding. Having just managed to get enough players they have had a reasonable season. They reached the semi's of the supplementary cup and finished in a good league position. All the team have played well and have rarely played a bad game. Well done to all the team.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER- ELLIOTT BENTON - His all round game has improved as well as his tackling, ball distribution, defence and attacking ability. This has made him an excellent choice for most improved player.

TEAM PLAYER - MATT SABATOWSKI - In his first season for Ajax, this player has shown that he is willing to learn and also become a team player. He's always enthusiastic and has worked hard for the rest of the team.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - NICK GRANT He has played well for the season as well as in previous seasons. He is quick-thinking, has good ball control, and he is a brave player.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - SIMON WILSON - This award is well deserved. This player has not only won the respect of the other players, but has also been a popular choice with parents. He has given 100% effort in every game and has improved in all areas his game.

Youth Team

The team is likely to finish fourth in league this season, disrupted of course by the weather. Results at the end of the season have been much improved. Highlight was reaching the final of the league cup and unfortunately losing to a last minute goal.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - ALISTAIR LIGHTBODY - What do managers know about football? This player was ignored by his manager at the start of the season, but when he got his chance he went from strength to strength and is now an established member of the team.

TEAM PLAYER - TOM PETT - This award could apply to all of the team, as manager I have received praise from all the teams and officials within our league. It is a privilege to be associated with these players, but one player must be noted for his laid back approach to the game together with a cultured left foot.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - BEN WHITE - This year's most consistent player has shown a cool head when under pressure, together with a wonderful ability on the ball. A player that his manager is confident will play at a much higher level.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - ROB MORLEY - To have your fellow team mates recognise your ability is a highly valued prize. This year's players' player is worth his team mates' praise., he is a player of great ability and if Central Ajax start to have players contracts we should get his signature now.

Senior Saturday Team

From a very mixed first half of the season the team has gone from strength to strength losing only one game in the last ten. With a bid for promotion this year the team is looking forward to playing in a higher division.

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - MATT GITTINS

A player who throughout the season has become a very strong and effective member of the team. As one of the youngest players he has battled through into the men's game and will be an excellent player in the future.

TEAM PLAYER - NEAL PEGLER

This player, without doubt, is recognised as an all round team player. His devotion and commitment, even returning from honeymoon to play, is an excellent example to every player.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - LEE PAINTER

A very strong player who does not accept under achievement and is often frustrated with his own performance. This view is not reflected by others who consider that his presence is always a threat to the opposition.

PLAYERS' PLAYER - CHRIS KNIGHT

An extremely reliable player who always gives everything to the team, which is shown by the players choice. This player has, and always will, give his all to Central Ajax, and has become a key member of the team.

Senior Sunday Team

After a good start to the 2001 season the team were top of the table up to Christmas. With the rain and the stop/start season they lost a few players and struggled in the second half, finishing in lower half of the division

MOST IMPROVED PLAYER - DARREN YEOMANS

A goal a game this season, but through work commitments could only play relatively few games. Moved from midfield to centre forward during the season for which the team were better off.

TEAM PLAYER - SI DIXON

Mr Reliable, this player never let the team down. As the team struggled for players he even played when injured.

MOST CONSISTENT PLAYER - SIMON SHIRLEY

This player led by example all season and has consistently played an important role for the team. The team Captain.

PLAYERS PLAYER - LEE KELLY.

This player has led by example all season he is a committed player and well worth this award.

Club Player of the Year Roy Dirienzo Memorial Trophy

ADAM HALFORD - This player has been with the club over nine years and played for some very successful Ajax sides. He has usually been one of the unsung heroes in the side and in the past one of the smallest. He makes up with this with a tigerish attitude to the game. He is Ajax through and through as demonstrated at the start of the year when he was the only member of last year's Youth side who stayed on to play this year.

Other players on this year's shortlist include: Chris Knight (Saturday Adults), Danny Ireland (U16's), Stuart Johns (U14's), Gavin Bastock (Youth).

Most Improved Team Don Hemmingway Trophy

WINNER - JIM CLARK - Under 11's Juniors - This team was formed from two teams who fought hard last year to finish mid-table. With the manager hoping for a top half finish they began the season with a good cup run, knocking a 1st division side out and being the only 2nd division side in the quarter finals. They finished the season with a great run that saw them beat a previously unbeaten side 5-1, finishing 2nd in the league and gaining promotion. **Other teams** considered - U12's Juniors, U12's Colts, U13's Juniors.

Honorary Vice-President's Award

MALCOLM GITTINS - This man has been a stalwart of the club for over 9 years. He is a qualified F.A. coach coaching two teams in his time with the club. I can remember him as almost an ever present at the grounds when they were still young and needed a lot of work. He does turn his hand to almost anything from mowing to fixing stanchions to goals. He served as Vice Chairman until ill health forced him to step down but he still has the energy to serve as Physio for the Saturday side having to cope with multiple fractures and dislocated kneecaps. A worthy recipient of this award.

Secretary's Cup

WINNER - TONY LAWRENCE

This person works tirelessly for the club and his team. Always volunteering when he's asked and even when he hasn't been. He manages a side, sits on the Social and Fund-raising Committee, mans our 6-a-sides results post and has volunteered to Chair the SAFRC next year.

Parent of the Year

WINNER - GWENT HELLIKER

This person has been the right-hand person for their team manager for many years. She works hard to raise funds for the team and club, is very active on the SAFRC, always turns up for fund-raising events to organise and help. She is efficient and does a lot for the club without making a fuss. **Shortlist** - Cheryl Neale, Derek Crabtree, Mick and Lorraine Goor

Honorary Vice-Presidents

Lyn Butler
Pete Butler
Alan Buckland
Mike Elliot
Pete Sidwell

and now Malcolm Gittins