

WE ARE THE CLAPTON ALWAYS ANTIFASCIST

CLAPTON CFC VS EC SOMA 3.00^{PM} AUGUST 14, 2021 AT THE STRAY DOG Middlesex County Football League Premier Division

WELCOME TO THE MEN'S FIRST TEAM'S FIRST competitive game on the Stray Dog since a magical day in the sun 826 days ago.

1266 people watched us clinch the title against FC Roast in May 2019, the last completed campaign before Covid ended two season early.

Our friendly performances have been increasingly impressive, ending with the 5-2 defeat at FC United of Manchester, but today's opponents are an unknown quantity.

Both our first teams will be starting the season in Walthamstow still as we work flat out on renovating the Old Spotted Dog Ground ahead of first games there in January 2022.

IT'S GOING TO BE A HECTIC SEASON. COME ON YOU TONS!

CLUB NEWS



FC SOMA

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY FOOTBALL LEAGUE Premier Division season begins today with the visit of one of four promoted sides.

We lost Hilltop and London Samurai Rovers to promotion but the division is back up to 16 teams with FC Soma, AVA, Wilberforce Wanderers and AEK London being moved up.

The CCFC men's first team have been putting in some increasingly impressive performances in pre-season, unbeaten except for two away games at Barking and FC United of Manchester, 3 and 4 levels higher.

Geoff Ocran's squad from last season has been kept intact, with two extra names added.

Former Brighton & Hove Albion Academy and Whitehawk youth striker Fred Taylor, 27, has joined after impressing in a trial.

Meanwhile young winger Troy Cleghorn steps up from the development team, where he was named most improved player of the season last year.

Today's opponents FC Soma are a youth and mens football club based in the London borough of Camden.

They have been promoted this summer after lying top after six games in the MCFL Division One Central & East – the same division we won in 2018/19.

FC Soma joined the league in 2019/20, meaning they've had their only two seasons abandoned, and this will be only their 18th league game in their history due to the pandemic.

For this season they're on the move. Their home ground is no longer Chase Lodge Playing Fields (Tottenham Hotspur's former training ground) and instead they'll be based at a new 3G development at Bannister Sports Ground in Harrow.

This summer they appointed Mansor Omar as their new manager at the young age of 28 and beat AVA – another promoted side – 2-0 in a friendly.



Play wet or fine, and always play the game

NEW HOME KITS

We asked Clapton CFC members to design and then vote on our new home shirt and they didn't disappoint.

At the last CCFC General Meeting, a proposal was passed to retire our original home shirt we've had since 2018 and pick a new design to celebrate the return of football to the Old Spotted Dog.

Following the astounding, unpredictable success of our away shirt, designed and voted by members in 2018, we went back to the membership to design a new home strip.

We had a very specific brief for the outfield shirt that honoured the iconic home colours Clapton first wore in 1890.

After reviewing over 50 designs, a panel made up of members from the merch, women's first team, men's first team and Tons history committees, drew up a shortlist, which was put to the members for a vote.

We're very pleased to unveil our new home outfield shirt, designed by Maurizio, and the new home goalkeeper shirt is designed by Ed.

Rage Sport will once again produce the kits, which will hopefully be ready in time for the teams to wear running out at the Old Spotted Dog, due January 2022.

Members decided that home and away kits will stay the same for at least three seasons each. So the away shirt will remain as it is and is still on sale.

FOODBANK COLLECTIONS

A reminder that at first team home games we collect for Magpie Project's foodbank for mums and kids in temporary accommodation in Newham. At the moment they particularly need toothpaste, children's toothbrushes, and bars of soap.

GEOFF OCRAN MEN'S TEAM HEAD COACH



I COULDN'T THINK OF A BETTER WAY to prep for the start of the league campaign than a trip to Manchester to play FC United.

What a day for the club and both the men's and women's teams. A day no one will ever forget connected to the club so thanks to everyone who made it happen behind the scenes and all those who travelled to support us. In terms of prep for the new season, I think it's been our best pre-season to date.

I've always reiterated that pre-season is about performance and fitness levels as opposed to results, however the players can take heart that we have only lost to higher league opposition this campaign.

With many of last season's squad

returning, we were only really looking at adding a few players to freshen things up and we have done that in Fred Taylor, Troy Cleghorn and Arthur Wright.

Noah and Josh Adejokun, Samba Badjana and Fama Sangare have also looked really sharp so far and it's great to see them develop as players since last season.

Today we welcome FC Soma to the Stray Dog for our season opener and I've always stressed that our home form needs to be impeccable for us to push for the title.

They are a bit of an unknown quantity but we have a good record on the Stray Dog and we are confident that will continue today and the following two home games after.

#Welcomeback #Coyt #Claptonfamily

PLAYER PROFILE: STEFAN KILRON

FULL NAME: Stefan Kilron PLACE OF BIRTH: Edmonton, London BIRTHDATE: 09.02.90 HEIGHT: 6ft 1in WHERE YOU LIVE: Stratford DAY JOB: Administration PREVIOUS CLUBS: Bari FC ALL TIME FAVOURITE PLAYER: Thierry Henry FAVOURITE TEAM, APART FROM

CLAPTON CFC: West Ham BIGGEST HIGH IN FOOTBALL:

Having the chance to play football in Spain and Germany

LOWEST POINT IN FOOTBALL:

Not playing football for three seasons with a back injury.

LIKES AND HOBBIES: Like going out for meals and going cinema and theatre. If I'm not playing football then I'll be in the gym working out. DISLIKES: Tottenham Fans FAVOURITE COUNTRY VISITED: Malta

FAVOURITE FOOD: Oxtail with rice with some coleslaw and plantain. FAVOURITE FILM: Look Who Talking, Ray and Inception FAVOURITE TV: Suits, How To Get Away With Murder and Friends

FOOTBALLING AMBITION:

To help Clapton back on the map PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO MEET: Jose Mourinho



CLAPTON CFC

GOALKEEPERS

DANIEL ANFOSSY JACK FRANCIS

DEFENDERS

DEAN BOUHO ARSHAD COOWAR JUSTIN CUMMINS STEFAN KILRON MUSA MANNEH ALBY MILLER TAFARI NICHOLAS JORDAN ODOFIN FAMA SANGARE LIAM SMYTH

MIDFIELDER

CEMAL AGDELEN JULIAN AUSTIN SAMBA BADJANA ELIOT CROSBIE SHAM DARR CHARLIE FAGAN PRINCE KWAKYE GEOFF OCRAN PAUL OSHIN LOUIS RENE ARTHUR WRIGHT

FORWARD

JOSHUA ADEJOKUN NOAH ADEJOKUN REECE BARTHOLOMEW TROY CLEGHORN LEWIS OWIREDU BOGDAN PANESCU SHERWIN STANLEY JAKE STEVENS FRED TAYLOR AARON YFEKO

FC SOMA

Sufi Ali • Mohammed Alkarssifi
Abdulkarim Aweis • Desmond Bangura
Osman Barkat • Dawood Chaer
Bradley Curran • Daniel De abreu
Elijah Grunberg • Bradley Hopkins
Louis Keane • Anton Mattison
• Yacob Mohamed • Balla Ngom
Hassan Nunow • Simon Sarpong Siriboe
Simon Sebhat • Taylan Siseci
Omar Sufi • Said Tahir • Sami Tahir
• Sam Thornton • Ricky Williams
• Michael Yeboah-Spooner

Referee E Mckenzie Assistants R Jacobs and M Byfield-D'sane

CLUB COVID-19 PRECAUTIONS

- Please do not attend if you are ill or have symptoms of Covid-19, or have been told to isolate by NHS Test and Trace
- Free lateral flow tests are available from gov.uk/ordercoronavirus-rapid-lateral-flowtests if you wish to take a test before the game
- If you're travelling by public transport, a reminder that face masks are still compulsory unless exempt
- You can just turn up to watch the

game and donate on the gate but we will still sell advance tickets to reduce cash handling

- There's hand sanitiser at the entrance and a QR code for those checking in on the app
- Please follow the signs around the site and instructions from matchday volunteers
- Spread out around the ground as much as you can
- You are encouraged to wear face masks indoors, such as when visiting the bar or toilets

UPCOMING FIXTURES

MEN'S FIRST TEAM

| DATE | TIME | COMP | OPPONENTS/VENUE | | |
|------------|------|------|-------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 21/08/2021 | 3pm | MCFL | (H) CB Hounslow United Res – The Stray Dog | | |
| 28/08/2021 | 3pm | MCFL | (H) Pitshanger Dynamo – The Stray Dog | | |
| 04/09/2021 | 3pm | MCFL | (A) AVA (at Kingsbury School) | | |
| 11/09/2021 | 3pm | MCFL | (A) Larkspur Rovers (at Lord Halsbury Playing Fields) | | |
| 18/09/2021 | 3pm | MCFL | (A) Cricklewood Wanderers (at Wembley FC) | | |
| | | | | | |

WOMEN'S FIRST TEAM

| IF /09 /0001 0pm Friendly Clepham United Llashney Marsh | DAIE | TIME | COMP | OPPONENTS/VENUE |
|---------------------------------------------------------|------------|------|----------|---------------------------------|
| 15/06/2021 3pm Friendly Clapham United – Hackney Marsi | 15/08/2021 | 3pm | Friendly | Clapham United – Hackney Marshe |

MEN'S DEVELOPMENT TEAM DATE TIME COMP OPPONENTS/VENUE

| 15/08/2021 10.30am | Friendly | Mabley Mavericks – Hackney Marshes |
|--------------------|----------|---------------------------------------------|
| 22/08/2021 10.30am | Friendly | Parsloe Athletic Reserves – Hackney Marshes |
| 29/08/2021 10.30am | Friendly | South London Sharks – Hackney Marshes |

WOMEN'S DEVELOPMENT TEAM date time comp opponents/venue

15/08/2021 1.30pm Friendly TBC

WOMEN'S FLEXI/BEGINNERS XI DATE TIME COMP OPPONENTS/VENUE

29/08/2021 1.30pm Flexi Lg Whippets FC – Jack Carter Centre, Ilford

For our **5s team** and the **CCFCCC** cricket team fixtures, see the club website.