



Mumbles Rangers 2019-20 Overview of Club



Mumbles Ranger: FAW COMET Data @ 22nd May 2020

Total of 564 players registered: 145 female, 419 males

Number of Players	Under 6 to Under 11	Under 12 to Under 15	Under 18	Under 19	Adults	Total
Female:	85	44	-	-	16	145
Male:	170	144	51	8	46	419
Totals	255	188	51	8	62	564

Total of 36 teams split as follow:

Age Group/Team	Number of Male Teams	Number of Female Teams	Total
Under 6	1		1
Under 7	1	1	2
Under 8	3	1	4
Under 9	3	1	4
Under 10	3	1	4
Under 11	3	1	4
Under 12	2	1	3
Under 13	2	1	3
Under 14	2	1	3
Under 15	1		1
Under 16	3		3
Youth	1		1
Seniors	2	1	3
Totals	27	9	36



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Affiliated to the West Wales Football Association
Affiliated to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Wales

Playing in the following leagues

West Wales Women and Girls League
Swansea Senior Football League
Swansea Junior Football League
West Wales Youth League
West Wales Premier League (from 2020-21 season)

Mumbles Rangers was founded in the 1949-50 Season by Billy Johns BEM.
Please see book 'One Man's Dream' the story of Mumbles Rangers.

Mumbles Rangers is one of the largest football clubs in Wales and the UK and provide the community of Oystermouth, Mumbles, Newton, West Cross, Norton and Mayals the opportunity to play football.

The vast majority of players reside in these areas with a small percentage living in Sketty, Dunvant, Murton and Bishopston.

We are a FAW Platinum Accredited Club (FAW highest standard)

In Season 2019-20 we have grown to 36 teams and 564 players registered with the FAW

We play on 2 mini football pitches and 3 full size football pitches on a council owned recreation ground/playing fields at Underhill Park, Newton Road, Mumbles, Swansea, SA3 4SW.

The pitches we play on have deteriorated in quality over the last decade because of major cutbacks in local authority expenditure. There has been a lack of maintenance on pitches and the park is susceptible to flooding which has an adverse effect on the quality of football that can be played on the surface.

Our player changing room facility is in a building erected in 1950 with prefabricated materials and in dire need of replacement to secure the future well-being of our future generations. In the words of an FAW official 'Mumbles is the largest football club in Wales with the worst facilities in Wales'. Because of the high demand upon the facility most of our junior teams currently change pitchside. It hosts just a single changing room and does not have the capability to allow players, parents, coaches a community experience or to meet or hold any form of meeting in a team building environment. Any team meetings or any club function-need to take place in external hired facilities. As a club comprising 564 players plus parents, grandparents and a Vice Presidents section of 200 ex-players, the club has upwards of 2,000 individuals with direct connection to the club. In this day and age, we should have and deserve fit for purpose facilities.

Currently players at the age of 5 and over join the club in September at the start of the season. Each year the club finds approximately 50 boys and girls sign up for training to start their football journey with the club. We have a junior coaching coordinator that organises the junior section teams aged 5 to 16.



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Currently we have 95 male coaches and 9 female coaches each with the mandatory Football Leaders Award and a mandatory First Aid certificate. Additionally, we have 6 club committee members and approximately 7 helpers. All have to have a mandatory DBS check and registered with the FAW.

All coaches in the club have to undergo mandatory Football Association of Wales (FAW) training and must hold a Football Leaders Award and a First Aid Certificate. The FAW Football Leaders Award is an eight-hour practical day following on from five online modules, the course costs £85 and is valid for 3 years.

The FAW First Aid Course is a three-hour course developing an awareness of first aid techniques within a football environment, supporting key basic life support information for coaches and additional post-course electronic course resource(s) provided, the course costs £40 and is valid for 3 years.

Other courses that coaches have attended include Goalkeeping: A six-hour practical course following on from your 5 Online Modules, providing a basic introduction to the Organisation and delivery of goalkeeper specific activities for our next generation of players, the course costs £95 and is valid for 3 years.

Safeguarding, a three-hour interactive on-course workshop to support candidates in developing good practice when working with children and vulnerable adults from across our sport and Disability, all of which are required for the club accreditation, the course costs £40 and is valid for 3 years.

Coaching Footballers with a disability Award, a six-hour practical course following on from 5 Online Modules, providing coaches with an insight into adapting coaching sessions for disabled footballers in a fun and safe environment. Additionally, we have 10 coaches that have acquired their FAW C badge (£315) and 3 coaches who have the FAW B Badge (£500).

All courses are subject to CPD (Continuing Professional Development) to maintain status and ability to coach.

All teams within the club are responsible for raising their own funds and are run as self-contained entities. Money is raised through player subscriptions and this amounts to approximately £130 to £150 per player per season, although coaches have the authority to reduce or waive these fees for any disadvantaged families. The fees cover Club membership, FAW insurance, Training, Pitch Permit Costs, referee costs and other miscellaneous items such as footballs, bibs and training equipment. The amount is set by the team at the start of the season and is usually paid in 2 equal instalments in October and in January. At the end of each season each team has to submit a summary account to Mumbles Rangers club treasurer which is consolidated into the clubs end of year annual account which is audited.

Training takes place at various locations throughout Swansea depending on availability of all-weather venues, which are difficult to find. All venues are outdoors, indoor facilities are usually fully booked, which in the winter can mean training in cold and wet weather. Playing kit is sourced through each teams' efforts in finding a kit sponsor or raising funds.

All matches that the club play in are organised by the respective leagues in which they play or by the West Wales FA for West Wales Cup matches.

The club is invoiced by the respective leagues for all pitch permit fees accrued during the month by each team. The club treasurer then makes payment to the leagues on the teams' behalf and subsequently invoices them to reimburse the main club.



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As Mumbles Rangers play on a council owned recreation ground all matches that are played there are outside the control of the league i.e. friendlies, Boys and Girls Club of Wales Federation Cup matches; the team/club book pitches directly with the City and County of Swansea (CCS). Periodically the CCS invoice the club for payment and the club pay the invoice and invoice the respective teams for payment.

Any player fines are paid by the club on receipt of an invoice from the West Wales Football Association. The club is responsible for payment but will invoice the individual player for repayment.

Matches are played on Saturdays and Sundays from September to the end of April although at the start and end of each season there are a number of midweek matches in September and early October and again in late March and April. Teams can be of mixed gender up to and including U14s, but as the club now has girls' teams at all ages, the girls and boys now play in separate teams. The success and popularity of the club in providing football for all has resulted in the exponential growth of the club over recent years and this season with 564 players, 145 female and 419 males registered with the FAW, Football Association of Wales.

With 3 full size pitches and 2 mini football pitches in Underhill Park, these are fully utilised on a Saturday and Sunday morning when most matches are played. The timeline for matches in Underhill Park over a weekend is as follows;

On a Saturday, Underhill is teaming with football matches;

At 10:30am the two mini pitches are used by age groups Under 10 or Under 11, they alternate by month, home and away. Swansea Junior Football League Round Robin matches are played against 3 other teams. With three Mumbles Rangers teams in age group 10 and 11 the other two teams are playing away. On the other 3 football pitches there are Swansea Junior Football League matches covering age groups Under 12, Under 13 and Under 14. At 12.30pm Swansea Senior Football League Corinthian section matches at U15, U16 are being played along with a Swansea Senior Football League senior reserve team match. At 2.30pm the clubs first team play on the main pitch but there are sometimes U15 and U16 matches on the other two pitches. The remaining teams in the club are playing away fixtures at various locations in and around Swansea.

The number of matches means that the current changing facilities in Underhill Park cannot cope and many teams arrive already changed as there is no available changing area. Not good especially in mid-winter when players, are soaked, caked in mud and probably freezing,

On a Sunday morning Underhill is again teaming with football matches;

At 10:30am the two mini pitches are used by age groups Under 8 or Under 9, they alternate by month, home and away. The other teams in the club are playing away fixtures at various locations in and around Swansea.

The club's girls section also play West Wales Women and Girls League matches on the main pitches with matches at 11.30am for the under 12, under 13, under 14 and under 16 teams. The girls have a separate small changing room that can only accommodate a single team at time.

At 2.30pm the clubs youth team play on the main pitch.

On a Sunday morning in Underhill Park from 10.00am until midday the under 6 and under 7 players, boys and girls go through fun training routines, learn the basics of football, ball control, movement and passing, finishing the morning off with short mini matches. These starter age groups enable the club to identify future coaches, parents who are able and willing to become involved in their child's football development and who are keen to take an active part in running a team and there starts their coaching journey with the club.



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The ethos of the club is to 'make every player the best they can be' and to provide football for all in our community. The club places a great value on fun and enjoyment for all players. We are not a club that looks to play the best team possible at Junior football level, rather focusing on the individual abilities of players. To develop players to become well rounded individuals who enjoy playing team sports.

Our girls' section has made rapid progress in the last three years and the standard of girls' football in the club grows, together with numbers and enthusiasm of the players.

The success of the club has been largely due to the focus of the management committee in ensuring that the club can compete at the highest level with the highest standards. All members of the management committee are unpaid volunteers who have an overwhelming desire to ensure that the club can continue to develop and flourish and provide opportunity for all.

There is a strong family spirit within the club and many parents and grandparents once played for the club so the ties are strong.

Annually, the club holds a presentation day event in June which serves as a celebration for all the club's teams and reflect on the season just passing. Families of all players converge at the Mumbles Cricket Club and unite to enjoy the day.

The club also hosts an annual two-day footballing festival and invites teams from the surrounding areas of Swansea and from other parts of South, West and North Wales. Over the festival weekend some 52 teams attend Underhill Park to take part in this celebration of football, with members of the local community attending to enjoy the footballing spectacle.

A highlight in the club calendar is the annual invitation it receives from Genoa Cricket and Football Club (Italian Serie A) for the under 14 team to compete in the James Spensley International Tournament in September of each year. We have been travelling to Genoa to compete since 2007. A great experience for the players to play in Italy and many friendships are made.

The club hold recruitment coaching sessions to engage youngsters in football and the club. Over the past two years we have held free girl's recruitment coaching sessions from ages 8 to 12 to engage with and join the club. We have been chosen as an FAW Huddle club for 2020. Huddle aims to introduce girls aged between five and 12 to football in a fun, relaxed, sociable and friendly way to ensure they have a positive first experience of football. Huddle is delivered by clubs and partners across Wales who want to grow the number of girls playing football in their local area.

The club has held three McDonalds Fun Football Days over the past eight years, with McDonald football ambassadors for Wales; Ian Rush, Paul Walsh and Ryan Giggs respectively engaging in fun coaching with ages 5 to 16 in Underhill Park.

In August 2019 football coach Miguel Mateo spent a week coaching Mumbles Rangers players and coaches in Underhill Park in a summer camp organised through Fran Bessone (ex-Swansea City FC player), LEARNING SOCCER ACADEMY, S.L. B25821026, C/Aubach, 17, 2on 3a, Alcarràs – 25180, LLEIDA, Spain. There were 11 teams from Mumbles Rangers teams participated.

Looking to the future the club are entering the senior team into a new West Wales Premier League that will commence in season 2020-21 providing the opportunity in the future for Welsh League Football. We are making major improvements to the pitch this summer costing in excess of £20,000.

Mike Podbielski
Club Secretary

26/05/2020



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Club Accreditation Criteria – Mumbles Rangers – Platinum Award

A mandatory requirement for junior football in Wales is the FAW Accreditation Award. Clubs are not allowed to compete or affiliate with a league until they reach the FAW Standard Award. The levels of the awards above the Standard Award are Bronze, Silver, Gold and a new Platinum Award. Mumbles Rangers achieved Platinum Award Status this season.

The requirements for the Platinum Award:

OFF PITCH

CLUB MANAGEMENT

Affiliate to the appropriate FAW Area Association via membership of the respective local junior league.

Club committee structure including as a minimum Chair person, Secretary, Treasurer & Safeguarding Officer

Detail what does your club want to achieve over the next 12 months?

WORKFORCE

Appoint Chair Person, Secretary, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer (no more than 2 roles per person)

Appointed Club Safeguarding Officer must attend an FAW Safeguarding Award.

Adhere to FAW Trust volunteer recruitment and management guidelines

Ensure all persons with access to children display the FAW Safeguarding Card or COMET ID at all appropriate times.

Appoint ONE nominated Club Volunteer Coordinator within your club

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

All people involved within the club adhere to the working practices and procedures of the

- FAW Safeguarding Policy and Welfare regulations

- FAW Code of Conduct and Good Practice

DBS

Ensure all persons who have access to children participate in the FAW national DBS programme.

INSURANCE

Ensure all coaches are protected through either club or individual indemnity insurance if coaches aren't registered on the COMET system.

Club Accreditation Criteria – Mumbles Rangers – Platinum Award

ON PITCH

EQUIPMENT & FACILITIES

Use appropriate and safe facilities for games and coaching sessions.

Ensure all portable goalposts are used in accordance with the GOALPOST SAFETY guidelines issued by the FAW and risk assessment and goalpost safety form is completed and stored appropriately by clubs

CLUB WORKFORCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Minimum ONE qualified coach (minimum Football Leaders Award) per mini football team (u6 - u11)



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Minimum ONE qualified 1st Aid person per team (FAW 1st Aid Award or approved equivalent)

Minimum ONE qualified coach (minimum FLA) and FAW 1st aider is present during all matches/training

Ensure qualified coach: players ratio is 1 coach for every 16 players

Minimum TWO qualified coach (minimum Football Leaders Award) per junior football team (u12 - u16)

Minimum ONE qualified GK Award per club

Minimum of ONE FAW C Certificate coach for every THREE mini and junior teams within the club

ONE Nominated Club Coaching Coordinator (minimum B Licence qualified)

CLUB PROVISION & DEVELOPMENT

Adopt an equal playing opportunities policy for all registered players, regardless of gender, ability or ethnicity.

The club runs:

MINIMUM 3 teams (different age groups) at MINI FOOTBALL

MINIMUM 3 teams (different age groups) at JUNIOR FOOTBALL

1 YOUTH team AND 1 ADULT team OR 2 ADULT teams (can be direct link to another club)

Community activities - does the club run at least THREE FAW approved Community activities.

Mumbles Rangers was founded in 1950 by Billy Johns and his story is one of great courage, of strength and of passion. Although Billy died in 1962 at the age of 33 his inspiration lives on.

Billy Johns health in the early years of his life deteriorated rapidly. The physical struggles diminished his energies to such an extent that by a very early age he was losing his mobility, and soon afterwards he found himself permanently confined to a wheelchair. For the remainder of his life he was to be virtually totally paralysed. Despite his disability he was an inspiration to others. Billy had many friends, and Billy had a dream, he decided that rather than be led he would make, for him, the monumental effort to lead. His aims were clear, enjoyment for his friends, "his boys" through sporting and other activities and develop a friendship that knew no barriers. Billy's dream was of a club where he could gather around him hard working and committed officials who could nurture and foster its members, and together they could create something that was very "special."

Seventy years on there can be little doubt that Billy Johns' dream is very much alive. Billy's hopes and aspirations for the members of his club live on in the current players and officials and friends of the Mumbles Rangers of today. In spite of the fact that the majority of the present members of the club never had the privilege of knowing Billy Johns, all recognise the privilege of belonging to his club. The massive influence that he had upon all who came in contact with him all those years ago exists still to this day. It is an influence that all who have ever been associated with Mumbles Rangers will have experienced. If he had lived to witness the strength of the club today, his pride would have known no bounds. In the 1961 New Years Honours list Billy Johns was awarded the British Empire Medal.

Take a stroll through the woodland alongside Underhill Park and you will find a memorial erected to Billy Johns. The **'Spirit of Billy Johns'**



***"So here's to one called Billy Johns,
Who oft made friends of strangers.
So raise your glasses one and all,
To Billy's Mumbles Rangers."***