



# **WELCOME TO THE OVER 35S TEAM**

CLAPTON CFC OFFICIALLY HAS a new team after the Men's Over 35s were affiliated to the club following a vote at the AGM.

The Men's Over 35s team formed in the summer of 2024 with a view to giving club members the chance to train regularly and play 11-a-side matches.

They have played several friendlies so far, against the likes of Camden & Islington United, Ryan FC, Dulwich Hamlet Supporters and St Pauli on Sea, with several more planned for the coming months.

However, the team needed to

be an officially integrated part of the club in order to join a league, something they can now do.

Presenting the proposal to integrate the over 35s at the AGM on Wednesday, February 12, Marek Marczynski made it clear that there no cost implications for the club because the team is and will continue to financially self-sustaining, despite operating on a pay-what-you-can-afford basis.

What's more, it would not burden existing committees and volunteers with any extra work as many Men's Over 35s players have joined existing club committees. Centreback <u>Archie Mboto</u>, for example, is the new CCFC club treasurer. There are around <u>70 players connected</u> to the team, around <u>20 of which</u> are new members of the club.

There are plans to establish a similar Women's Over 35s team with many players in this age group already attending CCFC's Open Access training on Saturdays. A mixed side will be entering a tournament soon.

The AGM motion was carried with no votes against and one abstention.

The Men's Over 35s train weekly on Wednesdays at Chobham Academy (E20). If you want to get involved, email mensover35s@claptoncfc.co.uk.

The team plans to join a league, such as the Essex Veterans League, Southern Amateur Veterans League or Hackney & Leyton Football League, for the 2025/2026 season. Home venue TBC.

They have a big friendly coming up, as the team welcomes international visitors <u>CD Parque</u> <u>Verde from Leganes in Spain on Saturday, March 15, 10:30am, Barn Elms, SW13 9SA.</u>



### RIP MARTIN SILVER

It is with deep sadness the club has learnt of Martin Silver's death aged 90.

Martin attended Stratford Grammar – a goal kick away from the Old Spotted Dog Ground – and first came to games at the OSD just after World War 2.

More than most he understood the importance of standing against fascism

- he witnessed The Battle
of Cable Street. He then
served in the army in Malaya
and later trained as a
pharmacist, retiring in 2000.

In 2018 he was both a founding and life member of Clapton CFC.

Martin never let his age get in his way. He had only just celebrated his 64th wedding anniversary in Tenerife with his beloved wife Estelle.

# GEOFF OCRAN MEN'S TEAM MANAGER

SATURDAY'S DEFEAT TO TOOTING Bec was the polar opposite from the Bridon Ropes game the week before and unfortunately that can happen in football.

After such a great performance, our preference would have been to start the same team and formation, but injuries and availability prevented this so we had to make several changes.

I have to give credit to Tooting Bec for imposing their game plan and making it difficult for us to play through the lines, not to mention punishing all our errors effectively. It was just another example that you can't really afford any off days in this league.

Onto tonight versus Meridian VP now, which is the biggest game of the season given there's a place in the Division One Cup final on the line.

They have arguably saved their best performances for this cup run, beating some top teams to reach the semi-final, and they will feel they can get a result after two narrow 1-0 defeats in our previous meetings.

For us it's a great chance to reach another cup final and also to get the defeat from Saturday out of the system. A win tonight can propel us into one final play-off push to give ourselves a fighting chance.

> #LeagueCup #OSD #Semifinal #WeGoAgain #ClaptonFamily

"TONIGHT IS THE RIGGEST GAME OF THE SEASON GIVEN THERE'S A PLACE IN THE DIVISION ONE CUP FINAL ON THE LINE" 

# MEMBER PROFILE: RIC RISCARDO



PLACE OF BIRTH: Hackney WHERE YOU LIVE: Utopia DAY JOB: Skivvy **FAVOURITE PAST AND** CURRENT CLAPTON CFC PLAYERS: Elliot, Fred, Maria, Teju **FAVOURITE OTHER** TEAM: The only one in South London FOOTBALL AMBITION:

To not have an agenda point in a GOC meeting **BIGGEST HIGH IN FOOTBALL:** Wembley 1998 PERSON YOU'D MOST LIKE TO STAND AT A GAME WITH:

Myself as no one likes standing with me WHEN DID YOU START **VOLUNTEERING? 2019** HOW'S IT GOING? It's never ending but gives

you massive highs WHAT IS THE FIFTH SONG IN YOUR MUSIC APP SHUFFLE?

Dr Beat - Gloria Estefan & Miami Sound Machine



#### GOALKEEPERS

JOSHUA BOATENG TOBY EMERSON

JACK FRANCIS ROBIN PHILPOTT

#### NEFENDERS

ADII ALI **DEAN BOUHO** ANDREA CAIO JUNIA CHARLTON SAM COOK **CHARLIE FAGAN** JOSHUA GEORGE **ALASDAIR GURNEY**  **SEB HARTWELL** STEFAN KILRON **FELIX MURRAY BAILEY PRYCE** ADAM SIDKY **GUS STEELE** TAMI UNUEFA

#### MINFIFINERS

CEMAL AGDELEN **GABRIEL** AKUWUDIKE **JOEL AKUWUDIKE** JULIAN AUSTIN **JAMES BRIGGS ROSS BROADWAY** SHAM DARR

AZARIAH GEORGE-LAWAL FIONN GLANCY JAMES GOLDRING **GEOFF OCRAN** JAMES PAVELY NOAH SALAMA JEFFREY **TWUMASII** 

#### FORWARDS

NOAH ADEJOKUN TERRY AMOAFO LOUIS BROWN CAMERON GORDON TAYLAN GUL ANDRE ODEKU **EMMANUEL** 

**OLASEHINDE** 

LEWIS OWIREDU SHERWIN STANLEY FRED TAYLOR JACOB WINTOUR ARTHUR WRIGHT **SULEYMAN** ZAHMOUL

#### MERIDIAN VP FC

Duke Aidoo / Daniel Akintimehin / Ayo Bakare / Stefan Dixon / Rami Halloufi / Tyler Kerlew-Stewart / Alex McKenzie / Robinhood Mensah Sowah Charlie Norcott / Michael Ogunbo / Jessel Samba / Keval Sesay-Ince / Douane West / Jordan Williams

#### OFFICIALS

Ref: Matthew Pollington Assistants: Michael Dye / Max Doyle



### MERIDIAN VP FC

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WELCOME TO TODAY'S VISITING PLAYERS. COACHES, SUPPORTERS AND OFFICIALS

MERIDIAN SPORTS & SOCIAL FC STARTED AS A five-a-side team including current manager and chairman Dwinder Tamna and three of his brothers. They joined the Dartford & District League in 1995, then the Kent County League in 2003. They have been at this level since 2011 and two years later merged with Valley Park FC, becoming Meridian VP.

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Although bottom of the table without a win, don't be fooled. Since appointing a new joint manager Darrell Queeley, they've picked up three draws and won through to the semis of this competition with victories against highflyers Rochester United and Soul Tower Hamlets.

# PRFVINIIS

Both league games were settled by the narrowest of margins. In the away game, Fred Taylor scored early on for us but we had to dia in deep to hold on. In the home game, a penalty from Taylor was all that could settle the sides. CCFC manager Geoff Ocran has been impressed by Meridian in both games.

# **PLAYERS**

Top scorer Rami Halloufi has five goals this season and has recently dual signed for higher level side Knaphill.

#### **UPCOMING FIXTURES**

#### MEN'S FIRST TEAM

3pm

Apr 12

DATE TIME COMP OPPONENTS/VENUE

DAIL	T III VIL	COM	OF FOREITS/ VEHOL
Mar 15	3pm	SCEFL	(H) FC Elmstead (at Old Spotted Dog Ground)
Mar 22	3pm	SCEFL	(H) Croydon (at Old Spotted Dog Ground)
Mar 29	3pm	SCEFL	(A) Sheppey Sports (at Holm Park, Sheppey United FC)
Apr 05	3pm	SCEFL	(A) Staplehurst Monarchs (at Jubilee Sports Ground)

(H) Welling Town (at Old Spotted Dog Ground)

WOMEN'S FIRST TEAM					
DATE	TIME	COMP	OPPONENTS/VENUE		
Mar 16	2pm	LSERWFL	(H) Richmond Park (at Old Spotted Dog Ground)		
Mar 23	1.30pm	LSERWFL	(A) Leatherhead (at Fetcham Grove)		
Mar 27	7.30pm	LSERWFL	(A) Hackney (at Wadham Lodge)		
Mar 30	2pm	LSERWFLT	(H) Soccer Elite Football Academy (at OSD Ground)		
Apr 06	2pm	LSERWFL	(H) Denham United (at Old Spotted Dog Ground)		

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