

Visit to Swindon Town F.C. Centre of Excellence

The latest Members Event to be arranged by the WCFCA, took place on Monday 16th November, when a visit was arranged to observe the very impressive Swindon Town F.C. Centre of Excellence. Those present found the visit to be thoroughly enjoyable and informative.

We were greeted and hosted throughout our stay by Jeremy Newton, the Centre of Excellence Director, & Paul Bodin was also in attendance. Their hospitality and cooperation was greatly appreciated. A further invitation for us to make a visit has been extended; an offer that we intend to take up.

The event was held at the excellent facilities of Greendown School in Swindon where the Sports Hall & 3rd Generation Artificial Pitch with Floodlights were used.

Age groups from U9 to U16 years of age were in attendance during the evening and we were able to freely observe all the sessions at our own choice. It was very pleasing to observe the many local Coaches who have progressed within the County to deliver within the excellence programme. It was also rewarding to watch very talented players, mostly local, who are endeavouring to progress individually. Many of those that we observed, both coaches & players, who displayed real ability & quality, will have begun their pathway to excellence within grassroots football in Wiltshire & is therefore a testament to the work being done by local Volunteers, Clubs, the WCFCA and the Coach Education programme of the Wiltshire C.F.A.

Members were able to observe, discuss together and learn from the very professional delivery on show, appreciate the high level of organisation & then take away many ideas for use in their own delivery.

The behaviour of the players was exemplary and a credit to not only themselves, but also their parents, the coaches and the Centre itself. It was good to observe the standard that we are all striving to achieve.

All this served to provide another WCFCA Event that aided the continued development of Coaches, for which we are grateful to Pete & Alan for their efforts in setting up the visit.

In conclusion we wish to record our thanks to Jeremy, Paul, the Coaches & Players, & Swindon Town FC for making this very successful evening possible.