UK TRIP 2017



DAY ONE

A brief farewell at Abu Dhabi Airport and before we knew it we were boarding our Qatar flight to Doha. The boys were excited and straight away were winning World Cup points for their teams with all the coaches watching their movements. The transfer was smooth and the flight to Manchester went by so quickly with the boys absorbed in the entertainment system as well as excitedly chatting to their teammates for the next week.



WE HAVE ARRIVED!

25 very happy players landed in Manchester to meet Kevin and our 2 coach drivers for the duration of the trip. A short bus trip to the Village Hotel, our home for the next 7 nights to check in and meet for our pre-trip briefing. A jam packed schedule was about to kick off and the boys were prepared with timings, kit to wear and a few words of professionalism, teamwork and ownership to take onboard.





PIZZA, CHIPS AND SALAD FOR DINNER. 1 LOST SUITCASE TO RECOVER. A CHILLY 14C BUT MOSTLY SUNNY







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DAY TWO

After an early night and with some jetlag the players woke up ready for a full English breakfast and to kick start the day. The chef kindly prepared halal options for our players as well as our usual foods such as croissants and cereals. A quick change into their training kits and we set off down the road to our training pitch, home to us for the next few days, at Prescot Training Center.







SUITCASE RECOVERED! A WET MORNING AND A DRY, BUT WINDY AFTERNOON 10C

AN EDUCATIONAL STOP AT LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

Dr James Malone took time out of his busy schedule to chat to our players about the factors contributing to professional football players in these modern times. The boys discussed sleep patterns, their nutrition, preparation for match days and exercise on and off the pitch to help prepare themselves to become better footballers. A very interesting talk and lots of information for the boys to take away. The PhD students demonstrated some of their physiology and biomechanics equipment in the testing labs to show how technical and advanced being a pro footballer can become.



MATCHDAY V NETHERLEY FC

A very wet and muddy pitch greeted the players used to astro or dry grass pitches in Abu Dhabi, which took some getting used to. The U12s played a great game passing the ball round the pitch, supporting each other and played some great attacking football lead by their captain Omar Azlan. We had Dumiso sprinting down the wing, Abdelrahman playing from the back and Ibrahim finishing off a few goals too. The U14s had a tough match on the pitch next door and with a slow start they were down 2 goals in just 10 mins. They started to play their game in the different conditions and with goals from Charlie and



Ahmed Mansoor they battled hard for the rest of the match and played very well. Two great games to kick off the









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DAY THREE

Another big breakfast with the emphasis on healthy foods after the Hop Uni talk. Bags packed ready for the 2nd training session. Players took the initiative to do their own warm up, as advised by Dr. James, which was great to see! A joint warm up with both age groups and then split training sessions working on tactics for the upcoming game.







PHOTO OF THE DAY!!

JAY AND JOSH

CELEBRATE A WORLD

CUP GOAL FOR TEAM

ENGLAND!

THEATRE OF DREAMS

The boys visited their first stadium of the trip in Manchester and learnt some great facts from our tour guide and snooped around the Man United museum. We saw the first team changing rooms, the dug-out, the new player's tunnel and sat in the best seats in the stadium overlooking the perfect pitch. A great experience for the players....now off to their 2nd match of the







tour.

MATCHDAY V AFC URMSTON

Our second match against strong teams from a big club in Manchester saw the games played on 3G turf, which was easier for the players to play on. The U12s were up first and got stuck in straight away playing some great football directed by coach Avo and coach Mark. Play came from Michael Konig, through the defense and was kept in midfield by Mostafa Samy, Yousif Abusin and Omar, who all had a brilliant game and worked hard throughout the match. The U14s started the game with lots of energy and pressed high throughout the match, which gave them a lot of possession. They were calm on the ball, worked hard for each other and played some great attacking football. The last kick of the game was a penalty to AFC Urmston, at 2-1 for

Regional the pressure was on and Sebastian pulled off a terrific save!



AFC Urmston kindly invited us back to their clubhouse for food and to exchange



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DAY FOUR - ST GEORGE'S PARK

A very early start with breakfast at 6:30am, the players and coaches were on the bus by 7:30am heading to St George's Park in Derby. A drive through the English countryside, past fields of sheep and cows, and we had arrived. The boys changed in the David Clark changing rooms into their training kits and were lead to their indoor training facility by their coaches. The coaches put the players through their paces, which ended in their World Cup games. The team

gathered for a tour of the facility with our guide full of interesting facts about the footballers that have trained at SGP. A very exciting morning for the players and staff to enjoy world class facilities!







MATCHDAY V HUYTON TOWN

Our third match in as many days was a battle against a tough team from Liverpool, the notorious Huyton Town! The U12s had their game first and quickly learnt to be tough on the ball. On an uneven and muddy pitch the players had to be on their toes and they did just that with Dumiso running the length of the pitch attacking from the wings, strong tackles from Abdelrahman and Hussein in defense and brilliant goals from Mostafa and Yousif. A great game to watch and another win for the U12s. Next it was the U14s turn and they too impressed their coaches with their team spirit and determination to win the ball, it was the best match they'd played. All players were positive in attack, composed on the ball and were physical during the whole game. Sulieman Ibsais and Zak Aker were strong in midfield, Shivanka ran the wings and kept the ball despite strong tackles flying in from their full backs and Saif Al Ali and Jay Rennhard were brilliant in defense holding off the numerous attacks from the Huyton side. The best player on the pitch was Ahmad Mansoor who battled for the ball across the entire pitch, was the playmaker for the game and created great chances for his teammates. Well done to both teams for playing some



















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DAY FIVE - PAINT BALLING

A battle with the red team v blue team in a series of games at Knowsley Park in Liverpool. The boys shot each other, rolled around in mud and had a great time bonding in their teams and even managed to get their own back on some of their coaches....the ones who didn't run away anyway!!







REGIONAL WILL NEVER WALK ALONE

Some of the Liverpool FC fans and some other curious football fanatics trekked over to Anfield after their paint balling experience and took the tour of the stadium. They enjoyed the trophy room, the fun facts about Liverpool FC and the rivalries between other clubs in England and of course the view from the best seats in Anfield, The Kop!



TIME TO SHOP

We got a head start on the shopping whilst some players were touring round Anfield and we managed to hit every shop in Liverpool....twice! Wow these boys know how to spend money! Amazing views of Albert Docks, the Liverbird on the amazing buildings in the city center and of course we stopped for lunch and treated ourselves to Nandos, Pizza Hut and Yo Sushi! The Anfield group joined us later and we managed to go to more sports shops! Back to the hotel for a well earned rest.













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DAY SIX - MATCHDAY

A relaxing morning at the hotel preparing for the day's football matches. A few of the players decided to go all in and treat themselves to the VIP experience at Old Trafford and went to watch the Man Utd v West Brom EPL game. A pre game lunch at the Lancashire suite watching the earlier Liverpool derby game, a walk to the VIP experiences seats in the North-West stand to watch the game and enjoy the amazing atmosphere created by the home fans. The boys had a great experiences.



BOLTON WANDERERS V CHESTERFIELD

The boys watched an intense Liverpool derby game in the hotel then trekked up to the Reebok Stadium to watch a Championship game against Chesterfield Town. The game ended 0-0 but the boys and coaches had a great time, enjoyed the experience and cheered along with the Bolton fans!



ANOTHER BUSY DAY AHEAD

We all met up at the hotel with fish n chips and stories of the day. A brilliant day and a great chance to watch the professional footballers perform on the main stage. Last full day tomorrow.....











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DAY SEVEN

A quick stop off at the Trafford Center to do some MORE shopping and then we headed off to Woolton FC for our U12s to play a match and the U14s to train. A sunny spring day and all the players arrived at Camp Hill ready to play.



MATCHDAY V WOOLTON FC

As the U14s set-up for a training session with coaches David and Faissal the U12s lined up to play a very talented Woolton team. The game was 11 a side and Regional Sports used every inch of the pitch, running down the wings, playing from the back and competing well in the center of the pitch. The stand out player was Abdelrahman Hussein who fought well, drove the team from their own half and showed great composure on the ball. Great to see the players wearing their news boots too, can you see the new boots in the team photo?







MORE SHOPPING

A last dash round the shops nearby for the players to buy souvenirs, trainers, shirts etc. then it was back to the hotel. The players bought Charlie Hart, UK Tour captain, a farewell present as he will be leaving the UAE at the end of the season and they all piled on him and gave him a brand new pair of boots!





THE U12S WERE
UNDEFEATED THE
WHOLE TRIP! WORLD
CUP FINAL GAMES
TOMORROW!







UK TRIP 2017



DAY EIGHT

A final breakfast at the hotel and with bags packed and tracksuits on the boys went to play their World Cup final games, before their meeting room in the hotel for our end of tour presentation and debrief.









PRESENTATION

Only great words from coach Kevin who highlighted the boy's professionalism, ownership, team work and brilliant attitude on the football pitch. Special mentions to captain Charlie, as well as a few U14 leaders in the group; Suleiman and Saif. Now for the awards, the U12s Most Improved was Jad Haddad who really showed he can be a tough player on the pitch and the U14s Mos Improved was Saif Al Ali who was strong in his leadership, showed attributes of being a focused, dedicated footballer, so well done to both. Onto the Player of the Tour for U12s, a player who was

Abdelrahman Hussein and for the U14s it went to Ahmad Mansoor, last years winner, but undoubtedly the best player on the pitch in most of their games, a player who bonded with everyone in the group and who even taught some of the opposition some Arabic!!

praised in every game he played and showed great character off the pitch too,





FAREWELL TO ENGLAND

All in all a terrific trip and one that will stay with the players for a while. Thank you to the players for playing great football and being so good all week. Thank you to the parents for trusting us and supporting your son at Regional Sports. Thank you to the clubs, hotel, drivers and everyone in England who made this trip amazing!





