



Est. 2011

CHESTERFIELD
Senior Spireites FC
We never walk alone!



Dear fellow Senior Spireites,

Firstly, on behalf of the membership, I'd like to thank our outgoing Chairman, Roy (Beresford), for the hard work he has put into our club over many years. Along with Neil (Haddy), Ian (Edmundson) and other original members (you know who you are), they have nurtured our club from a just half a dozen retirees trying a new form of 'slow' football, playing on one pitch once a week at Queens Park, to now with over 100 members and having four sessions per week over eight pitches!

The name 'Senior Spireites Walking Football Club' came a couple years after those early days at Queens Park. But nevertheless, we were the Very First Walking Football Club in the World and I'm extremely proud and honoured to be your new Chairman.

At 29, a knee surgeon told me that unless I retired from playing football, I would end up in a wheelchair by the time I turned 50! That was it, all over! Atonement for abusing the beautiful game in my 20s was to spend a few years refereeing, coaching juniors and scouting for Birmingham City Academy.

In 2013, after ten years of doing nothing but work, commuting and playing couch potato, a Barclays bank advert appeared on TV showing an elderly guy walking around a football pitch with an iPad, filming more elderly guys playing - walking football? Got to be a joke – right? Well, a few months later I found these strange blokes in Chesterfield doing just this!

And here we are, 8 years later and I'm still skying my best shots well over the bar!
Now, I really can't imagine NOT having Walking Football as part of my mental and physical 'Happy Place'!

Anyway, Roy is certainly a hard act to follow and although I can't promise you his quiet eloquence, I can and will, with the help and tireless work of your committee, uphold the very reasons why we still want to kick a football at our advanced ages - Fun, Friendship and Fitness!

I personally don't see the need for our club to be the biggest - just the happiest. Neither to be the most feared in competition football – just the most respected!

If for any reason members aren't happy, or, if anyone has a new idea, please don't wait for an AGM to air your views, just let me or any committee member know, and we will discuss any issue as soon as possible.

Best Regards and Thanks for your continued support

Malc Perks (Chairman), March 2022

