

# FA announces ambassadors

SUSSEX Schools Football Association (FA) has announced Dean Hammond and recently-turned pro Isaac Christie-Davies as its ambassadors.

The body governs all schools football in the county as well as the running of six representative teams for boys and girls.

Leicester City's Hammond, who was born in Hastings, said: "It's a privilege to be asked to be the ambassador for Sussex Schools FA.

"School football is such an important part of developing young players into the game whether for amateur or professional levels.

"I have fond memories of playing for school and county levels.

"One thing that always stood out for me was the level of coaching I received and the encouragement to strive to be the best I could be and express myself."

by **GARETH DAVIES**

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Brighton-born Christie-Davies had spells at The Albion's youth ranks before turning pro at Chelsea and has represented England at under-18 level.

He said: "I'm honoured to be asked to be an Ambassador for Sussex Schools Football Association. School football is a really important start of any footballer's journey. I support school football because it was an important part of my football journey and provided me with the opportunity to develop key skills.

"School football for me was a springboard for further success at Chelsea FC Academy and England. It is a real honour to be able to give

something back by encouraging and supporting others."

He added: "I have good memories of playing for Brighton Boys and Sussex Schools. An outstanding memory for me was reaching the national finals and playing at Wembley Stadium.

"During my time playing school football I made great friends, one of whom I play with now at Chelsea.

"School's football is a powerful vehicle for personal growth and development whether you end up playing professionally, as an amateur or choosing another direction or career.

"I feel strongly that all children should have an equal chance and have access to the coaching and experience that I had as a young boy starting off."

Ross Maryan, chairman of the schools associ-

ation, said: "We are delighted to have both Dean and Isaac as our ambassadors.

"Isaac is a young professional, who has just signed a pro contract at Chelsea and is destined for big things.

"He is a young, hard working and inspirational footballer that young budding footballers can aspire to.

"Dean has been very supportive of Sussex Schools FA and we are extremely proud to have him as one of our ambassadors.

"He is a current Premiership footballer who can pass on a wealth of knowledge and experience to our young footballers.

"Sussex Schools FA would like to thank both Dean and Isaac for their support, and look forward to working closely with them in the future."

## Cougars are bouncing back with their first win of the season

BHASVIC Cougars Under-16s won their first game of the 2014 season, beating Woking Blackhawks 74-65 last Sunday, November 2.

After losing their first English Basketball League game away to Feltham they bounced back strongly showing signs of a more resilient team spirit.

It was the first quarter that separated the two teams with the home side going up 22-10.

Point guard Ira Perrier led the team with multiple assists to Henry Golton who was unstoppable, finishing high at the rim.

BHASVIC started slowly in the second half with defensive lapses allowing easy penetration by the Woking guards into the lane.

They also lost their rhythm offensively when they stopped moving the ball as they had earlier on, so

going into the final quarter it was still a close game.

The final few minutes demonstrated the growing toughness of the team with great court vision by Perrier getting the ball to open teammates leading to open layups to see off a resurgent Woking attack.

BHASVIC coach Joe McLaren said: "I'm proud of the way the boys responded today after last week's loss.

"Woking had some stand out players but our energy, desire and overall team cohesion broke them down at the end.

"We still have a way to go to challenge the best teams in this league but it's starting to come together."

Henry Golton shone with an impressive 25 points and Ira Perrier finished with 12.



## Bede's Elise wins doubles title

BEDE'S pupil Elise Van Heuvelen won the doubles final at the International Tennis Federation event in Belgium last week.

Elise's partner is Lauren John Baptiste and together they achieved an outstanding result and a great end to Elise's two

weeks in Holland and Belgium.

Director of tennis at Bede's Julie Salmon said: "Elise has gained some invaluable Junior World Ranking points as well as all-important match experience, winning nine out of 12 matches."

## Horsham seeks Lucozade bottles to trade for new kit

HORSHAM FOOTBALL CLUB's under-10s side are going green as they call for recycled bottles to be donated to the team.

The squad is asking for donations of empty GET KIT Lucozade bottles which can be traded in for new kit.

The Lucozade KIT-OUT project has teamed up with sportswear brand Kukri to kit out teams and athletes across the county with fully customisable match day kits for football and rugby teams.

The project also supplies training kit and equipment for teams and individuals.

Horsham FC's under-10s, sponsored by Covers Timber and Builders Merchants, who have a depot on Foundry Lane, Horsham, have started the season with a bang.

So far they have won four of the six matches played and with every game they are growing in confidence.

The team is managed by Covers employee Tony Massimo.

He said: "We would love the local community to help us collect as many Lucozade bottles with the Get-Kit labels as possible.

"So far we've collected 30 bottles in our first week but with a target of 1,200 we have a long way to go."

Annie Raby, Horsham FC youth secretary, said: "Our sponsorship from Covers at the beginning of the season has been invaluable, enabling a fantastic start for the team.

"Our involvement with the Lucozade KIT-OUT project can only lead to even better things as it hopefully will enable us to get more of the equipment we need."

Bottles can be dropped off to the YMCA grounds on Goring's Mead for the attention of Annie Raby.

Alternatively, email the code on the bottle to [ivan.raby@btinternet.com](mailto:ivan.raby@btinternet.com).

## Thumping start for Southdown under-16 girls

SOUTHDOWN Girls Under-16s kicked off November in style by thumping Royal Tunbridge Wells 13-0 in the Sussex County Women and Girls Football League.

In the under-15 league Angmering beat Hangleton Rovers 4-3 on the road while Horsham Sparrows delighted home fans with a 4-2 win over Hawks Youth.

Broad Oak and Horam shared the points with Worthing as their game finished deadlocked at 1-1.

Eastbourne Town and Rottingdean's fixture fell foul to the weather, but Old Vardeanians bagged three points away from home at Hurstpierpoint.