
REPUBLICATION

*News, views, and the occasional bruise from the world of
Republica Internationale FC (Edition: June 2020)*



WHAT'S THIS? After several years in the wilderness (facebook?!), Republica's very own newsletter has been resurrected so you never miss our goings-on again. June. Where does the time go?! ...

This month featuring:

- Club updates: AGM, summer, and next season.
- Anti-racism resources
- From the archives: reports and Antira 2014
- The forgotten story of the club's crest
- Awards awards awards.
- Request: next month(s).

AGM 2020, summer football, and beyond...

The final weeks of June saw an AGM of sorts take place: the one that went online. It wasn't quite as fun as meeting up in person for some discussions and beers and raucous voting, but arguably it gave more time and space for reflection and more engagement than usual. Last season's committee and captains gave updates, and those going for roles for the coming season supported their nominations with some words of wisdom; these remain online for your perusal: <https://tinyurl.com/y718xsxw>

We followed this up with a zoom meeting for further discussion on roles and donations (to support local charities/organisations dealing with Covid-related relief and anti-racism initiatives) from our ethical fund. Voting followed online and everyone who stood was elected! Now for next season...

Not much to report here unfortunately. We don't think the time is right for summer training to resume as a club, and await further news on league football plans. But we know there are impromptu local meetings in small groups starting up around parks of Leeds for those itching for a kickaround, and Rachel has been organising some social-distanced drills on a Weds eve at Scott Hall. Watch this space for more information as we go...

Re-pub-lication quiz #3:

Which Republican has a son whose middle name is Armando, in homage to Diego Armando Maradona?
Answer: that man Colm.

Right: Rohan Armando, on the sidelines in 2059.



Republica stands with those fighting for racial justice

Adapted from a post on Republica's facebook page...

Republica is not just a football team and we are here to show our support to anyone affected by any act of racial violence or injustice. As a club, we are proud to be anti-racist and stand firmly with the protesters, Black Lives Matters and other organisations fighting for racial and social justice. Below is a few things that we can do as a club to support the movement. This is, by no means, an exhaustive list but a few things that we want everyone in the club to be aware of.

Protests: Two protests took place in Leeds in June organised by Black Lives/Voices Matter Leeds. We need to consider the best way that we can give maximum support without endangering others due to Covid, especially due to the disproportionate amount of BAME lives that are also being affected. Please follow @Leedsblacklivesmatters on Facebook if you want to find out more about direct action. This is the best official platform to look to for guidance moving forward regarding protests.

Sharing resources: Educating ourselves and educating others is an important way to help combat structural racism. We know people have already expressed interest in sharing resources. We will be setting up online posts for people to comment with recommendations for online resources, books, films, TV programmes and blogs. Please get in touch with any recommendations so we can then collate together everyone's contribution into a document we can share in the future. We will also be looking to arrange a book sharing scheme and an online film night - more details to follow soon!

Following: Here are some local organisations that we encourage you to follow who will offer guidance how you can help, as well as providing resources and information.

- Racial Justice Network
- Leeds Black Lives Matter
- African Rainbow Family
- Remember Oluwale

[Read, reflect, take action](#)

Re-pub-lication quiz #4: We've not always been Internationale; what followed Republica in the club's early years?

Want to contribute to the Republication? The plan is to have a new issue each month, which relies on you reading this, telling us it's worthwhile, and chipping in with some content... Please send all items, be they stories, match reports, photos (old and new), upcoming events, etc., to: republicanews@hotmail.com

Republica on the interweb:

Twitter: @Republica_FC

Facebook: @RepublicaFC

Web: <https://republica.international/>

Republica Internationale FC – logo stories



You may have noticed the snazzy club crest at the top of this Republication, which Eve has adapted from our classic logo (left) to show our support and solidarity for pride month (thanks Eve!). Eve posted this and a few other versions on facebook, which kicked off an interesting discussion

about its history. So, what's the story with the club's crest?

Rich Park: Me and Bod put this together with glue and scissors in 1999, never thought it'd be still going. The inspiration was an Interkosmos badge I picked up in Berlin (right). When I did the original photocopy, yes photocopy, I simply took a sticky star from a wall planner and put it on the edge of the circle. The star trails were literally slivers of paper I cut out. Bod created the disc and the typeface with the curvy zoom.



So there you go: Republica's crest is 21 years old and inspired by a Soviet space program for sending cosmonauts out of this world!

From the archives*: from the halcyon days of Sept. 2014 and the men's unbeaten start to the season

* Missing from the archives: women's match reports – please get in touch with something old or new!!

FC Gascoigne 2 – 2 Republica
Leeds Sunday Alliance League Div. 1, 21st Sept. 2014

Despite having just one shot on target, an own goal and Patrick Newton strike was enough for Republica men to snatch a draw in Garforth against a strong Gascoigne side. The hosts were dominant in the first half as the Republica defence faced wave after wave of attack. A mixture of wayward finishing and some excellent saves from Man of the Match Colm Fitzpatrick meant we went into half-time trailing by only one goal to nil. It could have been six.

The second half started more brightly for the away side with some early pressure in the Gascoigne half. And the pressure told as Cedric turned his man on the edge of the box and delivered a cross which the defender turned in to his own net, much to the

delight of the travelling faithful on the sides. One all and game on again. But within 5 minutes Gascoigne had taken the lead again with a quick break down the left and smart finish. A battling performance in the final half an hour was rewarded 10 minutes from time. Little Pat escaped his man at the back post from a corner and fired in from close range.

Perhaps it was harsh on Gascoigne who wasted several more chances in the second half, but we don't care. Unbeaten after 2 games, the men deserved great credit for digging in a salvaging an unlikely point. Unbeaten, and on to the next one!

Republica FC 2 – 0 Torpedo Woodhall
Leeds Sunday Alliance League Div. 1, 28th Sept. 2014

The men picked up their first win of the season in a deserved win over a ragged Woodhall side. Two second half goals from Seamus Lundy's hamstring, one from a free kick and one from the penalty spot, proved enough on a sunny Sunday in LS7.

A comfortable first half saw few chances at either end as the ball was kept on the floor and some good passing football was played. Rick Marriner had a volley wide and Little Pat put some dangerous balls into the box, but we went in to half-time goalless. The game certainly felt winnable and a quick free-kick from Seamus early in the second half caught the Woodhall defence and keeper out, the ball nestling in the corner of the goal while they were thinking about making a wall. They were furious but the ref was having none of it. One nil.

The game got more untidy as the half wore on with both teams forgetting how to pass the ball. A kamikaze throw-in at the back nearly let Woodhall back in to the game as we struggled to gain control again. One of their better lads burst through again on a mazy run but fell to the floor injured as he broke into the box. They cried for a penalty but no one touched him. "He was too quick anyway", said Jo Davy. They had no subs and so were down to 10 men for the final 20. Despite the man advantage, it was Woodhall who threatened again as a header from a corner came back off the woodwork. But the space opened up in attack for Republica and chances for the second goal started coming thick and fast. Cedric missed a great chance when well placed, and soon after Little Pat got taken down in the box for a clear penalty. Up stepped Seamus to bag his second of the game and secure the 3 points.

Man of the Match was Little Pat, with Seamus close in 2nd. Special mention also to the back 5 for a well-earned clean sheet, the first in 12 months. The unbeaten start to the season continues apace...

Next month(s)... call for tournament write-ups

Everyone loves running around Scott Hall, John Charles, and various parks with more dog sh*te than blades of healthy grass, but the highlight of many a Republican's year is tournament season. We've missed Mayday; we would've been heading off to Hamburg in June; then onto the Network tournament in UK, Germany, Belgium, ...; sometimes it's been Mondiali Antirazzisti in Bologna, it's always been spectacular. **If you have had the pleasure of being on tour with Republica and can recall what went on, then please send in your words and photos from a past tournament.** Those that were there will no doubt enjoy a refresher of how much fun they had, those that weren't there will wish they were, and those that have no idea what this tournament nonsense is about will look forward to next summer even more once they've read about it.

Antira Sankt Pauli – Hamburg



In June many of us would have been heading over to Hamburg for the 10th Antira St Pauli. Teams associated with left-wing anti-racist fan groups from around Europe descend on the Millentor, home of German club St Pauli, for a weekend of football, Astra, Jolly Rogering, talks, and networking... much fun and a great weekend with some lovely people. According to the 2014 program, two

things Republica would change immediately after a successful revolution are: 1. Football participation not limited by gender at any level; 2. Sepp Blatter. Clearly there's still work to do... Here's a few snaps from 2014. Can't wait for the next one. Kein Fussball den Faschisten.



AWARDS AWARDS AWARDS

And so comes to an end the strange season that was 2019/20. Thanks to everyone for voting for the awards, Molly for her surveymonkey skills and making the graphics and announcements, and well done to all nominees and winners. Above all, thanks to everyone who put in time and energy to make things happen with Republica this year. However great or small, it is much appreciated by us all. Bring on the next one...!



**WOMEN'S SECTION:
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER**

VIKKI SMITH

"Having not played football much before she has improved incredibly to become a brilliant player who can play in lots of positions!"

"Gets more confidence every game"

"She's cracked on, applied herself, listened to team chat and responded. Pleasure to play with."

"She works hard every week to get to the ball, listen to others and puts her body on the line for the team."

"Her confidence has grown so much and she's always putting in 100% effort to improve."

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**MEN'S SECTION:
MOST IMPROVED PLAYER**

JORDAN THOMAS

"Smashing those diagonal passes"

"Even better than last year!"

"Grown into a 1st team regular"

"Suddenly he is bending the ball all over the shop with the outside of his boot WTF"

"Improved throughout the season"

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MOST COMIC MOMENT:

DAN HICKSON

Open goal miss

"Just the greatest piece of forward play in the club's history"

"Title says it all really"

"Dan managing to get around the goalie only to miss the open goal. There is a video somewhere which you should include if he wins :)"

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**WOMEN'S SECTION:
PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

GEORGIA ELLIS

"She doesn't stop putting herself on the line for the team. She doesn't understand the word 'quit'. She's a brilliant player and inspires the rest of us to try harder."


"Dedicated, hard working and always tracking back"

"Centre-back supremo."

"Always committed and always happy to help others"

"Solid defensive skills"

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CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR:

TOM KENT

"Put a lot of effort in getting the new constitution in place which was not easy. Also helped out when ever he can as well and helped get people engaged in warm ups and summer mixed trainings."

"Newsletter is excellent and for extra efforts as a committee member"

"For all his hard work sorting the AGMs"

"Leader on and off the pitch. Always friendly and supportive, always happy to critique ourselves and look back at a lot of time in for the club."

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**MEN'S SECTION:
PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

JONNY RUDD

"Been solid throughout, forever reliable"

"Absolute engine and pops up with some goals. Consistently big performances and we miss him when he's not there."

"Exceptional every week"

"Commanding & calming presence in the middle of the park. Team looks different when he isn't playing."

"Absolute powerhouse, never stops running, never stops battling. Can lift the team through leading by example."

"Seems to over-perform every week - rarely if ever has a bad game and influences the team dynamic perhaps more than any others, even those who are more able technically."

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**WOMEN'S SECTION:
TEAM PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

RACHEL GRIMA

"Despite injury throughout has been running training with tennis all year, present at all women's games to organise and pretty much all of the men's games too."

"Turns up to every game. Pissing it down or sunny. Men or women WITH A KNACKERED KNEE AND ORANGES"

"Support throughout the season for both teams was second to none. Men's section - half line oranges alone must have been worth a fair few of our points!"

"Being injured and still smashing being a captain. Shows great commitment and enthusiasm as always for republica."

"Still running training whilst injured"

"Complete dedication even when injured"

"Forever dedicated"

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**BEST INITIATIVE:
WOMEN'S SOCIAL FOOTBALL SESSIONS**

"A growing success. Managing to get lots more people involved in football, something which can be built upon next year."


"Was really well run (good work Molly and Georgia) and was a great cause"

"Providing football opportunities for all, removing barriers to playing and actively challenging inequalities"

"Brilliant work from Molly and Georgia with YSP getting this going and it was growing so well before covid came. Hopefully it makes a return as soon as possible. This is the kind of thing that the club should be proud of being associated with, providing a safe and welcoming space for football where one is lacking."

"Great way to include more women in football and has been a great success!"

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**MEN'S SECTION:
TEAM PLAYER OF THE SEASON**

NICK HOOD

"Doesn't get anywhere enough credit for the amount of work he put into his role as captain. Leader on the pitch and off it - knocking out duress and games with YSP. In the meantime, Top Blake."

"Geordie Bielsa"

"Power captain duo"

"Nick has put in a huge amount of time (alongside Josh), picking up a lot of the secretary stuff as well as captain role. He has gone above and beyond and I know how frustrating it can be at times"

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