



Under 9s Eagles
2009-10 Season Review



Coach
Ian McDowell

**LSYFL Little League
Champions**

**LSYFL League Cup
Finalists**

**Esher Wizards
Tournament
Semi-finalists**

2009-10 Season

Balham Blazers Under 9 Eagles started life in 2006 as 10 boys from the same class at St Anselms School playing football in the park with their dads. In the summer of 2009 they were all invited to join Balham Blazers having impressed at the trials and started the 2009/2010 season as the U9 Eagles.

Keen to impress from the start, the Eagles won their first league match 2:0 against Peckham. This was followed by a thrilling cup match against Bedhead Blue which saw the Eagles snatch victory from the jaws of defeat with two goals in the last minutes of the game to win 2:1. The Eagles third game was their only loss before Christmas, losing a close game 1:2 against the Colts.

The run-in to Christmas saw a string of league victories and one memorable cup semi final. Having gone a goal up against AFC Wandsworth, the Eagles were minutes away from the final when Wandsworth's key player launched a rocket from the halfway line, and it was 1:1. The Eagles went ahead in extra time only for the same Wandsworth player to equalise again with minutes to go, making it



2:2. Wandsworth took the lead in the penalties and looked like going through when Finn Chatterton saved, and Luke Duggan stepped up to take the game into sudden death. Finn then saved again, leaving Joe Higgins to score the winning goal.

“I love watching your team play, but hate having to play against them”

The New Year was equally successful, and by the end of March, the winning theme had continued with only one game lost. At this point Finn sadly moved away and two new players joined, Max and Sebastian. The first game in goal for Max was a baptism of fire as the Eagles once more met the Colts. This time, a stunning performance from the Eagles made it their turn to win 2:1, and now there was the prospect of the Eagles winning the league. The victories continued but a roller coaster ride was in store for the boys, and their parents. A superb double-header performance dispatching AFC Wandsworth, was followed by the heartbreak of a draw against Bethwin A. Now the league was poised, if both Colts and Eagles won all their remaining games, they would both end the season on 46 points.

But first the cup-final, Colts versus Eagles. The game was close, with





wonderful football from both teams, but the Colts took their chances to eventually win 3:0.

Picking themselves up the Eagles returned to the league, and with the Colts having already played all their matches, the Eagles had their final match against Clapham Rangers and only a win would do. Clapham are a good side and after a tense start the Eagles got into their stride and with some stunning goals won 3:0. Equal points at the top of the table with the Colts.

The Eagles have made a name for themselves this year for their attractive "pass and move" football and their sportsmanship. Opposition managers and referees have been heard to use phrases such as *"are these really U9 players"*, *"I love watching your team play, but hate having to play against them"*, *"there was some stunning football out there today"* and *"oh-no not the white and black team again"*.

All of the squad have worked hard at training and in matches this season and have shown what hard work, playing as a team, and excellent coaching can produce. The managers, coaches, and parents are all very proud of Eagles and we are all looking forward to the 2010/2011 season





2009-10 Fixtures List U9 Eagles

Date		Opponent	Comp	Result
SEPTEMBER 2009				
Sat 12	H	Balham Foxes F.C	Friendly	D 1-1
Sat 19	H	Peckham Town FC	League	W 2-0
Sat 26	H	Bedhead Blue	L Cup	W 2-1
OCTOBER 2009				
Sat 10	H	Balham Blazers Colts	League	L 1-2
Sat 24	H	Balham Foxes	Friendly	D 4-4
NOVEMBER 2009				
Sat 07	H	AFC Wandsworth	L Cup	W 2-2 <i>(3-2 win on penalties)</i>
Sat 21	H	Clapham Rangers F.C	League	W 1-0
DECEMBER 2009				
Sat 12	H	Greenhouse Bethwin 'B'	League	W 3-0
JANUARY 2010				
Sat 23	H	Bedhead Blue F.C	League	W 4-2
FEBRUARY 2010				
Sat 06	A	Bedhead Blue F.C	League	L 1-2
MARCH 2009				
Sat 06	A	Balham Foxes.F.C	League	W 4-0
Sat 06	H	Balham Foxes F.C	League	W 3-0
Sat 13	A	Greenhouse Bethwin 'B'	League	W 1-0
Sat 27	A	Bedhead 'Gold'.F.C	League	W 3-0
Sat 27	A	Balham Blazers Colts	League	W 2-1
APRIL 2009				
Sat 17	H	AFC Wandsworth.F.C	League	W 2-1
Sat 17	A	AFC Wandsworth.F.C	League	W 3-1
Sat 24	A	Greenhouse Bethwin 'A'	League	D 0-0
Sat 24	H	Greenhouse Bethwin 'A'	League	W 1-0
	H	Sporting Duet F.C	League	W
	A	Sporting Duet F.C	League	W
<i>The Sporting Duet games are league gimmes as that team dropped out of the league.</i>				
MAY 2009				
Sat 01	A	Peckham Town .F.C	League	W 5-0
Sat 08	H	Bedhead 'Gold'.F.C	League	W 4-0
Sat 15	A	Balham Blazers Colts	Cup Final	L 0-3
Sun 16	A	Claygate Tournament	Group Stage	
Wed 19	A	Clapham Rangers F.C	League	W 3-0
Sat 22	A	Esher Tournament	Semi Finalist	

The squad: Sam Arbuckle, Finn Chatterton, Luke Duggan, Sebastian Fallowfield, Danny Given, Joe Higgins, Max-Oliver Matthews, Matthew McDowell, Thomas Morgan, Christopher Roberts, Jasper Sykes, Jack Tomkins.



London Saturday Youth League U9s Little League 2009-10 Season Final Table

Team	P	W	D	L	GD	PT
BALHAM BLAZERS COLTS F.C	18	15	1	2	41	46
BALHAM BLAZERS EAGLES F.C	18	15	1	2	34	46
AFC Wandsworth F.C	18	11	2	5	17	35
Bedhead Blue F.C	17	11	1	5	14	34
Clapham Rangers Juniors F.C	15	7	3	5	6	24
Balham Foxes F.C	18	6	3	9	-3	21
Peckham Town F.C	17	5	3	9	-14	18
Greenhouse Bethwin A F.C	18	3	5	10	-21	14
Bedhead 'Gold' F.C	18	2	2	14	-33	8
Greenhouse Bethwin B F.C	17	0	3	14	-41	3
Sporting Duet F.C	0	0	0	0	0	0

	A.F.C.Wandsworth F.C	Balham Blazers Colts	Balham Blazers Eagles	Balham Foxes.F.C	Bedhead 'Gold'.F.C	Bedhead Blue.F.C	Clapham Rangers F.C	Greenhouse Bethwin 'A'F.C	Greenhouse Bethwin 'B' F.C	Peckham Town .F.C	Sporting Duet.F.C
A.F.C.Wandsworth FC		0-1	1-3	5-2	5-1	1-3	1-1	3-1	3-2	4-1	C-C
Balham Blazers Colts	0-1		1-2	1-0	H-W	3-0	2-0	7-0	6-0	1-0	P-P
Balham Blazers Eagles	2-1	1-2		3-0	4-0	4-2	1-0	1-0	3-0	2-0	C-C
Balham Foxes.F.C	1-4	1-3	0-4		5-0	2-3	2-1	1-0	3-0	3-3	P-P
Bedhead 'Gold'.F.C	2-4	0-6	0-3	1-3		1-2	2-4	2-2	2-0	2-0	C-C
Bedhead Blue.F.C	1-2	0-2	2-1	3-2	5-1		0-1	2-0	6-1	2-2	C-C
Clapham Rangers F.C	1-3	2-2	0-3	1-1	5-3	P-P		3-0	3-0	2-1	C-C
Greenhouse Bethwin 'A'F.C	1-1	1-4	0-0	2-1	1-0	0-1	0-3		0-0	1-1	C-C
Greenhouse Bethwin 'B' F.C	0-3	1-7	0-1	2-2	1-1	0-4	—	2-4		1-2	C-C
Peckham Town .F.C	3-1	0-2	0-5	0-4	4-3	1-2	—	3-1	2-1		P-P
Sporting Duet.F.C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	C-C	P-P	





