2026 Competition Secretary's Report

As 2026 comes to an end, looking back it has been another great season for Henry Lawson Football Club. With plenty of familiar faces returning alongside a number of new players and families joining us throughout the year, it was great to see our teams back out on the field each week, with plenty of good football played across all age groups and divisions.

As always, there were plenty of wins, losses, and challenges along the way, but overall it was a positive season for the club, with some great results, continued growth, and plenty of support from our players, coaches, managers, and families.

Season Results

All Age Men Division 9

Our All Age Men Division 9s had a fantastic year in 2026 finishing 6 points clear at the top of the table, only recording 1 loss for the regular season, and taking out the title of Division Winners. Unfortunately, their season came to an end on the final day of the Championship Tournament, narrowly missing out on taking home both titles in a 2-0 loss to St Marys FC.

With a mix of returning players and some new faces joining the team, the boys had a strong season and worked well together throughout the year. They're a great bunch of blokes who have continued to represent the club well, and it was great to see their efforts rewarded with a first-place finish.

U13 Boys Division 4

Our Under 13 Division 4s team also had success taking out the Championship Final at Jamison Park after finishing mid-table throughout the season. The final 1-0 win over Glenmore Park was a well-fought game, with the team putting in a fantastic effort to secure the win and finish their season as Champions.

A big congratulations to all the players, along with coaches Alan & Craig, and team manager Rebecca, for their hard work, commitment and support throughout the season. It was a well-deserved result and a great achievement for the team and the club.

Player Registrations and Club Growth

In 2026, we saw another positive year for player registrations, with our overall numbers increasing from 376 players in 2025 to 403 players in 2026 (7.2% increase).

Of these, approximately 46% of players were registered across our competition teams U13s and up, and over 35% were new players to the club (*when compared to 2025 registrations*). Additionally, approximately 19% were female players and whilst this is not an increase from

previous years, discussions are currently underway to determine how we can better engage and support female footballers in the years to come.

Registered Marshals

This season saw changes to the Registered Marshal system, with additional responsibilities placed on our teams and volunteers throughout the year.

I would like to thank all of our Registered Marshals who took the time to take on these responsibilities and support the club each week. We understand that this meant additional work for our volunteers, and we appreciate everyone who stepped up to help ensure our games could run smoothly.

Parent and Volunteer Involvement

One of the biggest highlights for me this season was seeing more parents and players taking the initiative to get involved and help out around the club wherever they can. This wasn't necessarily through joining the committee or taking on an official role, but simply parents seeing something that needed doing and lending a hand.

Whether it was helping in the canteen, packing away goals and sponsorship flags, assisting with events or supporting the general running of the club, it was great to see more people getting involved.

Our Colour Run was a fantastic example of this with parents, coaches, and managers, playing a huge part in making the event possible, helping to manage the outside of the track, throwing colour powder, supervising activities, and assisting/getting involved in all aspects throughout the afternoon.It was great to see so many people getting involved and contributing to the day.

This is something I would really like to see continue into 2027. A football club relies on more than just its committee to operate, and having parents and families willing to lend a hand makes a huge difference.It was encouraging to see that sense of community throughout the year, and I want to thank everyone who gave up their time to help out, whether it was for five minutes, a few hours, or throughout the entire season.

Looking Ahead to 2027

As we head into 2027, I hope to see Henry Lawson continue to grow, both in player numbers and in the involvement of our families and volunteers.

Congratulations again to all of our players, coaches, managers and teams on another season, and thank you to everyone who contributed to making 2026 a successful year for the club.