



FULHAM FOOTBALL CLUB

Press release

FULHAM SUPPORTS SPARKS

Sunday 07 October 2007

In conjunction with the Premier League's Creating Chances initiative, Fulham Football Club and its Chairman, Mohamed Al Fayed, are delighted to announce their support for SPARKS at today's home fixture against Portsmouth.

Bucket collections will be taking place throughout the day with the main attraction being Moritz Volz and Gabby Logan going head-to-head in a pre-match bucket collection challenge to raise money for SPARKS.

SPARKS, which stands for 'Sport Aiding Medical Research for Kids', funds cutting edge research across the whole spectrum of paediatric medicine. The charity carries out research in childhood cancers, childhood arthritis, spina bifida, cerebral palsy, muscular dystrophy among many other childhood conditions as well as the many risks associated with premature birth.

The charity is currently at the forefront of research into neuroblastoma, the biggest cancer killer of children under 5 and is particularly resistant to the treatments that have reduced fatality levels among other forms of childhood cancer.

A trustee of SPARKS and ambassador for the Premier League's 'Creating Chances' programme, Gabby Logan said:

"The Premier League's 'Creating Chances' programme is a tremendous idea and, on behalf of SPARKS, I'd like to thank both the league and Fulham for supporting us. It's very important at a time when cutting edge paediatric medical research in the UK has to rely heavily on charities like SPARKS rather than the public purse."

Moritz Volz added:

"I'm pleased that I am able to support SPARKS as one of Fulham's charity partners for 'Creating Chances'. The charity's work cannot be underestimated as the research not only aims to improve, but in many cases, saves the lives of children."

SPARKS Life President, Jimmy Hill said:

"I'm very moved that my old club, a club I'll always love, has come to our support. The kind of research SPARKS funds helps babies not just survive but thrive and one day have the chance to enjoy the thrill that comes with being able to run, throw and kick a ball themselves"

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NOTE TO EDITORS

Fulham Football Club Community Sports Trust

Fulham FC Community Sports Trust (FFC CST)

Fulham FC delivers its community programme through Fulham FC Community Sports Trust, a registered charity.

Our goal is to use sport to deliver inspirational, accessible and inclusive initiatives, promoting educational and social opportunities, improving the quality of life for disadvantaged young people to make a positive, real and lasting difference to the local community.”

The FFC CST achieves this by providing over 200,000 participation opportunities annually;

- **Using the power of sport** - to help young people stay healthy and make a positive contribution to their communities. Examples of this include our Healthy Living Echo Project, the MEND programme addressing childhood obesity and our Racial Awareness programme Different Cultures – Same Game
- **Using the engagement of a Premier League football club to inspire young people to achieve at school** through work such as the Study Support Centre and Fulham FC's Double Club.
- **Providing high quality sporting opportunities** - for all young people in and outside of school time. We deliver National Curriculum PE in schools across London and Surrey.
- **Delivering to disadvantaged groups** - Working in partnership to develop special programmes to provide opportunities for disadvantaged groups, to benefit from active participation. An example of this is our award winning disability sports programme.

To find out more about Fulham FC Community Sports Trust, please see www.fulhamfc.com/community

Premier League Creating Chances

Creating Chances is the Premier League's flagship community programme engaging communities and supporters across the UK through a series of initiatives involving the Premier League, the 20 Barclays Premier League Clubs and 200 of their players.

SPARKS

Founded in 1991 by sportsmen and women grateful for their own good health, SPARKS has to date committed over £14 million and funded over 180 pioneering research projects. A dynamic young charity, with a staff of 20, SPARKS is dedicated to making every penny raised count.