## **#HERGAMETOO**

It's been a big month for HerGameToo HUFC. We have doubled the size of our team, and this will enable us to work on our aims with greater support and engage with more football fans in the process.

Firstly, we welcome Courtney. Courtney has playing and coaching experience and will be a valuable member of the team. She currently plays for Seaton Carew Ladies and coaches the younger girls too.

Courtney has this to say about becoming an advocate:

"Football has been a huge part of my life for some time now and something I'm extremely passionate about, it's been the release that I never knew I needed! I love nothing more than weekly training and playing matches on a Sunday! My huge amount of love for the sport has enabled me to go on to coach younger children and teach them all I know, from having my own coaching business to expanding under a well-established club We were so lucky that Seaton Carew FC provided us with so much opportunity as we now have seven thriving girls' teams, and I couldn't be prouder. I think it's so important that every female gets the chance to be a part of the beautiful game and I am so proud to say I am now a 'Her Game Too, Hartlepool United Advocate'! I am so excited to see what my new journey holds with this team as I champion female football to the next level!"

Our next advocate won't need much introduction to some of the HUFC faithful. Sarah Rowntree is the current Supporter Liaison and Disabled



Supporter Liaison Officer as well as Ticket Office and Retail Manager. Her position within the club will allow a closer working relationship and bring new opportunities for the campaign to work with the club on projects and building supporter engagement.

Sarah said on joining the team:

"Being employed by the club and being a HerGameToo advocate means I'm perfectly placed to support the amazing work being done by Jill and the other advocates. I've been employed by HUFC since 2003 in various roles, as well as Trustee for HUCSF and coach for Pools Youth U13 Girls so I have a wealth of knowledge and experience at all levels of football from grassroots upwards."

And finally, we have the honour of having a player join our team. Tom Crawford has become one of only a handful of "Player Advocates" who play a critical part in championing and supporting the Her Game Too message within football – through supporting and promoting the aims and objectives. On signing his contract, Tom said:

"I am very excited to be the Hartlepool United HerGameToo Player Advocate. I hope we can take huge strides in stopping the discrimination that comes unnecessarily with the game. I want to be a part of women feeling confident and proud of playing and watching the game we all love."

It is so important to have player advocates working with us at HerGameToo. The help they give in getting our message heard by everyone is vital! As a campaign we are here to support all females in sport and that includes players families who have also been victims of sexist and misogynistic abuse at football matches. The HerGameToo HUFC team are absolutely thrilled to have Tom working with us. He will be our link to the playing and coaching squad as well as sharing our work on social media platforms.

And a reminder that we are also here to support any females who have any issues whilst supporting their team, home and away! If you want to report anything surrounding matchday experience please email hergametoo.co.uk/ report, supporterliaison@ hartlepoolunited.co.uk or use the QR code on our poster.

Ultimately, our aims include encouraging more girls and women to come along to The Suit Direct Stadium to support the team and have the opportunities within football without sexist or misogynistic discrimination. With your support, they will!

