

# #HERGAMETOO

**Today we hear from the coaches of the U10's teams from FC Hartlepool, the first grassroots team from the HUFC Youth Alliance to partner with HerGameToo.**

Coach Becky Robinson told us: "There are three of us me, Gareth Foremen and David Angel who coach FC Hartlepool Red & Blue U10's. We train Wednesday & Thursday at Grayfields. The girls have been together since there were three-years-old. Due to the popularity of the group we developed into two squads to ensure that everyone is playing at the level that will help them develop to the best that they can be. Therefore, one team

play in the U11 Premier (Blue) and the other in the U10 Division 1 (Reds). The aim is for both squads to come back together to become one team when they go to 11 a-side in future years.

The girls have made amazing progress over the years, and we now have five players who also represent Durham, Newcastle and Sunderland in ETCs. This group of girls have won numerous leagues as well as tournaments throughout the country.

I got into coaching to be able to give something back as I was very grateful to the volunteer coaches who enabled me to have lots of

amazing opportunities when I was growing up. Also, I wanted my daughter and her friends to have a female role model as when I was playing, all the coaches I had were male. The female game has grown enormously at all levels. It's so exciting for our team as they are going to get so many fantastic opportunities over the coming years whether that's on the field or future jobs within the game. Her Game Too is a great way for females to see all the great progress that has been made and to show them that they can achieve great things within the game."



David Angel added; "I got into coaching due to my daughter wanting to play football and Becky needing a helping hand as the number of girls grew within the club.

I have been involved in football my full life, so I wanted to pass on my experience and help the girls make childhood memories like I had through football. Most importantly, I wanted to help the girls progress their footballing abilities, develop their self-confidence and social skills, allowing them to build friendships through the sport. Women's and girls' football has exploded in popularity in recent years, largely due to the success of the Lionesses who inspired many, the now high-profile role models in the women's game, along with a growing number of opportunities for everyone to play. From my coaching experience, girls are just as agile as boys, just as able to grasp the physical side of the game and become an expert in every aspect of it. However, women and girls still face barriers and the more clubs that are welcoming and inclusive for all, the more women and girls will get involved.

er Game Too has made a positive change in football by making football a game for all and raising awareness about inclusivity in football. Today's new attitude to women in sport means more girls are feeling confident enough to want to play football."

Many thanks to Becky and David for telling us about their fantastic U10's at FC Hartlepool.

Some exciting news to share is that Hartlepool business Logo To Go have supplied our player

warm-up tops again this year for our dedicated match. They are now able to supply Her Game Too t-shirts to the public direct from their shop. They are situated on Tower Street and can be found on Facebook.

More news about this game to be announced in the coming weeks, keep an eye on our social media channels and HUFC website.

