



Candidate Statement

HARRISON DUNKS



There are many reasons why I want to be on the Trust Board. The first and probably most important is to help safeguard the future of Portsmouth Football Club, as I genuinely believe that now more than ever we have the chance to make a difference. The second reason I want to continue on the board is because in the last 8 months I have been inspired by many people, including those that I have sat on the board with, and those that still sit here today.

After sitting with all the people in board meetings, and other events I have decided that I want to help continue build the legacy that they have founded, built on and created.

The *Next Generations* group HAS made a difference, both in the Trust and in the club, but I still believe it's had a tricky start. With the takeover speculation and interest first starting not long after I was appointed to the Board, the group has found it hard to establish itself with my own and the Trust's priorities elsewhere. However, I would love to have a term where I can truly establish the Next Gen, with set aims and goals to help the Trust in the new position it finds itself. I have been a Pompey supporter all my life, I work in Primary schools and also have a bond with the local community spending many hours volunteering each week at local Grassroots football clubs. Each week I see the passion children's faces when football is mentioned, and I want the opportunity to nurture that passion, into blue, Pompey passion.

The things I believe the Trust can work on in the near future are:

1. Provide a strong connection with Portsmouth FC via the use of the HAB (Heritage Advisory Board)
2. Continue to engage with the local community.
3. Encourage and support young people to attend Fratton Park regularly.
4. Encourage and support young people to become a member of the Trust.

If elected for the board, these 4 things would be at the top of my priorities. The reason for this is because I believe there is still a large portion of the younger age range that have not yet been to, watched, heard of or been involved with Portsmouth FC or the Pompey Supporters Trust. I feel that it is vital that the "Next Generation" of Pompey fans feel connected with the club, and I would strive to do this along with the Next Generation group over the next three years. I will also work hard to continue to try to increase the number of members of the PST, an aim which I believe I have made progress with so far.

I hope you give me the chance to continue the work I have started with the Trust and the Next Gen, and choose me to represent young people who have the same passion for PFC that I have, and always will have.

Play Up Pompey