

## Cramlington United FC Wildcats

Loads of girls are enjoying football for the first time, thanks to Cramlington United FC's successful Wildcats programme.

Seven new teams have been created at Cramlington United FC, alongside the strengthening of others which were under threat, as a result of so many more girls getting involved in the game.



Mark Hedley, Female Football Development Officer, said: "The club has always promoted female participation and has offered football playing opportunities from U10s through to women's. The Wildcats provided a starting point to encourage girls from the age of 5 to participate in a fun-based atmosphere without any pressures that come with playing for a team or worries about ability."

More than 60 girls participated in the first year of the programme. There was further success in the second year, with up to 35 girls attending each week. The club works closely with the Cramlington School Sport Partnership to take female football and the Wildcats message into schools.

Mark added: "We're proud that we've become a beacon club for promoting female football and we would have struggled to achieve all that we've done without getting Wildcats status."





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