



## Bradford Disability Football Club Level the Playing Field



**Level Playing Field (LPF)** are a nationwide charity who act as a campaigning and advisory body across all sports. Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March is the start of the LPF weeks of Action 2014 which are to highlight the positive work that clubs do to provide for their disabled supporters.  
[www.levelplayingfield.org.uk](http://www.levelplayingfield.org.uk)

On Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> March, at Bradford City match sponsors **Bradford Disability Football Club (BDFC)** are playing at half time to showcase the work they do. A regular feature at half time BDFC has over 100 disabled members aged 6-60, they have nine teams that compete in various leagues and tournaments in the UK and internationally and have played against other disability teams such as Leeds, Liverpool, Everton and Chelsea.

Club Chairman, Ian Ormondroyd, Bradford City's Community Foundation Officer updates some of the successes;

Last year saw **Bradford City** introduce the "**Disability Player of the Year Award**" The first recipient of the award, Liam Midgely, has been a member for 13 years and was one of BDFC's very first members joining in 2001, at the age of 6.

Liam was diagnosed with Sotos Syndrome, it caused learning difficulties and behavioural problems. As a consequence he suffered, as do many young

disabled children, with isolation from mainstream football as he was unable to keep up with his peer group. His parents brought him to the club and have never looked back. They know being a part of the club has changed his life and has shaped him into the confident young man that collected the trophy. It's not just football, he has learned how to socially interact, play as a part of the team, have respect for his peers and coaches, most importantly he has lifelong friends who share his love of Bradford City.



Liam Midgely & Gary Jones, Player of the Year Awards 2013.

We have been building on our successful pan disability teams and have now have a deaf team competing in the **7<sup>th</sup> National Deaf Youth Tournament (NDYFT)** in Liverpool on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.



BDFC Deaf Team

The Tournament is open to all deaf football teams, all deaf youth groups who want to play!

The emphasis is on fun, raising awareness of deaf football and celebrating junior deaf football teams. The winning teams will be crowned the National Deaf Youth Football Champions and will take the coveted NDYFT Trophy home with them!

BDFC are also proud to announce **Mencap** have another year where one of **BDFC's players have been selected to represent England!** Having sent only four players to trials in Warwick, the England manager chose Adam Stones, who has learning difficulties and hypoglycaemia, he will represent Bradford and England playing in Switzerland this year in the national team.



Adam Stones collecting League Winners Cup

The club has had some overwhelming support from Bradford City and the fans, we have welcomed supporting local companies McDonalds, Bantams Banter and today see the addition of ASDA Keighley. We thank everyone for their continued support.