

NORTH WEST COUNTIES JUNIORS

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2<sup>nd</sup> FEBRUARY 2016

Meeting held at Leigh Miners Welfare

Roll Call Absent - Pilkington Rec and South Trafford

Fined £10 in line with association rules

1. Minutes of previous meeting accepted as a true record.
2. Matters arising - to be dealt with within framework of meeting
3. **Presentation;** Karen Jackson was thanked for her hard work over the last 15 years and especially for the fair and balanced approach taken as Chair of the Disciplinary Panel which had received praise from the RFL. Karen was happy to be the first female to receive Life Membership of the Association and thanked everyone for the gift and their best wishes.
4. **Registrations** – Club applications have been received and the website will be updated to provide details of contacts etc.  
4a) All were reminded that children are not free agents at end/beginning of season and that the quotas for transfers apply. Children registered with a club remain with that club for 12 months unless transferred in line with procedures.
5. Rules – as agreed at last meeting clarification provided:  
**5a) Primary Rules** Members were reminded that an agreement has been reached for the coming season as explained at the last meeting whereby an exemption is in place for u7s and u8s. All are happy with this but appreciate that for the sake of development it is advisable for coaches to be on side-lines in preference to being on the pitch as soon as possible.

**Every effort to be made so that all the players are involved all the time wherever practical.**

**5b) Mini Rules** – u9s play 9 per side, no kicking in the NW. Should 2 players be involved in a tackle then the referee should shout 'Held'.

**5c) Mod rules** – u10s and u11s – play 11 v 11. After summer break will play 13 v 13.

When kicking player is to kick in line with where try scored unless try scored more than 10metres away from the sticks in which case the ball should be kicked 10 metres from side of sticks. All were reminded of the importance of rotating 'kickers'.

Markers at play of ball must stand square and cause no obstruction to play.

At ruck marker cannot hold player

5d) U12s – play 13 v 13. No ball stealing or 40/20s. Clarification regarding 'pushing' to be given at next meeting.

Hopefully a handbook can be made available for the NW.

All were asked to raise any issues at meetings and reminded that:

- It is important to try and look through child's eyes and thus ensure that there is fun and inclusion thus allowing all to feel a valued member of the team
- Coaches are there to develop not win, - upskilling all, not just the gifted and talented
  - Teams gloating/boasting verbally or on websites is frowned upon as it is against the ethos of the association and will result in discipline action taken against offenders, clubs are responsible for the content on their websites and newspaper reports.
- SUNDAY IS FUNDAY

6 **Fixtures** to be put on website hopefully w/e 7-2-2016. Fixtures will run 6<sup>th</sup> March to 17<sup>th</sup> July and recommence 4<sup>th</sup> September to end of October. Bank Holidays will be free dates.

The Chair explained that changes are to be made and that Jason Seddon has been co-opted to the committee in order to assist with the fixtures this year with a view to taking over in 2017 no objections raised by the floor

. All were asked to be as flexible as possible with fixtures, the association is at a record level now with the number of clubs and teams and greater co-operation between clubs.

Rylands for example are running eleven junior sides and they manage their match days all clubs are asked to follow suit.

7 **Safeguarding** – Graham explained that he had attended the Safeguarding event and reminded everyone that:

- they are responsible to ensure that a safe friendly environment is provided
- abusive/poor behaviour should not be tolerated but challenged
- all should be vigilant at all times to ensure that any illegal transactions are reported as appropriate
- Coaches etc. should not put themselves at risk

8 **Under 12s** Details/explanation of pilot scheme whereby teams will be split into groups based on ability for the various competitions will be provided on the website.

9 **Monthly draw** - This month winners of the training kit to the value of £150- won by Belle Vue Bees

Next Meeting;

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 20.30 start @Leigh Miners Welfare institute

Embed the Pathway Spring Update by possibly both the chuckle brothers, Ant Atherton and Tony Fretwell.