

NORTH WEST COUNTIES JUNIORS
Minutes of Monthly Meeting Held 1st November 2016
Meeting held at Leigh Miners Welfare

Roll Call Absent –Aspull New Springs, Belle Vue Bees, Clock Face, Folly Lane, Haresfinch, Higginshaw, Liverpool Lions, Salford Roosters, Rochdale Cobras, Wigan Bulldogs,

Fines in line with association rules will be applied.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting** accepted as a true record.
2. **Matters arising** – to be dealt with within framework of meeting.
3. **Report back regarding meetings with other organisations** – none held since last meeting.

4 Registrations

4a) *Club registration* – All clubs to:

- complete application form and submit via email prior to first meeting in 2017
- New application form will be available after the AGM in December
- Pay fees (£15 association affiliation fee and £10 per team) at January meeting.

This will provide opportunity for consultation and all age groups grouping finalised for the February meeting thus allowing games to commence in March 2017.

Clubs/teams not registered at January 2017 meeting will not be included in fixtures.

4b) *Re-registration of players* forms and registration booklets together with a letter were distributed to all clubs present. All were advised that procedure as an amendment from the letter was as follows :

- **Re-registration form (white copy with 2016 details)** to be used as reference regarding who needs to register and to record de-registrations (forms to be returned endorsed with those who are to be de-registered at January 2017 meeting)
- **Registration forms to be completed for each child** No need for proof of age for players previously registered please make sure players ID is listed on the registration form
- **new passport style photo required** for each player (on reverse of photo give name, ID number, club and age group) affix photograph to registration form .

This will help with new system to be adopted and also ensure that contact details are up to date. Details of those who have left teams will assist in the proposed 2017 project to ascertain why children de-register.

All new players to be registered in normal manner

5 Proposed changes to be considered at AGM

5a) *Changes to Transfer system.*–It is anticipated that the transfer process will be speeded up by each club having a designated officer to deal with all registration/transfer issues. The designated officer will be the only person to submit transfer applications. This will also allow clubs to ascertain why transfer(s) requested and ensure that the association has a named contact thus avoiding the complications which have arisen when individual coaches and/or parents have been contacting the association.

5b) *Improved administration of leagues/ new IT system /web page* In order to facilitate the sharing of information and provide a single access point for information across all 3 leagues within the north west, work is underway on improving the IT system. The new system will prove beneficial with game management (arranging fixtures with information regarding all games across all ages being easily accessible thus helping to reduce game time clashes between the various

age groups) and assist in the general administration of all 3 leagues within the region. It is hoped to launch this system in January 2017.

6 Feedback on playing numbers

Whilst there is a drop in numbers involved in the game overall, especially for those aged over 14, the North West has continued to demonstrate good uptake in under 12s association. Data shows over 1000 under 7s registered and nearly 5000 children playing on a regular basis in the u8 to u12 leagues. This equates to a 5% increase within the north west in the last year.

The chair pointed out the importance of building on this good foundation and challenged all to assist in demonstrating that the north west format is providing quality opportunities that help increase and retain participation which assists the RFL (who have been challenged to increase participation by 5%) by setting targets whereby:

- All clubs have newbies by September 2017
- Each team increase numbers by 10%

Responding to comments the Chair emphasised the need for clubs to work together for the benefit of the game and the children participating (i.e. sharing players to provide greater opportunities to play) and upholding and fostering the ethos whereby the importance of enjoying and learning new skills is promoted above winning.

Acknowledging that a great deal of time had been allocated previously to the potential help available via SKYTRY it was suggested that foundations be approached directly by individual clubs to request assistance in increasing/encouraging participation.

7 Monthly draw winner– Limehurst Lions

9 A.O.B.

All were reminded that the AGM will commence at 8pm on Tuesday 6th December