

**NORTH WEST COUNTIES JUNIORS**  
**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING HELD 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2017**  
**Meeting held at Leigh Miners Welfare**

Roll Call Absent -Aspull, Belle Vue, Halton Farnworth Hornets, Haydock, Latchford Giants, Liverpool, Rochdale Cobras, Rylands, Saddleworth,

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. **Vote regarding Rule 1.2 (referring to mixed sex teams) from AGM.**  
Members were reminded the decision made at the AGM whereby they were asked to consult with their clubs and report back to this meeting as to whether they wish to retain rule 1.2 allowing for mixed sex teams until the end of the season for those in the age group u11.  
Vote taken on whether rule should remain unchanged:  
27 favour of retaining rule in present format  
5 against retention of rule  
5 abstained

As single sex teams for age u12 and upwards are required all were asked to promote girls only teams.

#### **4 Fixtures 2017**

4a) *fixtures/groupings*. - It was noted that the majority of applications had been received and that:

- work to align with older age groups underway
- groups of 8 will be established for fixtures
- cooperation and patience will be appreciated because as this is first year of new groupings errors might occur
- monitoring of social media etc is undertaken to ensure that disrespectful comments about opposition and boastful comments (e.g. undefeated team, outstanding team easily beat poor opposition) can be challenged as such behaviour will not be tolerated.
- No fixtures are to be requested to start of the season (March)

All were reminded that all fixtures are friendlies and that the development of the game is the main purpose of the association and thus all must promote the Sunday is Funday ethos.

4b) *Curtain raisers* – all were reminded of the need to advise the Chair and/or Secretary of any proposals take part in curtain raisers and were requested to consider inviting/arranging for fixture to be part of curtain raiser..

#### **4. Festival request**

Salford Red Devils have requested permission hold a festival prior to game with Wigan in February. No objections raised.

#### **6 Safeguarding**

All were reminded of the importance of being vigilant and that if in doubt assistance can be sought from the Chair and/or Secretary and that the Safeguarding team led by Colette Eden at the RFL will provide help and advice in a professional and confidential manner.

All clubs should their best to ensure that all volunteers are checked and that appropriate steps are taken to safeguard all (e.g. players and coaches).

It is hoped that regular safeguarding meetings/updates can be arranged.

SAFEGUARDING CONFERENCE – 29<sup>TH</sup> January to be held at Warrington.

## **7 Requests to join association**

**Members were advised that clubs have requested permission to re-enter the association:**

**Latchford Albion.** It was pointed out that the club had several junior teams until last year when Latchford Giants had been formed and taken the place of Latchford Albion. A new group of kids have been recruited at u9 and permission is sought to re-enter the League.

No objections made and thus Latchford Albion were welcomed.

Concerns were however expressed about the basis upon which Latchford Giants were accepted last year and David Lowe was asked to investigate via the 13-15s age group who had sanctioned the changes last year which led to the acceptance of the changes by this association.

**Blackpool** Whilst not yet ready to enter into regular fixtures the club are developing the game and have teams (predominantly 11s) looking for games on an adhoc basis. In the past others have been helped by members arranging games and it is hoped that clubs will do this again to help promote and develop the game in Blackpool.

No objections made and thus Blackpool were welcomed

Clubs withdrawing 2017 –Haresfinch Hawks and Higginshaw Eagles

## **8 Management Reshuffle/ Rules**

Members were advised that:

- David Lowe is to deal with all registrations – please scan and email registration documents direct to David
- Age group administrators to provide single point of contact for any issues/problems/queries should help develop a more efficient service- details of administrators will be provided at next meeting.
- Rules handbook will be available at February meeting.

## **9 Monthly draw winner– Ashton Bears**

## **10 A.O.B. None**