

MINUTES

From a meeting of NWC 8-12 ARL Club Delegates held in the Main Lounge, Leigh Miners Welfare Sports & Social Club, Twist Lane Leigh on Tuesday 4th October 2016.

1.0

ROLL CALL

Clubs not in attendance were as follows:

Ashton Bears, Atherton Dragons, Belle Vue Bees, Burtonwood Bulldogs, Chester Gladiators, Haresfinch Hawks, Higginshaw Eagles, Liverpool Lions, Rochdale Cobras, South Trafford Raiders, Widnes St Marie's Vikings, West Bank Bears, Wigan St Judes.

Fined £ 10 for non attendance as per association rules .

2.0

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

GA provided the clubs present with a brief resume of the Minutes generated from the September meeting now affixed to the North West Counties Juniors website. The Minutes were approved as an accurate summation of the business conducted.

3.0

MATTERS ARISING

Accrington Wildcats –

- a) Contact details for the U9s –This information would be relayed to clubs later in the proceedings.
- b) Women coaches.

Since the visit of John McMullen (NWC Club and Competition Manager) to outline initiatives by the RFL to encourage the growth of women coaches there had been an excellent response and take up. Details would be added to the NWC Juniors website although currently available on the RFL's own website.

4.0

YOUTH & JUNIOR FORUM MEETING – FEEDBACK

GA provided clubs with a summary of points from that meeting.

The July meeting was cancelled because delegates from Yorkshire were unavailable. GA in a response to the RFL asked why the meeting was cancelled however has received no response.

A full report of the SKY TRY initiative was presented to the Community Board in September and appears with these Minutes for clubs to both read and analyse.

Prompted by MD club delegates discussed in some detail the SKY TRY initiative and how this had impacted in the various North West Regions.

It was apparent that taking the Warrington Foundation aside which appears to embraced the concept in an all- inclusive fashion and to a lesser extent Wigan Widnes and St Helens, the professional clubs had not fully engaged with community clubs.

It is the intention of the North West Counties Juniors management, as part of the three - year pilot, to engage with all the Foundations to encourage good husbandry and practice across the region as a whole. There is clearly much work to be done and the League's Management will from time to time or as the occasion demands, continually keep clubs appraised of developments

Continued

5.0

NEWBIES

MD apologised to the clubs for the seemingly poor communication which had led to confusion regarding Newbies.

For the benefit of all club's MD reinforced the agreed protocol surrounding the Newbies concept and the registrations criteria to underpin it. To qualify as "Newbies" players must be 6 years of age as at 1st September and the following season will remain as U7 players.

To assist with the processing of registration clubs must ensure that "U7 Newbies" must be endorsed on the form. Community Game service following the receipt of documentation had produced and issued ID cards without the word "Newbies" shown.

Recent issues and identified anomalies had now been rectified.

All games involving "Newbies" are non-competitive and no points awarded.

All coaches were reminded that the primordial aim and core principle is to develop young players to inculcate support as they embark on their rugby league journey. Winning at all costs is not a mantra the League will embrace and has to be discouraged. Such habits if not checked will have serious consequences as young players move on to a more competitive environment underpinned by League structures.

6.0

GENERAL DISCIPLINE

MD highlighted a recent case of a match being abandoned by a young referee as the two coaches had engaged in a disagreeable tone and seemingly wanting to fight one another. On reflection the image of the game is soiled and mirrors an image which the sport of rugby league cannot nor will countenance.

Clubs hold a responsibility to lead by example, instil discipline and enforce with rigidity and purposefulness the principle of good practice so creating a friendly and engaging environment for all to compete.

The Accrington Wildcats representative highlighted a discipline issue about which to date for whatever reason there had still been no outcome. MD agreed to follow up as appropriate.

7.0

LANCASHIRE CUP FINAL – SELECT SECURITY STADIUM WIDNES – 2 10 2016

MD congratulated both Halton Farnworth hornets and Rylands Sharks respectively on providing excellent fayre in a contest worthy of its status. The closeness of the result paid testament to a keenly fought but disciplined encounter in which by 14 points to 10 Halton Farnworth Hornets edged out their doughty but gallantopponents.

Representatives from several professional clubs passed comment on the standard of football and eulogised on its content.

8.0

FIXTURES UPDATE

Higginshaw U11s have withdrawn from the last three fixtures however adjustments will be made to ensure clubs for whom this affects will be issued with games

There would be some re-alignment of the groups for next season however as a departure from the past to establish common consent and avoid controversy, clubs will engage in the process.

Clubs must take responsibility for ensuring that Official Team Sheets generated from games are completed accurately and all the relevant management data required reflects the game.

Roughly 40% of team sheets received by the League when conducting routine checks do not provide the match result. Clubs have a serious responsibility to address all aspects of administration so eliminating needless and time consuming follow up by the League.

Continued

9.0

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MD confirmed that the League's Annual General meeting will be staged on Tuesday 6th December 2016. Proposals for changes to the Constitution and/or nominations - duly proposed and seconded in writing by two current member clubs - in respect of all positions the management committee must be with GA **before** the November meeting.

GA urged clubs to ascertain and report to the League's management committee why players on their registers are for whatever reason opting to leave the game.

10.0

AOB

Accrington Wildcats U19's Contact

Team Manager Jane Field Mobile: 07880 326262
Alternative Contact Mark Field Mobile: 07470 074253

11.0

LOTTERY

Raging Bull have now provided the League with all the outstanding merchandise which will now all past club lottery winners to receive kit/merchandise

Thatto Heath Crusaders (Ticket number 40) proved to be the worthy recipients of the lottery draw.

12.0

CLOSE OF MEETING

There being no further Business to conduct, MD at 9 34pm brought the proceedings to a close.