

2019 May Delegates Meeting

Monday 13th May 2019

at Shaw Cross 7.30pm start.

The meeting was duly opened by the Chair and before the agenda items were discussed two presentations took place.

Robert Hicks from the RFL spoke regards the Operational rule around the 5 Scholarship transfers. The Secretary gave a description of the rules around this to the floor. The rule had been discussed at the Youth and Junior meeting, and additional conversation with the NWC Youth representative. In December the RFL had requested that we trial withdrawing the rule to see how it actually impacts the teams, this had not been communicated, or actioned. There had only been one Scholarship player that had been prevented in moving to the club of his choice, and this had then gone through in April, when the instructions had been actioned.

Robert Hicks then addressed the delegates around how Sport England money for the Community game and have concerns regards the rules as we are the only sport where transfers are enforced on players and are requesting the trial. He knew that there would be some clubs that take advantage of this and that Scholarship clubs movement of players to certain clubs takes place within our game but felt it was necessary to see how this would effect clubs. He then opened it out to the floor for questions. This trial would play a small part in the transfer review due to take place in 2019.

The delegates after a few questions seemed to be in favour of the trial taking place, Robert Hicks thanked them and left the meeting.

The representative from Kappa gave a brief overview of their company and brand, Terry Schofield of MJM said that the sponsorship deal was now in its last year of the 3 year deal and will still be honoured but there will also be an additional payment made this season to every winning Divisional team the payment of £200 that can be used to purchase items from MJM. Stanningley said that they are tied to O'Neills for all their clothing so how would this effect them, Terry said he would discuss this with them at the end of the meeting. The question was raised that this only concerns competitive age groups, Terry said that it is unfortunate regards this but it is an additional payment on top of the agreed payments.

Roll Call.

The Roll call was then taken and clubs identified who had not returned trophies.

The Chair opened the meeting, there were no minutes to discuss so no Matters arising.

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*Alan Havercroft Donna Simons Jason Woodman Michelle Huntington Jacki Flanagan
Charlie Bray*

Chairperson's Report.

Managing this League due to its size is a very hard League to manage, our goal is to keep players playing and the massive job clubs do to keep the game where it is.

Fixtures are as always a big problem with the stop start season we have along with the postponements clubs use.

Discipline is also a major problem and we will be having a review and consultation on this and answers given at the October meeting. The big problem exists and we have produced some posters to enforce the message from management and delegates can get these from the front at the end of the meeting.

General Secretary's Report.

Donna opened by asking that Clubs work on improving their discipline on the touchlines, and to that end we were going to attend more games. The feedback from the weekend was that far too many TLMs were taking stats, or standing nowhere near their spectators. There will be a new online course instead of the classroom one, along with the rebranding, as part of The RFL's #eEnjoy The Game campaign. Watch out for the new "Magic Shirt" videos that would be coming out by the end of the month.

Cup dates for this year are probably 6th (Challenge) and 7th July (Youth) and we will be looking at a date in September for the Continuation Cups. We were waiting for confirmation from the venue. Could all teams that reach the semi finals send in a team photo with player names left to right to make it easier to copy and paste into the programme. Katrina Daw said that names should not correspond with the photo.

Meeting with JUMP to discuss sponsorship opportunities – and had asked specifically for offers around the younger teams, not competitive age groups.

Treasurer's Report.

We have £89,254.38 in the bank, we have spent £3K on the new posters. The Treasurer then said to the delegates that he did not have time as he has too much to do with fines if you do not pay them on time they will be doubled. Also any queries regards fines can you please contact the appropriate fixture secretary as he just sends them out. The Chair then asked any clubs enquiring about fines to also make sure they copy the Secretary into the e mails. A comment from the floor regards what are we going to spend some of the money that was promised at the AGM, the Chair said we were looking into a grant system for clubs can apply to.

The treasurer informed the floor that Hi Vis vests are at the front and they are nearly all gone now and we will not be getting anymore in the foreseeable future.

Transfers.

We have done 634 transfers so far.

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Discipline Secretary.

The discipline panel have sat on 92 cases to date with 30 down for tomorrow and 38 listed for future dates, 25% of these are for questioning decisions etc, 25% are for brawls which end up costing the clubs money.

Keighley Albion U15s have had referees from all societies withdraw from doing any of their games, this has been done by the societies not the League.

Jason Woodman then said the societies are looking into which teams they will do or not do in the future so any that continually offend could end up with no referees at their games.

The question was raised as to who can officially do them when no referees are available, Donna will speak to the RFL for clarification on this.

There were some concerns at the standard of some junior referees.

Fixture Secretary Co-Ordinator.

Michelle had sent out an e mail regards the movement of teams at 12s – 15s, she has tried to be as fair as possible but cannot please everyone, we have to make decision that suit most clubs, and cannot always cater to individual teams.

Fixture Secretaries.

U7s/U8s. If you have any issues regards fixtures etc please contact Michelle as she is meeting with Emma King later in the week.

U9s. Charlie Bray asked if there was any need to travel so far away, Milford have had three away games out of four and travelled to Sherburn, Sheffield and Heworth so a round figure of 150 miles which is excessive for a short game. Adele replied that because they were a new team they got what she could offer them but will look into giving more local where possible.

U10s. Michelle has seen promotional videos on Social Media, that are not suitable for primary games – more suitable to Youth games. Many games are going ahead as 13-a-side which contradicts the Primary Rules – 9-a-side is recommended or small sided games to avoid players not getting as much game time. Clive Senior will be taking on the U10s fixture secretary's role.

U11s. Bev has sent out e mails to clubs regards fixtures due to the Rhinos weekend so please look on the SportsTG for details.

U12s. There was no representation for this age group.

U13s. Paul Hardy congratulated the teams on getting everything to him in good time and keep it up, could you just make sure ALL the details are filled in on the teamsheet as some have no teams on etc and causes extra work (and could result in fines).

U14s. Leanne said there would be some movement of teams and as U13s please get all information on the teamsheets please.

U15s. Lee thanked the delegates for all their understanding on team movement.

U16s. Tyrone thanked all for their support and keep it up.

U18s. Sarah asked that teams make sure they upload their teams onto SportsTG please.

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League Welfare Officer.

Paul Harrison said that in 2018 there were 116 cases and this year to date we have 30 to deal with, these include assaults, sexual assaults, parent on player and coaches refusing to leave the playing area, social media, bullying etc etc. Some TLM's are not doing their role correctly and if found guilty will have their badge removed. Please ensure you have a Social Media policy in place to combat this.

League Volunteer Co-Ordinator Report.

Jacki was not present but had left a report, as per the constitution CRF1 forms are a working document, and now had to be submitted a minimum of 3 times per year. If you have not sent in an updated CRF1 form during April/May, then you needed to send in a new form by 31st May.

New Clubs.

Gateshead gave a presentation to the floor regards their U16s. Yarm at U16s were not present but the Chair stated that they are an official North Yorkshire Club.

The question was raised about the length of travel to these clubs, the East Leeds delegate said they had played them the previous week and it took them 50 minutes to get there and were made to feel welcome.

South Leeds Spartans gave a presentation regards their team which is mainly made up of female players.

AOB.

Normanton had put in a letter regards was there a limit to the length of travel for teams in the league, the Chair said that the boundaries for the league are the Yorkshire Boundaries but on occasion if required this would be relaxed.

Will teams be penalised for not travelling, yes they will as they are league members and the rules are for all.

Will there be any other teams wanting to come in from outside the boundaries, the Chair said no and that the RFL are looking to have development leagues in place.

The Chair asked for an update on the Roll Call this was actioned by the Secretary and the Chair then informed the floor that the posters were in front of him for clubs to collect, with this the delegates rose and made their way to the front.

Madeleine Hagerty from North Leeds Leopards approached the bench to inform the Chair that the new clubs had not been voted on as it is an agenda item, there was also an objection from the floor from Joan Langley Chair of Normanton with the same request. The vote, the confirmation of the next meeting, and the official closing of the meeting were missed.

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Cup Draw.

The Cup draw then took place at the back of the club and the draw will be published on the media sites.

Date of next Meeting.

Date of next meeting 7th October 2019

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