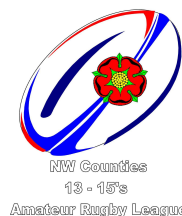


**North West Counties 13 – 15 Junior Amateur Rugby**  
Meeting Minutes



*Date of Meeting* 7<sup>th</sup> April 2010

<i>Committee Members:</i>	Margaret Byrne (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Sam Armstrong (League Sec. /Discipline Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Jayne Bissett (Treasurer)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Darren Hayes (Referee Appointments Officer)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Paul Edwards (U13's Fixtures & Reg Sec.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Lindsay Bissett (U14's Fixtures)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Jackie Clowes (U15's Fixtures Sec.)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Paul Mitchell (Transfers Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	David Lowe (Registrations Secretary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Brian Edwards (Child Welfare Officer)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Apologies:* Jayne Bissett, Lindsay Bissett, Darren Hayes

*Next Meeting:* Wed 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 8.30pm, Golborne Parkside ARLFC

**I. Attendance**

Ashton Bears	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bank Quay Bulls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blackbrook Royals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blackpool Scorpions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bold Miners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burtonwood Bulldogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chorley Panthers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clockface	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Crosfields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Culcheth Eagles	<input type="checkbox"/>
Eccles & Salford Juniors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Folly Lane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Halton Farnworth Hornets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Haydock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Higginshaw	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hindley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ince Rose Bridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Langworthy Reds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Latchford Albion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leigh East	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leigh Miners Rangers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leyland Warriors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liverpool Lions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manchester Storm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Milnrow Cobras	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oldham St Anne's	<input type="checkbox"/>
Orrell St James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Golborne Parkside	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pilkington Recs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Portico Juniors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rochdale Mayfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Runcorn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rylands Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saddleworth Rangers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shevington Sharks	<input type="checkbox"/>	Thatto Heath Crusaders	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Waterhead	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	West Bank Bears	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Westhoughton Lions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Widnes Moorfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Widnes St Maries	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wigan St Cuthbert's	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wigan St Jude's	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wigan St Patrick's	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Woolston Rovers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Clubs not present at the meeting have been fined £30 as outlined and minuted at the May 2008 meeting.

*(Cheques to be made payable to NW Counties 13-15 ARL)*

**II. Minutes & Updates from the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the March 2010 meeting which were posted on the NWC 13 – 15's website were proposed by Folly Lane and seconded by Eccles & Salford.

**III. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

**IV. Correspondence**

**a).** Sam Armstrong informed the floor that the League had received the very sad news that Derek Corless, Coach of Ashton Bears U15s had unfortunately passed away on Monday morning, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Derek was a very popular Coach both with adults and players alike and he

will be very sadly missed by the many friends he had made throughout the NW Counties.

As a tribute, a minutes silence was held at the meeting in his honour and all Clubs were asked if they too could also hold a minutes' silence before any games taking place on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April.

**b).** Thatto Heath arranged a Positive Coaching Course for Thursday 8th April at 7pm; the charge will be £8 payable on the night.

Could anyone interested please contact Janet Haselden on 07730 405530.

**c).** The League has been contacted about two forthcoming Festivals. Firstly, Crosfields, who are hoping to host two festivals in the summer; they intend to invite 4 or 5 other teams at each age group to take part.

All players will receive a medal for participating.

Each Crosfields' Coach at the respective age-groups will be organising which teams they would like to invite.

The dates are as follows:-

Sat 12th June for age groups:- 8's, 10's, 12's, and 14's.

Sat 19th June for age groups:- 7's, 9's, 11's, 13's and 15's

Secondly, Portico have asked permission to hold their Annual Festival of Rugby League on the weekend of the 12th & 13th June 2010

Teams who will be playing in the 2010-2011 Season as U14s will play on Saturday 12th June teams who will play as U13s will compete on Sunday 13th June

It will be run on a "1st come, 1st served" basis and is open to all NW Counties & BARLA teams.

There is an entry fee of £10 per team.

All matches will be between sides of equal numbers.(12 v 12, 13 v 13) and will be 14min duration (7m each way)

All interested teams should contact the Portico Coach in their relevant age group or the club secretary at [lindsey.leyland.dss@knowsley.gov.uk](mailto:lindsey.leyland.dss@knowsley.gov.uk)

The League are fully supportive of both of these events and wish both Clubs well with their respective Festivals.

**d).** Finally, the League have been invited to attend, on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2010, a meeting with Peter Brooke, the RFL's North West Match Officials Development Officer to discuss, amongst other issues

- RESPECT
- Match Officials Fee's
- Referee Assessment Forms
- Dismissal Reporting
- Referees who are also players, refereeing under suspension

If anyone has anything they wish us to raise can they please e-mail their points through to SamArmstrong99@aol.com in advance of the meeting.

**V. Referee Appointments Coordinator's Report**

There was no report due to Darren's absence, however, there appeared to be no major issues and the appointment of officials was working fine.

**VI. Registration Secretary's Report**

David announced that there was nothing to report.

**VII. U13's Fixture Secretary's Report**

Paul Edwards explained that there was a chance, depending on results, of a couple of playoffs being required to determine final places. As soon as Paul has all the details he will ensure that everyone is advised accordingly.

Paul went on to explain and clarify that teams who have not completed their season by the end of April will be awarded 1 point per outstanding match.

**VIII. U14's Fixture Secretary's Report**

Due to Lindsay & Jayne being on holiday there was no major report for the U14s, however, they did ask that all teams try and get any outstanding fixtures sorted as soon as possible.

**IX. U15's Fixture Secretary's Report**

Jackie Clowes informed the floor that all fixtures, apart from one, are now available on the website.

The dates of this season's "Presentation Nights" were announced and these are as follows:

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> May - U13's Presentation Night

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May - U14's Presentation Night

& Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May - U15's Presentation Night

All to be held at the Hindley St Peter's Clubhouse, home of Hindley ARLFC

It was asked if Clubs who have won their Division can please send a CD of head and shoulder shots of all their squad (with accompanying names so that we are aware who is who) and any additional action shots as soon as possible to Sam or Jackie. Remember these head and shoulder shots will be going on the big screen at the Presentation Nights so please try to make them all similar.

Everyone was reminded that the Leagues' Cup Finals take place over the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> April.

The Development Cup Finals will take place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> with the following kick off times

- 12pm - U13s
- 2pm - U14s
- & 4pm - U15s

The NW Counties Cup Finals will take place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> with, again, the following kick off times

- 12pm - U13s
- 2pm - U14s
- & 4pm - U15s

The War of the Roses Challenges had been a great success with a good day being had by all. The day itself ended, for the second year running, with honours at one win apiece.

In the U13s Challenge Blackbrook lost to a very strong Stanningley side 34-6 whilst, in the U15s Challenge, Orrell St James beat the team who had the previous season knocked them out of the BARLA Youth Cup, Normanton Knights 20-10.

The NW Counties 13-15's League would like to place on record it's sincere thanks to the Normanton Knights club who rescued the day at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour by providing a team at very short notice when another team dropped out at the last minute

**X. Transfer Committee's Report**

Paul Mitchell had a couple of transfers being dealt with which had been received before the transfer window closed these, he informed the room were in the process of being addressed.

The question was asked from the floor as to what happened with transfers for the current season's U15's moving to 16's next season. Paul advised that any such transfers should be sent to Hilary Steel of the NW Counties 16-18's League once the new transfer window opened on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

**XI. Child Welfare Officer's Report**

Brian Edwards informed the floor that there were no issues to report.

**XII. Disciplinary Chair's Report**

Verdict Notifications for those cases heard at the March Disciplinary meeting were issued. All other pending cases were adjourned until the May Disciplinary Meeting due to the workload in preparation for the Finals etc.

**XIII. BARLA Representative's Report**

There had been no meetings affecting our age-groups although BARLA had been in attendance at the recent Youth & Junior Forum held at the Willows, Salford on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2010.

The Minutes of the RFL's Youth & Junior Forum held at The Willows, Salford at 1.30pm – 4.00pm on the 27th March 2010 are detailed below:

**Present:**

Colin Foster	Hull & District Youth
Pat Crawshaw	Female Steering Group
Ralph Marchant	National Youth League
Jade Mackie	North East
Graham Aitken	North West Counties 8-12
Sam Armstrong	North West Counties 13-15
Jackie Clowes	North West Counties 13-15
Margaret Byrne	North West Counties 13-15
Hilary Steel	North West Counties Youth
Mark Farrell	West Riding Youth
Carroll Wills	West Riding Youth
Charlie Bray	Yorkshire Juniors
Peter Benson	Yorkshire Juniors
Ron England	English Schools
Dennis Flaherty	BARLA
Carole Land	Yorkshire Youth/BARLA
Alan Boot	Yorkshire Youth/BARLA

**Apologies:**

Tim Fellows	Midlands
Andy Gilvary	London & The South
John Piercy	Student Rugby League
Joe Elliott	West Cumbria Youth

Tommy Taylor	West Cumbria Youth
Mark Senter	Scotland Rugby League
Sue Stephenson	Hull & District Youth
Mark Jones	Wales
Mick Doyle	North West Counties 8-12
Ken Tinsdale	BARLA
David Lowe	National Youth League

**In Attendance:**

David Gent	RFL
Kelly Barrett	RFL
Andy Harland	RFL
BJ Mather	RFL
Dave Johnson	RFL

**1. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING – 14 NOVEMBER 2009**

- 1.1 Item 11 - Concern was expressed that the minutes stated that the next meeting would be held in February 2010 and also that there was no Coaching meeting in January 2010.
- 1.2 Item 3 – KB confirmed that Yorkshire Juniors ARL had not received financial assistance from the RFL to pay for their insurance fees. All Youth and Junior teams received financial assistance depending on their status.

**2. PLAYER PERFORMANCE PATHWAY**

- 2.1 BJ Mather gave an update on Player Performance Pathway.
- 2.2 The Leagues were extremely dissatisfied with the lack of communication from the Performance Department.
- 2.3 It was reported that the scholarship games were starting on the 10th April 2010 for six weeks for U15's/U16's year olds.
  - 2.3.1 The Leagues have not been consulted and this has impact on the League Finals.
  - 2.3.2 BJ reported that the Community Board had signed this off.
- 2.4 It was agreed that a statement with timelines for all Player Performance activity, including scholarships, be produced and sent to Leagues
- 2.5 It was reported that Championship Clubs have been informing players to switch clubs to improve their chances of selection. Evidence to be obtained to support these claims.
- 2.6 It was agreed that the following would be discussed at the next meeting
  - Girl's Pathway
  - Licensing Issues

**3. COACHING UPDATE**

- 3.1 Dave Johnson attended on behalf of the Coaching Department.
- 3.2 DJ reported that a meeting had not taken place with the Leagues due to the consultation process still being ongoing

- 3.3 DJ brought a paper with him regarding the individual meetings that had taken place with Leagues and this was discussed.
- 3.4 It was agreed that a meeting to take place in April to discuss the following:
- Communication
  - Qualifications
  - CPD
  - Girl's Coaching
- 3.5 DJ to send the website link regarding Coaching to all Leagues

#### **4. THE ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE COMMUNITY BOARD**

- 4.1 David Gent gave an update regarding the role of the Community Board and the function of the sub-groups
- 4.2 It was agreed that the Youth and Junior Forum would be the decision making body and would feed directly back to the Community Board.
- 4.3 The frequency of the Youth and Junior Forum meetings would fall in line with the Community Board. 2/4 per year.
- 4.4 If any particular subject, e.g., Coaching, was to be discussed, and then an individual working group meeting would be held.
- 4.5 It was agreed that the Coaching and Performance Department are to attend all meetings.
- 4.6 A paper is to be written regarding the formal structure and is to be sent to all Leagues.

#### **5. FOUR SEASONS PLAYING SEASON**

- 5.1 Andy Harland gave an update of two meetings that had been held regarding the four seasons playing programme.
- 5.1.1 Further meetings are to be held on the 29th and 31st March 2010 with the final meeting to be held on the 14th April 2010 at the George Hotel, Huddersfield.
- 5.2 It was agreed that Community Game Services would create a master fixture list for all Leagues using the common Google calendar.

#### **6. 16-18 PLAYER RETENTION**

- 6.1 David Gent gave a presentation on how we get more 16-18 year olds involved. (Presentation attached).
- 6.2 The RFL are currently looking into this, however, if any Leagues have any ideas, please submit these to KB.

#### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 7.1 Clubmark – Concern was expressed that the Clubmark was being awarded to Clubs without consultation with Leagues.
- 7.1.1 It was agreed that KB and AH are to consult with Leagues to agree the best way for this to be done.

7.2 Safeguarding – KB to speak to the Operations Department regarding communication to Playing Leagues when any Safeguarding issues were reported.

**8. DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING**

8.1 A twelve Month calendar is to be produced with meetings held from 10.00 am to 4.00 pm on a Saturday.

**XIII. Any Other Business**

There was no Treasurers' Report due to Jayne being away on holiday.

The position of a Club Liaison Officer was discussed and volunteers sought in advance of the June AGM. The role would encompass ...

The date of the next League meeting at Golborne Parkside will be the Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 commencing at 8.30pm.