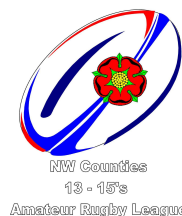


North West Counties 13 – 15 Junior Amateur Rugby
Meeting Minutes



Date of Meeting 5th August 2009

Committee Members:

Margaret Byrne (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sam Armstrong (League Sec. /Discipline Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jayne Bissett (Treasurer)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jeff Schofield (Referee Appointments Officer)	<input checked="" 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: Lindsay Bissett

Next Meeting: Wed 2nd September 2009 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"/>
Blackpool Stanley	<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 checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hindley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ince Rose Bridge	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Langworthy Reds	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Latchford Albion	<input 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 type="checkbox"/>
Runcorn	<input type="checkbox"/>	Rylands Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Saddleworth Rangers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shaw Rhinos	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shevington Sharks	<input checked="" 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 checked="" 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"/>		

As this meeting follows the League's AGM, Clubs not present at that meeting have been fined £50 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 July 2009 meeting which were posted on the NWC 13 – 15's website were proposed by Liverpool Lions and seconded by Eccles & Salford Juniors.

III. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

IV. Correspondence

Friendlies/Festivals/Tournaments

The League had received three requests for authorisations for several friendlies/festivals, namely:

Haydock Warriors U15's

Would like permission to play a friendly match against Wallsend Eagles from Gateshead on Monday 31 August (bank holiday). Match to be played on King George V Playing Fields. Kick off 12.30pm

Leigh Miners U13's

Would like permission to play their traditional "curtain raiser" game between Leigh Miners Rangers and Shevington Sharks on Sunday 9th August at 1.15pm prior to the Grainey Super Cup final between Leigh Miners Rangers and Halton Simms Cross at Twist Lane

Ince Rose Bridge U14's

Would like permission to to play 2 friendlies against Stanningley on 16th August and Normaton Knights on the 22nd August.

West Bank Bears U15's

Would like permission to play a friendly against Leigh Miners on Sunday 23rd August.

Manchester Storm U13's

Would like permission to play Rochdale Mayfield on Thursday 6th August 2009 Kick Off 7pm

Blackpool Scorpions U15's

Would like permission to play a friendly at home to Kingross Park U15's from Halifax. Kick off 12 noon Saturday 22nd August 2009. This is a curtain raiser to the Blackpool Scorpions and Kingross Park open age game which kicks off at 2.30.

Latchford Albion U13's

Would like permission to play a friendly away game against Hunslet Parkside on 16th August with an 11.30 kick off.

V. Referee Appointments Coordinator's Report

The meeting welcomed Jeff Schofield who has taken on the role of Referee Appointments Officer stepping into the shoes of David Lowe who previously held the position on behalf of the League.

Jeff spoke to the room and introduced himself and hoped that he would be able to appoint referees suitable to the games after liaison with the various Referees Societies in the region.

Jeff thanked David for his smooth handover and stated that if anyone has any constructive feedback he would take on board the comments and hoped that the referees would be given their due respect for the forthcoming season.

VI. Registration Secretary's Report

David Lowe announced that we have already almost 2000 players registered though there are still one or two teams who not yet registered their players. Turnaround time for cards is still fairly quick as many Leagues are now assisting by registering online.

David handed out copies of the registrations received so far but informed everyone to check to ensure that the details are correct and to notify him of any omissions/errors or if photographs are poorly printed.

All clubs were reminded that there is no need to send original passports or birth certificates in with forms; copies are perfectly adequate.

Finally David reiterated that it is Paul Mitchell who deals with transfers so please do not send them to David as this will only delay the process!

VII. U13's Fixture Secretary's Report

Paul Edwards handed out details of the the Divisions for next season but informed everyone that fixtures had not yet been sorted as some clubs had still to formally apply for membership to the League.

It was anticipated that those Clubs he was waiting for would be registering at the August Meeting and that he would therefore hopefully be able to get the fixtures online in the next couple of weeks.

VIII. U14's Fixture Secretary's Report

It was announced that the Premier Division would remain at 8 Teams in but that a two-tiered approach would be being adopted **for this season only**.

Group A will consist of Bold Miners, Orrell St James, Wigan St Patricks and Ince Rose Bridge.

Group B will consist of Shevington Sharks, Thatto Heath Crusaders, Rylands and Wigan St Judes.

The two groups will initially play each other team in their group 3 times and then play 1 game against each of the teams in the other Group.

Teams in Group A are exempt from relegation as the bottom two teams from Group B will be relegated

IX. U15's Fixture Secretary's Report

Jackie Clowes handed out details of the U15's Divisions and provisional fixture_dates - everyone was reminded that these were provisional, NOT set in stone and could possibly be changed.

The ruling regarding "Free Weeks" was re-emphasised - everyone is entitled to ONE free week per season but 28 days notice must be given to guarantee it. Anyone giving less than 28 days may find that the League cannot accommodate their request and will therefore be expected to fulfil their allocated fixture.

X. Transfer Committee's Report

Paul Mitchell again found himself forced to cover old ground by reiterating that clubs **WILL NOT** be allowed to take more than one player from another team - this was agreed and adopted into the Leagues rules at the 2009 AGM. There is no appeal on this aspect of the Transfer System.

Some registration cards had been returned and Paul handed these out.

Paul explained that some were currently going through the system & will be sent out in the next week or so.

Any transfers that are initially refused will be returned and it will be their prerogative, excepting those rejected on the grounds detailed above, to appeal against the decision if they so desire.

XI. Child Welfare Officer's Report

Brian Edwards reminded all Clubs & Coaches that he needs to see CRB & Coaches badges **BEFORE** the start of the playing season.

XII. Disciplinary Chair's Report

Due to no formally fixtured games having been played, and subsequently no receipt of any Dismissal Reports, Sam Armstrong informed the room that there was no report.

XIII. BARLA Representative's Report

Sam Armstrong made the room aware that there is a meeting to be held at the Zone, Huddersfield on Thursday 6th August to discuss Referees/Match Officials fees due to anomalies/inconsistencies in the charges applied across the various regions in the Junior/Youth game.

A BARLA Youth & Junior forum meeting is to be held at Shaw Cross, Dewsbury on Thursday 20th August 2009 starting at 7.30 pm where two issues affecting this League will be discussed, namely

- Lancashire County cup competition
- National Cup

The League are unsure at this point who has requested discussion of the Lancashire Cup Competition but in light of the huge success of last year's Sponsorbank sponsored event there will obviously be a reticence to hand organisation of this back to the BARLA Board where it is felt to have been very poorly handled in previous seasons.

XIII. Any Other Business

The Treasurers' Report showed that the League had a balance of £14036 at the time of the meeting.

Margaret Byrne announced that the RFL had named the England Youth Squad which will take part in the forthcoming European Nations Cup in Serbia alongside France, Wales, Serbia, Scotland, Russia and a European Celts side and, in which, there are several players from the NW Counties 13-15's League.

Congratulations were extended to the following on their selection:

Ben Currie - Golborne Parkside
Tom Gilmore - Halton Farnworth Hornets
Mark Percival - Halton Farnworth Hornets
Lewis Whitty - Halton Farnworth Hornets
Jamie Hodgkiss - Ryland Sharks
Lewis Foster - Thatto Heath Crusaders
Danny Yates - Waterhead
Connor Farrel - Wigan St Pats
Chris Taylor - Wigan St Pats

Sam Armstrong & Jackie Clowes spoke to the floor about the 2010 Club La Manga U15's International Festival and presented a Powerpoint presentation detailing some of the various aspects of the event.

The reason for the League getting involved in hosting this International event was explained as was the structure, dates & costs of the Festival which equated to £550/person. Those attending the Festival/event would be departing on Saturday 16th Oct and returning on Friday 22nd Oct and the price included:

- Return Daytime Flights to/from Murcia
- Air-Conditioned Airport transfers
- Welcome Meeting
- 4 or 6 berth apartments
- Breakfast, packed Lunch & Restaurant Evening meals
- 3 x Full Days Competitive Rugby (Trophy, Plate & Bowl Comps)
- Qualified UK Match Officials
- Commemorative medals for all players
- Gala Presentation Dinner/BBQ
- Choice of free-time or organised activities on non-playing days
- Access to Spa/Fitness Facilities
- Wide variety of evening activities

It was highlighted that Club La Manga boasts some of the finest sports facilities in Europe for amateurs and professionals alike and that it catered, in luxurious fashion, for a multitude of sports along with their corresponding top teams/sportsmen and it was this that had been behind the decision to select the venue to give our age-groups the opportunity to experience this.

The League hoped that take-up for this first of hopefully an annual event will be good and look forward to teams joining them.

The date of the next meeting at Golborne Parkside will be the 2nd September 2009 commencing at 8.30pm.