



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

*Date of Meeting* 1<sup>st</sup> October 2008

*Committee Members:* Margaret Byrne (Chair)   
 Sam Armstrong (League Sec. /Discipline Chair)   
 Jayne Bissett (Treasurer)   
 Lindsay Bissett (U13's Fixtures)   
 Paul Edwards (U14's Fixtures & Reg Sec.)   
 Brian Edwards (Reg Sec.)   
 Jackie Clowes (U15's Fixtures Sec.)   
 Paul Mitchell (Transfers Chair)   
 David Lowe (Vice Chair/Ref. Appointments)

*Apologies:*

*Next Meeting:* Wed 5<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 8.30pm, Golborne Parkside ARLFC

**I. Attendance**

Ashton Bears	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blackbrook Royals	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blackpool Scorpions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blackpool Stanley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bold Miners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burtonwood Bulldogs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cadishead Rhinos	<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"/>
Fitton Hill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Folly Lane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Halton Farnworth Hornets	<input type="checkbox"/>	Haresfinch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Haydock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Higginshaw	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hindley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ince Rose Bridge	<input type="checkbox"/>
Langworthy Reds	<input type="checkbox"/>	Latchford Albion Unicorns	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leigh East	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Leigh Miners Rangers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Leyland Warriors	<input type="checkbox"/>	Moss Bank Bulldogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oldham St Anne's	<input checked="" 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"/>
Rylands Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saddleworth Rangers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Shaw Rhinos	<input checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/>
Widnes Moorfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Widnes St Maries	<input 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 September 2008 meeting which were posted on the NWC 13 – 15's website were proposed by Wigan St Pats and seconded by Eccles & Salford Juniors.

**III. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

#### **IV. Correspondence**

Rylands Sharks U14s request the permission of NWC 13-15s league to undertake a short tour to France in May 2009 - travelling around 22nd May for 5-6 days.

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

David Lowe explained that due to a shortage of referees there may be one referee covering more than one match. Some problems been experienced getting hold of Referees but the club MUST contact him do not wait for them to contact you.

If you call off your game make sure you let the Referee know.

Assessments no longer need to be completed on the teamsheets as other methods are now being used. Jackie will ensure that a new updated teamsheet is made available on the website.

Accident forms must be completed where necessary for serious injuries for Insurance purposes.. these are available on the website

Teamsheets, some are not being completed properly with recently 15/79 had no team name on them. This must be filled in at the bottom of the page.

Teamsheets are retained for 12 months for insurance purposes.

#### **VI. U13's Fixture Secretary's Report/Registration Issues**

Jackie explained that the Lancs Cup games had not been played, had this been the BARLA comp they would have been fined £100 for non-playing of games.

Notice of fixtures not being played must be notified to the League first

2<sup>nd</sup> Round Lancs Cup is 12<sup>th</sup> Oct

The League had received notice of Wigan St Cuthberts U13's folding but they hope to be able to play friendlies later in the season.

#### **II. U14's Fixture Secretary's Report/Registration Issues**

Scores still not being rung in ... the sooner they are in the sooner we can get them on the web.

The NW Counties Cup Draw has been made and was posted on the website.

#### **VIII. U15's Fixture Secretary's Report/Registration Issues**

1<sup>st</sup> Round of the Lancs Cup will be on 12<sup>th</sup> October. Fixtures change on a weekly basis, do not presume you have free weeks ..always check the website.

Registrations, Brian explained the process he has with Registrations and how he processes them and posts them the same day. If there is a delay it is at RL Services. Cards are still coming back with wrong details, indeed he had a full set of blank cards returned recently.

Could all Clubs please explain to Parents etc that Brian will only speak to Club Officials. Registered delivery letters, if he's not in when delivered, are returned to the sorting office and could be there a week.

If no SAE sent then Brian has been sending them to the address on the website ... ensure you always send in a stamped addressed envelope.

#### **IX. Transfer Committee's Report**

Paul reiterated Brian's concerns about poor admin at RL Services ...he has sent 20 but received nothing back since the 4<sup>th</sup> September.

All cards have now been issued out that he has received back. Paul stated that he is going to stick to the League's rule's re transfers and anything over 3 will have to go to Appeal. Clubs telling players that they'll "get it sorted" are misleading the players as these type of cases will inevitably delay the processing of these cases.

A transfer Committee will be held after tonight's meeting.

Transfers must go to Paul .... not Brian Edwards who only deals with registrations.

Paul was not happy with someone turning up at his door insisting Paul 'd sent an e-mail saying to come and collect a card ... he was on holiday at the time!!!

Sent details again for a couple of cards that have gone missing.

Please try to stick to the rules!!

#### **X. BARLA Representative's Report**

BARLA SGM – Sunday 7th Sept 2008 (George Hotel)

All the proposed rule changes submitted by the BARLA Board were voted through so now we, as Associate Members of BARLA, and other Associate/Affiliate Members have:

- No communication or correspondence from BARLA
- No access to the General Meetings
- No access to the Youth & Junior Council Meetings

Sam stated that he was amazed to see two of our local District Leagues (Wigan & St Helens) both vote for the amendments as effectively they have just removed access to and the BARLA voice for their own Junior players as well as all the same for all our other teams in the NWC 8-12's and those in Yorkshire Juniors, Wales ARL, Scotland ARL and North East ARL (to name but a few) too ... but then again, as has been highlighted before these are predominantly Open Age oriented organisations voting, who frankly, don't seem to have any interest or understanding about Junior rugby.

We still find it odd that the "BARLA Board" can propose these measures and then the same people (who you hardly ever see at these meetings) can attend and can stand as District Reps and vote them in ... never going to vote against themselves are they? Their 7 votes alone meant that they were always halfway to reaching the required majorities!!

When asked about the National Cup we were told it was "to be discussed at Board Level but hasn't been yet" – obviously if we pull out of the County Cups now then they'll probably allow us in to the National Cup making us

look like the baddies but, if we enter the County Cups, then they'll probably do what we anticipate and then bar us.

When asked how we would find out if we were effectively barred from the National Cup as we don't get any communication and aren't allowed at meetings we got blank expressions and then "we'll put it on the website"!!!

All in all a sad day for Junior Rugby and those who voted these measures in should hang their heads in shame as they have merely hammered another nail in the BARLA coffin. What we stand to gain being associated to this organisation more and more baffles us especially now we are effectively ostracised.

#### **XI. Disciplinary Chairman's Report**

Hearing Notifications were issued to several clubs for cases which were to be heard on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October at Golborne Parkside Sports & Community Club.

Verdict Notifications were issued to several clubs for cases which were heard on Thursday 11th October at Golborne Parkside Sports & Community Club.

#### **XII. Any Other Business**

The Treasurers' Report showed that the League had a balance of £14327 at the time of the meeting.

A presentation took place by Mr Jamie Williams of Kukri who explained the proposed sponsorship deal with the League for the next 3 years and the offer of a 10% discount to all NW Counties 13-15's Clubs on all list prices.

As well as the above, Kukri will continue to support the NW Counties Cups & Presentation evenings as they have for several seasons and have also kindly offered £1000 in prizes to be used at the League's discretion over the next 3 years.

The NW Counties 13-15's League are immensely proud to be associated with a high profile sports company already well known to Rugby League in both Regional, National and International terms (Ireland will be playing in Kukri Kits at the World Cup) and hope that this high profile sponsorship will benefit all parties.

The date of the next meeting at Golborne Parkside will be the 5<sup>th</sup> November 2008 commencing at 8.30pm.