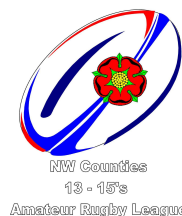


North West Counties 13 – 15s Amateur Rugby League Meeting Minutes



Date of Meeting 1st September 2010

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

Apologies: Darren Hayes, Paul Mitchell, Lindsay Bissett

Next Meeting: Wed 6th October 2010 at 8.30pm, Golborne Parkside ARLFC

I. Attendance

Accrington Wildcats	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bank Quay Bulls	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blackbrook Blues/Royals	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Blackpool	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bold Miners	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burtonwood Bulldogs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cadishead Rhinos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chorley Panthers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Clock Face	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Crosfields	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Culcheth Eagles	<input type="checkbox"/>	Folly Lane	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Golborne Parkside	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Halton Farnworth Hornets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Haresfinch	<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 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"/>	Newton Storm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
New West Lions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Oldham St Anne's	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Orrell St James	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pilkington Recs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Portico	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rochdale Mayfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
Runcorn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rylands Sharks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Saddleworth Rangers	<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 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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Clubs not present at the meeting have been fined £30 as per the League's Constitution.

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

II. Minutes & Updates from the Last Meeting

The minutes of the August 2010 meeting which were posted on the NWC 13 – 15's website were proposed by Crosfields and seconded by Leyland Warriors.

III. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

IV. Correspondence

Sam Armstrong informed the floor that the League had unfortunately received notification from Shevington Sharks U13s & Haydock Warriors U13s AND U15s of their withdrawal from the League & it's competitions.

On a more pleasing note, Blackpool Scorpions U14s who had initially informed the League that they had decided to fold their team and were subsequently withdrawing from the NWC league had, after some hard work from several people behind the scenes been able to find sufficient numbers and will now participate this season.

All the teams leaving the League wished to thank the North West Counties Committee and Member clubs for their support, friendship and encouragement over the past years and wish everyone every success in the future.

The players from these disbanded teams will now become free-agents free to join another club assuming they owe no kit or monies to their former Clubs. The League were given a list by one of the Clubs showing several players owing considerable amounts and stating that the owing of these monies had been a contributory factor in their team's demise. David Lowe has been made aware of these players and may not sanction re-registration until these outstanding debts are settled.

V. Referee Appointments Coordinator's Report

There was no report in the absence, due to work commitments, of Darren Hayes however appointments for this weekend's season start had been issued and were available on the website.

VI. Registration/Transfer Secretary's Report

David Lowe informed the floor that everything was up to date apart from those handed in at the last minute. Obviously, having lost a day with the Bank Holiday and with most Leagues starting their fixtures the backlog has grown immensely ... all clubs were asked to get them in early to prevent just this type of problem

David announced that he will be checking Cards on a random basis throughout the season at games he will be officiating at.

The floor was informed that David had spare Registration Pads available should any Club need them.

Finally, David expressed his disappointment at the lack of response from teams who had been requested to provide him with a contact name for Registration/Transfer issues can Clubs please ensure that they have liaised with David so that he knows who to deal with.

VII. U13's Fixture Secretary's Report Cup Draws

NW Counties U13s Cup - ROUND 1 (To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)

Game 1 Orrell St James v Blackbrook Royals

Game 2 Wigan St Judes v Rylands Sharks

Game 3 Wigan St Patricks v Haresfinch Hawks

Game 4 Leigh Miners Rangers v Folly Lane

- Game 5 Oldham St Annes v Widnes Moorfield
- Game 6 Rochdale Mayfield v Wigan St Cuthberts
- Game 7 Widnes St Maries v Leigh East
- Game 8 Latchford Albion v Clock Face Miners

NW Counties U13s Development Cup - ROUND 1
(To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)

- Game 1 Saddleworth Rangers v Chorley Panthers
- Game 2 Liverpool Lions v Ince Rose Bridge
- Game 3 Woolston Rovers v Leyland Warriors
- Game 4 New West Lions v Crosfields
- Game 5 Portico Vine v Newton Storm
- Game 6 Langworthy Reds v Pilkington Recs
- Game 7 Hindley v Milnrow Cobras
- Game 8 Blackbrook Blues v Thatto Heath Crusaders

VIII. U14's Fixture Secretary's Report

Paul Edwards again re-iterated that scores are to be in by 2pm please ... this obviously applies to all age-groups

Cup Draws

NW Counties U14s Cup - ROUND 1
(To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)

- Game 1 Ince Rose Bridge v Orrell St James
- Game 2 Wigan St Judes v Clock Face Miners
- Game 3 Rochdale Mayfield v Halton Farnworth Hornets
- Game 4 Langworthy Reds v Chorley Panthers
- Game 5 Shevington Sharks v Leigh Miners Rangers
- Game 6 Wigan St Patricks v Leigh East
- Game 7 Widnes Moorfield v Waterhead
- Game 8 Rylands Sharks v Blackbrook Royals

NW Counties U14s Development Cup - PRELIMINARY ROUND
(To be played Sun 12th Sept 2010)

- Game 1 Golborne Parkside v Oldham St Annes
- Game 2 Pilkington Recs v Thatto Heath Crusaders
- Game 3 West Bank Bears v Runcorn

**NW Counties U14s Development Cup - ROUND 1
(To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)**

Game 1 Westhoughton Lions v Latchford Albion

Game 2 Crosfields v Golborne Parkside or Oldham St Annes

Game 3 Cadishead Rhinos v Milnrow Cobras

Game 4 West Bank Bears or Runcorn v Folly Lane

Game 5 Portico Vine v Bank Quay Bulls

Game 6 Burtonwood Bulldogs v Blackpool Scorpions

Game 7 Pilkington Recs or Thatto Heath Crusaders v Manchester Storm

Game 8 Culcheth Eagles v Wigan St Cuthberts

IX. U15's Fixture Secretary's Report

Jackie re-iterated that results must be sent to her by text and not by telephone.

Cup Draws

**NW Counties U15s Cup - ROUND 1
(To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)**

Game 1 Orrell St James v Widnes St Maries

Game 2 Clock Face Miners v Wigan St Judes

Game 3 Thatto Heath Crusaders v Rylands Sharks

Game 4 Folly Lane v Shevington Sharks

Game 5 Langworthy Reds v Wigan St Patricks

Game 6 Widnes Moorfield v Saddleworth Rangers

Game 7 Blackbrook Royals v Ince Rose Bridge

Game 8 Crosfields v Bold Miners

**NW Counties U15s Development Cup - ROUND 1
(To be played Sun 19th Sept 2010)**

Game 1 Waterhead v Wigan St Cuthberts

Game 2 Leigh Miners Rangers v Oldham St Annes

Game 3 Chorley Panthers v Leigh East

Game 4 Rylands Tigers Sharks v Burtonwood Bulldogs

Bye Hindley

Bye Leyland Warriors

Bye Liverpool Lions

Bye West Bank Bears

Fixtures (General)

The Cup Draw for the 2nd rounds will be carried out within a couple of days of the completion of the Round 1 games and we are hoping that the draw itself will be available to watch 'on line' on the website.

If any team/club would like to host the draw at a training session (no later than Tuesday 21st September) and can invite a special guest to make the draw i.e. player/coach/referee etc then please let Jackie know and we will make arrangements.

Clubs were informed that if their team does not have enough registered players to fulfil a fixture or if they do not have sufficient players to actually play a competitive match they should still attend and, having forfeited the points, every effort should be made to play a friendly with whatever number of players they can field.

This benefits everyone in that all players, and particularly those training with teams on a regular basis, get game time at weekend. These friendlies can be short sided or with players borrowed from the opposition to make equal teams.

Team sheets should now be sent by email to nwcteamsheets@gmail.com or by fax to 08444 128586 (which in turn forwards to the email) by the Friday following the match.

ORIGINALS SHOULD NO LONGER BE SENT BY POST TO DAVID LOWE but **MUST** instead, be handed in at the next monthly meeting. Having a central email address for all teamsheets ensures that any disputes regarding scores/players etc can be accessed by all the Committee at any stage.

Results should be sent by text by 2pm on a Sunday to the appropriate fixtures secretary:

13s Lindsay Bissett 07877 903092

14s Paul Edwards 07870 560033

15s Jackie Clowes 07540 730139

Handbooks were issued to all teams (2 per team) which contain all the information required for a match day; procedures, Club, Match Official & Management Committee contact details etc.

X. Child Welfare Officer's Report

Brian Edwards updated the meeting on the topics discussed at the recent RFL Safeguarding Conference.

Keynote speech by the NSPCC "Child Protection in Sport Unit".

The Children's Act- 2004 & Working together 2008

Investigations and case studies were discussed which involved the two acts

Play sport - stay Safe

Protecting the Player

Apart from the issues of – Bullying – Racism – Violence - which we have all heard about, and some of us could have had problems with, other items discussed included:-

Welfare

We need to put in a tracking system as some of our players are reportedly over playing and over training. Some children are suffering with too much sport i.e. 50-60 games a year, playing all the year round, not just rugby, Playing for the school at football etc, town teams and scholarships, but this could be very harmful, these things do happen.

What happens when they are injured? Hospitals may advise them not to play for a while if they go there, but they cannot implement it! We must get the players feedback. All or parts of this could be Mental or Physical abuse?

What comes first the player or the match?

The outcome - Have meetings with the children and get their views. Do not involve the parents, at this stage. Now ask yourself "what have we got right, and what do we need to improve"?

Curbing Bullying, Violence and Racism

- Breach of Operational Rules
- Unacceptable behaviour
- Failure to control crowd
- Failure to control own fans

The role of the Club in all of this is - Prevention!

If it does happen ... Apologise, Collect Evidence, Provide Support and Avoid Closing ranks!!

Educate Your Club members, Spectators, and your players.
Remember – RESPECT

We all know that Coaches get their players to wind up members of the opposing team, ethnic minorities are not exempt – but keep away from racist remarks! Remember that some players do not even know that they are being racist! Racism can also be black against black, white against white, as well as black against white.

IF it does happen

- Investigate
- Get to the truth
- Fair, transparent and timely
- Providing closure to all parties
- Education and training
- Requires club assistance

If reported to the RFL – It will go through their complaints procedure e.g. Match Officials' Reports, Notification Letters etc. and referral to Compliance Investigator

West Yorkshire Police; Grooming

What does it mean to you?

- Why have a Grooming Initiative
- Duty to protect children in sport
- To raise awareness of the dangers
- Children in sport are an easy target for abusers
- Sport provides easy access for abusers
- We can protect children better by working together

Discussions were carried out on:

- Types of Grooming and Abuse
- Case Studies were referred to
- The Nature of Sex Offenders were discussed

Player Well Being

Mission

To educate and inform participants within the Community Game about a variety of aspects of well-being and game preparation, including smoking, drinking and drugs (Performance Enhancing and Social) in an engaging and Rugby League focused way with the intention of enforcing positive player choices.

The Strategy

7 -12/13-15

Support National Curriculum

Healthy Eating

Smoking

Drinking

16-18

RFL specific

Doping

Performance impact

Health consequence

Coaches

Importance of coaches as role models and in reinforcing positive behaviour was discussed.

Too many Players being put under pressure;

- Told to get bigger, stronger, faster
- Pressure to compete
- They do it because they think everyone else is doing it

Could they have trouble by:

- Playing too much?
- Dealing with injury?

What makes an ideal player?

- Will to learn
- Learn from winning
- Learn from losing
- NOT DRUGS

Most Important

Family/friends - Self-Belief - Determination - Coaches - Team mates - Self Confidence - Commitment - Discipline - Good attitude - Being healthy - A Team Player - and Skill

The RFL are going to investigate these things, however, we must be aware of them too also Coaches need to be trained to be aware and able to see if things are affecting their players.

Club Role When Issues Arise That Could Affect The Children's Well Being

- Avoid closing ranks - on the club role and allegation etc.

If it does happen get to the truth, do not close ranks, - if the coaches do the children will - it is not the answer, One bad error on any issue will not lose you your Club Mark. If you are aware of any problem - the Club can put it right!

REMEMBER- Prevention is best

Please use the RFL web-site or ask for further information

XI. Disciplinary Secretary's Report

Kevin Davidson informed the meeting that the RFL, as part of its Respect campaign wants to conduct spot checks on touchlines.

The purpose of the checks will be to ensure that touchline behaviour is consistent with that expected by the Respect Campaign and that Touchline Managers are both in place and working within the league's rules.

The pilot scheme for this initiative will be with North West Counties 13s to 15s. Six teams of two will be attending as many matches as possible over a 9 weeks period.

Feedback, both positive and negative will be provided to the clubs at the end of the pilot scheme.

Clearly any serious breaches observed will be addressed by the Disciplinary Committee, as is the case at present.

XII. BARLA/RFL Representative's Report

Jackie and Sam had attended the 4 Seasons Presentation at the George Hotel on Monday 23rd August and have approached David Gent of the RFL to attend the October meeting to explain in greater depth the findings to our Clubs etc

XIII. Any Other Business

The Treasurers' Report showed that the League had a balance of £19475 at the time of the meeting.

Peter Brook, the RFL's NW Match Officials Development Officer came down to the meeting to take time to fully explain the new rule interpretations that are being implemented this season

Interpretation Changes - 2010

"Held" called as soon as the ball carriers leg is lifted

Interpretation

"Where opponents tackle the ball carrier in an upright position the referee should immediately call "held" if they lift a leg of the ball carrier off the ground."

Application – This occurs in an upright tackle and the leg of the ball carrier is lifted off the ground. Immediately this happens the referee will call held and players tackling cannot continue wrestling the player or driving him backwards. If they continue to work after the Referee has called held then they should be penalised.

Dragging tackled players as opposed to pushing them

Interpretation

Where opponents do not make a tackle effective in the quickest possible manner but then attempt to drag an opponent into touch or back towards his own in goal area then the referee should immediately call "held".

Application - This does not prevent players driving an opponent into touch or back into his own in goal area providing that a team mate of the ball carrier has not added their weight to the tackle.

As soon as the referee sees a tackling player dragging the ball carrier in a tackle that involves more than one tackler he will call "held". If the tackling players continue to move the ball carrier after the "held" call they should be penalised.

The date of the next meeting at Golborne Parkside will be the 6th October 2010 commencing at 8.30pm.