

**NORTH WEST COUNTIES JUNIORS**  
**Minutes of the meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013 at Leigh Miners**

**Roll call:**

**Absent: Higginshaw Eagles, Heysham Atoms, Littleborough, Newton Storm, Oldham St Anne's, Rochdale Cobras, Rochdale Mayfield, Shevington Sharks, Waterhead, Widnes Moorfield, Wigan St Cuthbert's, South Trafford**

**All will be fined £10 as per association rules.**

**Littleborough and Widnes Moorfield face suspension of all fixtures for persistent non-attendance.**

Leigh Miners lost stalwart Harry Westhead over the weekend. He had served Leigh Miners for over 30 years and will be sorely missed. A minutes silence was held in respect.

**Matters Arising**

None to note.

**Correspondence**

None to Note.

**Barla:**

No matters arising.

**RFL:**

There has been a meeting with the RFL Club and Competition Managers, working together to try and get the region working together for the benefit of the clubs. It was a positive meeting and we will keep you updated as things start to happen.

On Saturday Graham had a meeting with RFL. The RFL have a coach development plan. The pro clubs are to work better with amateur clubs to help with coaching courses, training etc. There is a coach pathway – it will give you the way forward to progress as far as you want to go. It will give you the tools to be a better coach. All of the documents can be viewed below. Contact Mick/ Graham if you have any questions.

Licence Scheme: As of 2014 all coaches MUST be qualified before the team can play.

Service Area: Any involvement under U14s will disappear. Instead pro clubs will offer coaching workshops.

**Newbie U7s:**

There was a pre-meeting with the Newbies coaches prior to them kicking off at the weekend.

Attended by: Clock Face, Orrell St James, Ashton, Culcheth, Rylands, Folly Lane and Woolston. Apologies from Oldham St Anne's.

Teams were presented with the Code of Conduct and encouraged to give a copy to all parents. They need to start as they mean to go on - what you instil in them now will stay with them throughout their rugby career.

The ethos of NWC Juniors was explained. We are the first level of entry. We don't have leagues as we are all about development. Kids are naturally competitive, but you need to concentrate on development and not results. The most problems we encounter revolve around coaches who are win-win-win. We keep trying to instil the idea that development is what is important and not results, yet we still have match reports stating 'unbeaten' or 'undefeated' at U7s – WHY? It doesn't matter and you gain nothing – there are no points at stake.

The emphasis should always be on enjoyment. Fun and development are our goals. We lose a lot of players and we need to look at why the kids leave and give up.

On match day it is all about kids playing the game. If you play a team that is short on players loan them some to have equal sides. No player is gaining by standing on the touchline when he could be playing.

Registrations:

These are the biggest problem. Players are still not registered despite fixtures starting at the weekend. NO CARD – NO PLAY. Teams were given the Simple Guide to Registrations. [http://www.nwc8-12arl.co.uk/news\\_display.php?id=305](http://www.nwc8-12arl.co.uk/news_display.php?id=305)  
Follow the rules and cards will be back within 7 days.

If teams are not ready to start let Mick know and we will put three teams together and play a round robin.

Teams were told to complete the team sheets correctly as they are an important legal document. Team sheets should be completed BEFORE a game, not afterwards.

Respect Campaign:

You should know about it and your clubs should have informed you about it. If not, ask your junior committee.

The Association Rules are on the website as are the Primary Game Rules.

You will play:

3 x 10 minutes

Each team plays out a full set of 6 tackles with errors counting as a tackle. This takes away the failure factor, takes the pressure off the players and allows them to have fun and play without fear.

Show good sportsmanship – applaud both sides

If you are refereeing, be fair. Play to the rules, don't be biased.

**Discipline:**

We have two cases to decide on and 1 club is appealing.

**Team Sheets:**

The team sheet is a legal document and is needed in case of an insurance claim yet we are still getting them in with important details missing.

- Make sure you state who is playing in the boxes marked Home and Away
- Complete the pre-match checks
- Make sure the coaches sign

Not completing a team sheet properly is negligence and could be used against you in an insurance case.

This month's fines were read out.

Some clubs are just not bothering to pay their fines. If you don't want to be fined complete and return your team sheets – simple. Once fined you are expected to pay, if not the only other penalty we can apply is to suspend your fixtures – it's not fair on the teams who are doing things right. We are coming to year end and the accounts have to be balanced – pay your dues or don't be surprised if you are not welcomed back next season.

**Discipline.**

We are asking all clubs to re focus on the RESPECT campaign; we are getting isolated incidents of totally unacceptable touchline behaviour and inappropriate comments on club and social media websites.

All clubs were once again asked to police themselves and challenge things that are quite clearly not right.

One person had received a touchline ban for a month for referee abuse, and the panel will continue to give out strong penalties until the message starts hitting home.

**Lancashire Cup:**

Because of the need to get the fixtures played, the quarter final draw was made but the semi-final will be made before the next meeting.

Quarter Final to be played 15<sup>th</sup> September

Semi-Final to be played 29<sup>th</sup> September

Final to be played 13<sup>th</sup> October at the Stobart Stadium, Widnes

Teams reaching the semi-finals need to send a team photo and pen pics for the programme.

Burtonwood Bulldogs v Rylands Sharks  
Thatto Heath Swords v Blackbrook Royals  
Halton Farnworth Hornets v Ince Rose Bridge  
Leigh Miners Rangers v Crosfields

Good luck to all teams.

**Lottery Draw:**

Raging Bull – Simon has left. We still have a deal with Raging Bull and will continue to do the lottery. We haven't met the new rep yet.

14 – Thatto Heath

**Feedback:**

We have had some good feedback regarding the festivals held at Chorley and Hindley. Everyone enjoyed themselves; they were run on good spirit and met the ethos of NWCJ. Well done to both clubs – it's nice to finish on a positive note!

**Next meeting: Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October at 8:30pm**

**Documents:**

- [1. Agenda - Youth & Junior Management Group - 170813](#)**
- [2. Y&J Management Minutes - 11.05.13](#)**
- [3. Agenda Item 6.1 - Changes to Service Area and Regional Player Development Centres](#)**
- [4. Agenda Item 6 3 - Under 14's Intertown Competition](#)**
- [5. Agenda Item 6.4 - Scholarship Update](#)**
- [6. Agenda Item 7 - 2013 RFL Coach Development Plan](#)**
- [7. Agenda Item 8 - 1300819 RFL Coach Registration and Licence Scheme 2013 Final](#)**