



Chairman's address

Two main issues within the league currently:

- We have been auditing match sheets from Clubs and we are finding that they are not being completed correctly. For absolute clarity, every box on the form needs to be completed. If a referee has not been allocated but a coach has refereed the game, then they need to sign the sheet. All players names need to be put on in full to ensure they match the Squad ID sheet.
- Discipline is still an issue with a rise specifically in the younger age groups. All Secretaries are asked to ensure that coaches and spectators are made aware that if incidents are reported then they will be dealt with by County after which time the league will take further action if appropriate.

Update from Fixtures:

- There are some divisions across all the leagues that are lagging behind fulfilling fixtures due to a number of reasons, but mainly County Cup fixture clashes, school activities and pitch unplayable. Clubs are asked to ensure that those divisions affected (see below) make fulfilling fixtures a priority otherwise there is a clear risk that these divisions will not complete fixtures before the end of the season. We cannot extend the season beyond 31st May 2023.

WJFL divisions at risk

- U13s Divisions 2, 5 and 6 – need to prioritise the fixtures

WSJFL divisions at risk

- U14s Divisions 1, 2 and 6 – need to prioritise these fixtures
- U15s Divisions 1 and 3 – need to prioritise these fixtures

WGFL divisions at risk

- U12s need to prioritise the fixtures
- Cup rounds are ahead of schedule with the exception of U11s Cup rounds which are lagging behind. These U11 Cup games are being scheduled to ensure they are completed to meet the dates of the finals.
- Cup finals dates for non-competitive across the WJFL and WGFL and U12s WJFL will be held at the Hive on the following weekends:
 - 13/14 May; 20/21 May and 27/28 May (contingency only)
 - The WGFL U14s and U15s/U16s will be held at a venue to be confirmed.

- Clashes with County Cups is still an issue – the League request Clubs give as much notice as possible.
- Postponed fixtures: Reasons for postponements are for County Cup fixture clashes, Pitch not playable and School activities – no other reason unless exceptional which must be given special dispensation by the League Committee. When putting postponements on full time or through the Match Day app - **Do not use the home or away walk over as a reason or cancel or void from the drop-down options – these are for League use only.**
- A remind to Clubs the normal ko times schedule is between 10.00 am and 14:30 pm. Anything outside these times must be agreed by both times. This does apply to all pitches grass and 3G.

Update from League Secretary:

Ian Dibbert was wished happy birthday.

- Clubs were thanked for communicating via the League Secretary.

Update from Registrations:

- Registrations are going well.
- We will send out a formal communication to all Clubs confirming the last date for transfers and registrations, but for the purposes of the minutes the last date is 31st March 2023

Update from Discipline:

- There is a worrying trend on ill-discipline at certain age groups reiterating the points raised in the Chairman's address. The league is monitoring this closely using the County FA reports that are published weekly.
- The league request as much notice as possible for 'red flag' games, so these can be covered by the committee wherever possible.
- A reminder to Clubs with adult teams - please ensure that all fines are paid as the County FAs will suspend all football including the junior sections of those Clubs. Where a fixture cannot be fulfilled because a County fine has not been paid, points will be awarded to the opposition.

Update from the Secretary of the Matthew Leisegang Development Group

- The League have listened to concerns of inequity and have been working with Liverpool County FA to address those concerns. It has been agreed that all children in Year 1 can now play in the development group.
- Those who have already submitted an Expression of Interest form are guaranteed a place for those teams confirmed. **If you no longer wish to be considered, please let Dave Edwards and Cath Barrow know by Wednesday 15th February at midnight.**
- We are limited to 60 teams (10 divisions of 6 teams), once those places have been filled no further teams can be accepted. If you wish to submit an Expression of Interest and have not already done so, please note you need to get the form into Cath Barrow and Dave Edwards **by midnight on Sunday 19th February 2023.** These will be processed on a first come first served basis. We are still working towards a 1st March start, but this is subject to County FA putting everything in place in order for the divisions to be constructed, therefore there may be a change to the start date, but we do not anticipate this will be longer that 1 or 2 weeks at the most.

- For teams to participate in the development group, all coaches must have as a minimum, an in-date DBS, safeguarding children certificate and have completed the EE Playmaker course ([EE Playmaker | England Football Learning](#)) by the development group start of 1st March 2023. Teams will not be given fixtures if all pre-requisites are incomplete and your team place may be offered to another Club on the waiting list. **ALL MINIMUM PRE-REQUISITE COACH REQUIREMENTS WILL BE CHECKED AND VERIFIED VIA THE FA PORTAL. FOR CLARITY NO MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS NO PLAY!**

Update from Finance:

- Clubs were thanked for settling all invoices and fines within the timeframe.
- There is a slight delay in issuing fines, but this will be remedied by the end of this weekend.

Update from Welfare:

- Welfare Officer's meeting for all Club Welfare Officers within the League on 9th March 2023 at 7pm until 9.30 pm with Lisa Morrison from County FA. This will be held at the Kig's Head Inn, Winwick Street, Warrington
- Topics to be covered: Managing conflict, neglect and basic safeguarding.

Update from Referees Managers:

- Please put KO times on in the agreed timeframe within the league rules (these can be found on the league website (thewjfl.co.uk))
- Please ensure that match sheets are available for referees to sign. Referees are reporting that this is not happening.
- Referees' courses - there is one being run on 17th February at Rylands which will be the last one of the season. No other courses will be published until the summer.
- Referee retention is still an issue mainly due to abuse.