



## **Warrington Junior Football League**

### **Clubs Meeting 23/02/22**

#### **Roll Call:**

The following Clubs will receive a fine for non-attendance at the league meeting:

Astley; Avon Villa; Bold; Bootle Bucks; BPR Leiria; Burscough; Cadishead; Cherryrook; City of Liverpool; Clay Brow; Daten; Earlstown; East Leigh; Kirkby; Golborne; Grappenhall; Halton Borough Wolves; Hawkley; Heath Rangers; Highfield Grange; Hindley Green; Hindley Juniors; Hurricanes; Leigh Town; Lymm Pirhanas; Matthiola; Mersey Juniors; Orford; Parklands; Penlake Juniors; Pilkingtons; Pex Hill; Rainford Rangers; Rainhill Rockets; Runcorn Linnets; Runcorn Town; Sandymoor; Sankey Strikers; Shevington; Standish Panthers; West Houghton; Whittle Hall; Widnes FC; Wigan Cosmos; Wigan Junior Latics; Winstanley Warriors

#### **Chairman's address:**

##### Key points

- The behaviour of Clubs and the ill-discipline during the season has been appalling. The reports coming from County particularly regarding parents/spectators behaviour is unacceptable. The message to Clubs get it out to your coaches and parents that this will not be tolerated and it will cost Clubs in the severest manner.
- Now the latest Covid guidance from the government has been published, we will no longer be accepting Covid as a reason for postponement. There will only be 4 reasons for postponement – pitch not playable, County Cups, school activities and lack of players from either side (which is a finable offence).
- A referee's course will be being put on for the Warrington League in the next few months to try and alleviate the lack of referees. This is a national issue not just to this league.
- A survey will be sent out to Clubs to ask opinion on referees' fees. One submission per Club
- A survey will also be sent out to referees seeking their opinion regarding refereeing in the league.

##### Two issues raised:

- The increase in referee course fees – response is that this is now controlled nationally by the FA and is no longer controlled or run by County FAs. The price has been set nationally by the FA.
- The strain put on supplying referees to cover new Clubs coming into the league – response is that Clubs vote in who is allowed into the league. This is a democratic process.

### **Discipline officer's report**

- A discipline committee is now in place
- A weekly report is given to the league from the County FAs on discipline. These are scrutinized regarding sanctions imposed on Clubs
- There are alarming trends within the area of E20 conduct charges from the reports. This concerns not controlling spectators/parents.
- The discipline committee will be coming out to observe matches where a complaint has been made to the league.
- Anyone who undertakes the role of the referee for a match should report any incidents to the County FA as a qualified referee would. They need to report any ill-discipline via the County FA. The process for doing this is to email the discipline team at their own County FA stating date of fixture, fixture detail – home team/away team; a detailed description of the reason for the report.
- There is a need to educate Clubs and coaches on discipline to minimise incidents and issues
- An app called Find a Referee has been being used. If you use this then you should ask that referee to provide their up to date DBS and state the ref tariff for the League.

### **Referee officer's report**

- Young referees should be having a full experience of reffing and therefore need to ref outside their own Club .
- Please put your KO times on as early as possible. Around 60% of clubs are putting these on in the timeframe, but for those who don't then they will be put to the bottom of the list
- If you have a red flag game then please give early notification to the officers to ensure a strong referee is appointed.

### **Child Welfare Officer's report**

- The WSJFL have had no incidents
- WGFL have had 3 incidents
- Please ensure that permission is sought from both sides when taking as best practice
- WJFL have had 7 incidents
- A reminder that all welfare issues must go direct to the officers and not the General Secretary

### **Finance officer's report**

- Fines are now being issued. Clubs were told at the beginning of the season that the fine for not providing a result would increase to £20 and that fines would be issued on a month by month basis.
- The fines tariff is published within the League rules
- There are a number of Clubs that have not yet paid League fees. These Clubs will be written to so that all fees are paid by 28 February. If fees are not settled by this date, Clubs will receive sanctions.

### **Registration Officer report**

- Player registrations and transfers close on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 for ALL age groups. Transfers and registrations submitted on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February 2022 will be processed.
- Registrations/transfers after this date will only be dealt with under special circumstances and by approval of the Committee. The process for this is to send an email to the registration officer detailing what special circumstance applies to the registration/transfer for consideration by the Committee.
- An action for ALL CLUBS – please check your player list on the WGS player portal to ensure that players are not registered for more than one team within the League.
- Match results must be posted within 24 hours after the fixture has been played. Please ask all coaches to confirm the score with the ref and the opposition at the end of the match. The reason for requesting this is that a lot of conflicts are showing on Full-time and this will /is affecting divisional placings.
- Please reiterate to your coaches not to enter half-time scores on the match day app as again this is causing issues on full-time.

### **Fixture officer's report**

- 280 managers have not accepted their invite to the full-time system and are therefore not getting notifications through
- These have been resent out
- There are 3500 postponements in the WJFL alone. These are in the process of being reallocated.
- Reversing fixtures the following information needs to be given as part of the request, KO time, venue and if a referee has been appointed on the original fixture that they have been informed it's being reversed. Please use the reverse fixture form on the website
- Postponing fixtures – there are a number of options to postpone a match. The postponement can only be made by the home team on full-time
- Please put your KO times in advance as you can
- In April, a Club intention registration form for next season will be available on the website
- All games must be confirmed to the opposition and referee. If this is not done, it will incur a fine as per the fines tariff
- All cup dates have now been confirmed and will be published in due course
- Division 1 U14s in the WJSL are running close to note fulfilling their fixtures mainly because some Clubs have been postponing due to Covid-19. Midweek fixtures

A question asked:

Some divisions will be finished in the next couple of weeks – what are the league going to do about this?

Response: The Committee will consider putting on friendly matches for those divisions affected.

## **Cyber Officer's report**

- There have been a number of unsolicited marketing information that has been targeted at Clubs. A number of the companies have apologised. Complaints can be sent directly to the ICO at the email on their website.
- The league website is now up and running and all information is available on there. All documents like match sheets are also on that site. The league handbook is on the website and hard copy available at tonight's meeting.
- The website should be the first port of call for league information and will also have a link to the FA knowledge database to also help Clubs.
- We are now plugged in to the FA nationally with full-time. A number of requests have been put forward to ensure support for Club Secretaries. Feedback from the requests will be released on the website once received. The FA have asked us to work with them to improve Full-Time.

Meeting closed: 21:20 pm