



THE CHILTERN YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE
(Affiliated to The Bedfordshire FA)

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 11th JANUARY 2023 AT 7.00 P.M. AT THE BEDFORDSHIRE
FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, SKIMPOT ROAD, DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE

PRESENT: Mr. P. Brown (Patron & Chairman), Mr. D. Garner, Mrs. J. Brown, Mr. R. Shekle, Mr. J. Thomas, Mr. S. Chamberlain, Mr. B. Cooper

ALSO PRESENT: N / A

APOLOGIES: Mr. C.J. Davison (President), Mr. T. Gee, Mrs. E. Vase, Miss N. Browning, Mr. R. Leonard, Mr. G. Wilson, Mr. S. Brown, Mr. V. Shekle, and Mr. J. Brown (Secretary)

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The minutes were approved as a true record of the last Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 7th December 2022

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES: Nothing raised.

DECEMBER CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Various clubs** re:- Free Week requests **NOTED;**
DETAILS FORWARDED TO FIXTURE SECRETARY FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL WHERE APPROPRIATE AND REQUEST MADE WITHIN LEAGUE RULES. DISAPPOINTMENT WAS RECORDED OVER THE NUMBER OF LATE REQUESTS THAT WERE RECEIVED FROM TEAMS AROUND HALF TERM DATES, PARTICULARLY 23rd OCTOBER. SOME OF THE FEEDBACK RECEIVED FROM TEAMS WAS NOT NECESSARY, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE AMOUNT OF COMMUNICATION THAT HAD BEEN SENT OUT TO TEAMS IN ADVANCE OF THESE DATES

- **Various clubs** re:- Request for Transfer Information **NOTED;**
THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT CLUBS HAD BEEN REMINDED THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH LEAGUE RULES, THE TRANSFER WINDOW DID NOT OPEN UNTIL 1st OCTOBER. TRANSFER INSTRUCTIONS HAD BEEN SENT TO ALL CLUB SECRETARIES AND TEAMS WERE REMINDED THAT SIMPLY REQUESTING THE TRANSFER ON THE WGS WAS NOT SUFFICIENT FOR THE TRANSFER TO PROCEED. THE APPROPRIATE PAPERWORK NEEDS TO BE LODGED WITH THE LEAGUE PRIOR TO THE TRANSFER BEING COMPLETED ON WGS BY THE LEAGUE

- **Bedfordshire Football Association** re:- various correspondence relating to Youth County Cup fixtures **NOTED;**
CONCERNS OVER THE ORGANISATION OF THE

COUNTY CUP COMPETITIONS WERE ALSO RAISED, DISCUSSED AND NOTED

- **Hitchin Town Youth Orlandoos (Under 18)** re:- request from club for period of grace to allow the team an opportunity to re-group following internal disciplinary issues **NOTED; HAVING REVIEWED THE REQUEST THE COMMITTEE AGREED TO CANCEL ANY REMAINING FIXTURES SCHEDULED FOR 2022 WITHOUT PENALTY TO ALLOW THE TEAM THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS TO COMPLETE THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON**

POST MEETING NOTE:- PLEASE SEE LATER ITEM REGARDING SUBSEQUENT WITHDRAWAL OF THE TEAM.

- **Sundon Park Rangers (Under 14)** re:- observations relating to Kempston Rovers Colts Tigers fielding suspended player in fixtures **NOTED; MATTER REFERRED TO THE BEDFORDSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION FOR REVIEW AND ACTION**
- **Leighton Town Youth (Under 14)** re:- observations relating to Kempston Rovers Colts Tigers fielding suspended player in fixtures **NOTED; MATTER REFERRED TO THE BEDFORDSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION FOR REVIEW AND ACTION**
- **Veronique Nani (Beds FA) (Designated Safeguarding Officer)** re:- request for information relating to behaviour of CYFL member clubs **NOTED; THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT HE AND MR JOHN THOMAS (CYFL CWO) HAD ARRANGED A MEETING ON 24th JANUARY TO DISCUSS ACTIONS AND NEXT STEPS. DURING THE MEETING AN INVITATION WAS OPENED FOR VERONIQUE NANI TO ATTEND THE FORTHCOMING CYFL FULL COUNCIL MEETING AND IT WAS HOPED THIS WOULD ENABLE MEMBER CLUBS TO BE ADDRESSED DIRECTLY**
- **MK Gallactics** re:- request for information to advertise forthcoming summer tournament **NOTED WITH THANKS; THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT HE HAD SUPPORTED REQUEST FOR INFORMATION AND TOURNAMENTS WERE BEING ADVERTISED VIA THE LEAGUE'S SOCIAL MEDIA CHANNELS. THE CHAIRMAN REFERRED TO THE NUMBER OF YOUTH TOURNAMENTS BEING PROMOTED WHICH WOULD LEAD TO A BUSY SUMMER FOR TEAMS!**
- **Wayne Upton (Dunstable Town Phoenix Under 13)** re:- disappointment over Committee decision to award points to opposition following recent non-fulfilment of fixture **NOTED; THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT HE HAD PROVIDED CLARIFICATION OVER THE RULING AND THE RATIONALE BEHIND THE DECISION WHICH WAS CONSISTENT WITH SIMILAR CASES**

- **Dunstable Town Youth Wolves (Under 12)**

re:- disappointment over Committee decision to award points to opposition following recent non-fulfilment of fixture **NOTED; THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT HE HAD PROVIDED CLARIFICATION OVER THE RULING AND THE RATIONALE BEHIND THE DECISION WHICH WAS CONSISTENT WITH SIMILAR CASES**
- **Stopsley United Youth Warriors (Under 11)**

re:- reports of incidents in recent game versus Houghton Athletic **NOTED WITH CONCERN; AS MATTER HAD BEEN REPORTED TO THE BEDFORDSHIRE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION BY THE CLUB, CURRENTLY THERE IS NO FURTHER ACTION FOR THE CYFL AT THIS STAGE UNTIL REVIEW IS COMPLETED.**
- **Henlow Hurricanes (Under 12)**

re:- request to withdraw from Under 12 Trophy competition **NOTED; THE FIXTURE SECRETARY ADVISED HAVING REVIEWED THE DETAILS BEHIND THE REQUEST AND DISCUSSED THE MATTER, IT WAS AGREED THAT THE TEAM COULD WITHDRAW FROM THE COMPETITION WITHOUT PENALTY**
- **MK Warriors**

re:- update relating to Berks & Bucks FA County Cups **NOTED WITH THANKS; BEST WISHES RECORDED TO TEAMS IN FUTURE FIXTURES IN THE COMPETITIONS**
- **Dunstable Town Youth**

re:- clarification over ruling surrounding opposition not having Player Squad lists available for inspection for fixtures **NOTED: THE GENERAL SECRETARY ADVISED THAT HE HAD WRITTEN TO THE CLUB TO CONFIRM THE RULING AND HOW TO PROCEED IN THESE INSTANCES**

POST MEETING NOTE:-

All Clubs were reminded of the importance of having squad lists (from WGS) available for inspection by opponents at all matches.

REPORTS

1. Chairman (Peter Brown)

The Chairman expressed his concern at the length of time it was taking to get feedback from the County FA on referred matters, disciplinary cases and abandoned matches. This was proving frustrating for the Committee and also member clubs, some of whom had directed their frustrations towards the CYFL for the delay in reaching conclusions to outstanding matters.

2. General Secretary (Jonathan Brown)

• **Withdrawn Teams / Clubs**

The following teams have unfortunately withdrawn from the CYFL during January:-

Under 18	Hitchin Town Youth Orlando	(04/01/23)
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As the team had only played 50% of their fixtures (11 out of 22 league games), their playing record would be expunged (as per League Rule 11(D)).

The committee agreed that the deposit for the above team would be with-held in lieu of a fine for the withdrawal, as per rule 11(A).

- **Transfers**

The General Secretary advised that the following transfers had been completed since the last meeting.

Transfer Number	Player Name	Current Club	Age Group	New Club	Age Group
14	Lewis Sharp	Leighton United	13	Dunstable Town	13
15	Tristan Cameron	Bedford Town	13	Wixams	13
16	Iziah Blah	Wixams	14	Kempston Rovers	14

- **Rule Changes**

The Committee discussed some potential areas for rule changes for the 2023 / 24 season
The areas for discussion were:-

- **Teamsheets** – The Committee felt that although this raised the standard of the league and would certainly be a useful deterrent for teams attempting to field unregistered players, there would not be universal support for re-introducing these from member clubs (based on previous feedback)
- **Free Sundays** – the Committee felt that unless raised my member clubs, the current rule was sufficient, although teams should take more responsibility for planning around half term holidays to avoid issues.
- **RESPECT Barriers** – it was agreed that the League would support the County FA's scheme for tightening guidance around usage of these at all matches.

3. **Fixture Secretary (Tony Gee)**

- **Fixture Updates**

Mr. Gee advised that although things were progressing well with regards to the scheduling of fixtures, there was some concerns over the recent loss of fixtures due to the inclement weather and also the Festive Period.

- **County Cup Fixtures**

As per previous notes in these minutes, the Committee expressed their concerns at the poor level of administration and communication of County Cup fixtures this season.

- **Committee Pitch Walking (report as supplied by John Thomas)**

Mr. Thomas discussed a number of requests that had been received from clubs asking for CYFL Committee representation to attend forthcoming fixtures. The Committee reviewed these requests and assigned representatives to attend all fixtures and observe behaviours and conduct player ID checks.

4. **Players Registrations Secretary (Emma Vase)**

The Player Registration Secretary provided the below summary to illustrate the position at the time of the meeting.

3239	registered players on WGS
354	players registered since season started
15	Transfers processed
1	transfer outstanding

Mrs. Vase reported no issues to report and everything is running smoothly; a reminder was given to clubs that registrations for the season close on 1st March so there is still time to register new players; however all clubs just need to be mindful about any players that could be cup tied.

Mrs. Vase reminded all clubs that as always if anybody has any issues with WGS or general registration queries, they could contact her directly.

5. Referees

The appointments of referees for December (since last meeting) and the first week of January are detailed in the table below:-

Age Group	Div	11.12.22			08.01.23			TOTALS		
		No Games	Refs	%	No Games	Refs	%	No Games	Refs	%
18	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	3	100%	3	3	100%
16	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	2	1	50%	2	1	50%
	2	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	3	100%	3	3	100%
15	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	4	100%	4	4	100%
	2	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	3	100%	3	3	100%
	3	1	1	100%	2	2	100%	3	3	100%
14	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	3	100%	3	3	100%
	2	0	0	#DIV/0!	2	2	100%	2	2	100%
	3	0	0	#DIV/0!	5	5	100%	5	5	100%
13	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	4	100%	4	4	100%
	2	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	2	67%	3	2	67%
	3	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	4	100%	4	4	100%
	4	0	0	#DIV/0!	3	3	100%	3	3	100%
12	1	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	3	75%	4	3	75%
	2	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	3	75%	4	3	75%
	3	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	3	75%	4	3	75%
	4	0	0	#DIV/0!	4	3	75%	4	3	75%
11	C	0	0	#DIV/0!	5	4	80%	5	4	80%
	C	0	0	#DIV/0!	6	5	83%	6	5	83%
	C	0	0	#DIV/0!	6	5	83%	6	5	83%
	B	0	0	#DIV/0!			#DIV/0!	0	0	#DIV/0!
Totals		1	1	100%	74	65	88%	75	66	88%

The below analysis breaks down the referee coverage per age group and division; after the three months of the season, the overall coverage is still an encouraging **92%**.

Age Group	Div	ANALYSIS		
		Current	Refs	%
18	1	56	54	96%
16	1	41	37	90%
	2	30	30	100%
15	1	49	48	98%
	2	57	54	95%
	3	33	31	94%
14	1	50	49	98%
	2	41	38	93%
	3	56	52	93%
13	1	53	50	94%
	2	34	28	82%
	3	58	51	88%
	4	44	39	89%
12	1	43	37	86%
	2	48	44	92%
	3	58	53	91%
	4	44	39	89%
11	B	50	45	90%
	C	59	54	92%
	M	48	45	94%
	P	35	33	94%
Totals		987	911	92%

	Games	Refs	%
PM	266	254	95%
AM	721	657	91%
Total	987	911	92%

By Month (PM)			
Month	Games	Refs	%
Sep	52	52	100%
Oct	88	87	99%
Nov	85	81	95%
Dec	41	34	83%
Jan	0	0	#DIV/0!
Feb	0	0	#DIV/0!
March	0	0	#DIV/0!
April	0	0	#DIV/0!
May	0	0	#DIV/0!
June	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total	266	254	95%

By Month (AM)			
Month	Games	Refs	%
Sep	121	112	93%
Oct	247	229	93%
Nov	236	216	92%
Dec	117	100	85%
Jan	0	0	#DIV/0!
Feb	0	0	#DIV/0!
March	0	0	#DIV/0!
April	0	0	#DIV/0!
May	0	0	#DIV/0!
June	0	0	#DIV/0!
Total	721	657	91%

a) AM Referee Appointments Update (Steve Chamberlain)

The Referee Appointments Officers both highlighted the ongoing concerns around the availability of referees being affected by clubs not confirming re-arranged kick off times earlier enough with match officials. It was emphasised that although teams could be flexible with kick off times (within the rules as they stand), they MUST communicate at that earliest available opportunity with both the league appointed match official and the League officers to ensure that everyone is aware of changes. It is not acceptable to only confirm kick off times and locations on a Thursday and expect the match official to be available and or the League to source a replacement at short notice. Working together and communication is the key.

b) PM Referee Appointments Update (Brian Cooper)

As per above.

6. Treasurer (Jane Brown)

Once again, the Treasurer expressed her disappointment with the difficulties in recovering fines and pitch fees from some clubs. This was placing additional workload on League Officers as well as exposing clubs to unnecessary late payment levies.

7. Social Media (Tony Gee & Nikki Browning)

a) Website

Miss Browning advised that she was still waiting for pen portraits and photographs from members of the Management Committee for the website so that she can bring that section up to date.

Member clubs were also asked to send in any content or links for publishing.

b) Facebook

Nothing to report.

8. Child Welfare Officer (John Thomas)

Nothing further to report.

9. Sponsorship (Peter Brown)

The Chairman advised that M&S Water Services Ltd. had agreed to extend their sponsorship agreement of the League for a further 3 years after the current season.

10. Sub-committees

a. Sub-committee – Discipline

b. **Non-fulfilled Fixtures**

The General Secretary confirmed that the following fixtures had not been fulfilled during the month of December. In accordance with league rules, the team highlighted in **yellow** had been charged with the non-fulfilment of the fixture. Details of the committee decision relating to these fixtures can be found within the accompanying Club Discipline Summary spreadsheet (see December tab highlighted in **red**).

4th December 2022

Under 16, Division 1	LUTON CELTIC YOUTH	V	Cranfield Colts
Under 13, Division 1	WOOTTON RANGERS YOUTH BLUES	V	Flitwick Eagles Golds
Under 13, Division 4	Bedford Rovers	V	DUNSTABLE TOWN YOUTH PANTHERS
Under 13, Division 4	M&DH CLAPHAM SPORTS	V	Flitwick Eagles Reds
Under 12, Division 1	Crawley Green Youth Rockets	V	FLITWICK EAGLES GOLDS

11th December 2022

Under 14, Division 1	Flitwick Eagles Blues	V	STOTFOLD JUNIOR WHITES
Under 12, Division 3	Flitwick Eagles Blacks	V	SMART

18th December 2022

Nothing to report

c. **Void Fixtures**

Nothing to report.

d. **Abandoned Fixtures**

13th November 2022

Under 11, Greenwood	Houghton Athletic	V	SUNDON ATHLETIC YOUTH
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Match abandoned by match referee (Stephen Quirke) due to alleged behaviour of Sundon Athletic Management and parents. Reports were received from both teams and the match referee. Matter under review with the Bedfordshire Football Association

20th November 2022

Under 12, Division 2	MK Athletic	V	Dunstable Town Youth Wolves
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Match abandoned by match referee (Ryan White). Reports were received from both teams and the match referee. Matter under review with the Bedfordshire & Berks & Bucks Football Associations

Under 14, Division 3	Kempston Rovers Colts Tigers	V	Leighton Town Youth
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Match abandoned by match referee (Adam Ahmad-Pearce). Reports were received from both teams and the match referee. Matter under review with the Bedfordshire Football Association

Sunday 4th December 2022

Under 12, Division 3	AFC Oakley Spartans	V	Sacred Heart Youth Hatters
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Match abandoned by match referee (Samuel Jones). Reports were received from both teams and the match referee. Matter under review with the Bedfordshire Football Association

e. **Ineligible Players**

Nothing to report.

REMINDER:- ALL CLUBS WHO HAVE BEEN FINED CAN FIND DETAILS OF THE OFFENCE AND ANY ASSOCIATED FINE WITHIN THE ATTACHED CLUB DISCIPLINE SPREADSHEET. CLUBS

ARE REMINDED THAT ALL FINES NEED TO BE PAID WITHIN 14 DAYS OF THE RECEIPT OF THESE MINUTES AND PAYMENT CAN BE MADE EITHER BY CHEQUE MADE PAYABLE TO CHILTERN YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE AND SENT DIRECTLY TO THE TREASURER MRS J BROWN AT 4 SOLLARS WAY, HOUGHTON CONQUEST, BEDFORDSHIRE MK45 3GA OR VIA BACS PAYMENT AS FOLLOWS:-

SORT CODE:- 20-05-74
ACCOUNT NUMBER:- 90206121
ACCOUNT NAME:- CHILTERN YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE

f. Sub-committee – Trophies (Peter Brown)

Medal Order

g. Sub-committee - Cup Finals

A discussion took place regarding the booking for Cup Final Super Sunday, which had been provisionally placed with Barton-le-Clay Parish Council for the event in Sunday 14th May 2023. When confirming the booking, the cost of the hire had increased three fold and disappointment was expressed at the price increase and change of terms that has been submitted by Barton-le-Clay Parish Council.

Following the discussion, it was decided to make enquiries regarding other venues prior to confirming any booking.

Any Other Business

None

Meeting Closed: 20.20

Dates for the 2022 / 2023 Diary:

2023

Monday 30th January	Flitwick Football Centre	Full Council Meeting
Weds 8th February	VIRTUAL	Committee Meeting
Weds 22nd March	Meeting Room, Beds FA	Committee Meeting
Weds 5th April	VIRTUAL	Committee Meeting
Weds 10th May	Meeting Room, Beds FA	Committee Meeting
Monday 12th June	County Lounge (+bar)	AGM

Cup Finals

Sunday 7th May 2023	Under 16 (x2) and Under 18 Cup Finals	Venue TBC
Sunday 14th May 2023	Cup Final Super Sunday (Under 12 - Under 15)	Barton-le-Clay
TBC	Under 11 Cup Finals Venue	Venue TBC