

CROWBOROUGH & DISTRICT JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE

MINUTES OF FULL LEAGUE MEETING HELD ON 20/08/20 VIA ZOOM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul McCarthy, Trevor Brand, Matt Miller, David Cole Stuart Newman, Tom Watkins, Aaron Hill, Trudi O'Neill, Will Jeffries

1. **WELCOME FROM CHAIRMAN**

Paul McCarthy, Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Season 2019/20 was like no other with first the wet weather, followed by Covid-19, bringing the season to an abrupt end. All Clubs were thanked for their efforts getting matches played during the bad weather. 2020/21 will require us to adapt to ever-evolving guidelines from the FA, making everyone's job more complicated and thanked Clubs in advance for their commitment and flexibility.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Andy Stevens (9v9 Fixtures Secretary); Tonbridge Invicta and Ashurst Wood

3. **LEAGUE SECRETARY UPDATE AND CORRESPONDENCE**

- 3.1 Applauded the Club Secretaries and those involved in the extra workload in creating a safe environment for all players as a result of Covid and the FA guidelines.
- 3.2 Registrations as at date of meeting 2,600 compared with 5,300 registered last season. Please keep them coming in, piecemeal is fine rather than sending all at once. Deadline for first weekend has been moved to 31 Aug, with deadline for minis 8pm on Thurs before match.
- 3.3 Mini Soccer fixtures posted commencing 12th Sept (u8s/u10s) and 19th Sept (u7s/u9s).
- 3.4 Additional teams can enter post-xmas, deadline for these entries to be advised.
- 3.5 Dates for League Meetings, Cup Finals and Presentations, League Committee Members contact details and 2020/21 Season rules are available on league website.
- 3.6 Each Club must have appointed a Covid Officer. On confirming matches include welcome correspondence and any Covid-related requirements.

4. **LEAGUE OFFICERS UPDATES**

Referees Secretary

Referees have been invited to renew with Sussex FA for new season, overall numbers are down due to no courses and no new referees. Coverage rate 3 years ago 47%, last season 70-80%, this season will be lower.

Request to spread out KO times for fixtures to help provide coverage.

Assistant Referees must use own flags, Referees will not have them.

Referees fees if paid by cash must be in an envelope.

Use of technical areas this season – max of 2 coaches per box, if surplus coaches, they are not permitted to coach from the spectators side.

Dimensions of technical area are 1m in from halfway line, 1m from touchline and 2m x 4m. Can be painted or cones used.

League Welfare Officer

Advised no courses for foreseeable future – Level 1, First Aid or Safeguarding;

First Aid certificates expiring between Feb 2020 and July 2021 will have an extension until 31 July 2021 – being updated on WGS;

If a Safeguarding course has been attended in person and now needs renewing, this can be renewed online – FA Safeguarding Children Recertification;

New and existing DBS checks can be carried out;

For those new to coaching or helping out, the FA have launched an online "FA Playmaker Course" which is free and just needs a FAN to access. This isn't a replacement for the Level 1 but covers basics, including some safeguarding and first aid and should be considered for those waiting for courses.

Welfare Reminders:

Ensure Parents are aware of FA Respect and a respect barrier is used – physical barrier ie rope is best method;

All those involved with players have a current DBS;

When treating any first aid on the pitch, the first aid bag must be taken on with them;

Coaches and managers to look like a club official, ie wear club top, jacket

Treasurer

Confirmed club statements to be distributed shortly.

11v11 Fixtures Secretary (also covering 9v9)

Majority of Clubs affiliated, 10-12 in progress;

Fixtures released, hardest season with 21 teams pulling out impacting divisions – results for u12s up will be monitored during September and will consider moving teams if in wrong division/out of depth/consistently being thrashed ;

Kent County Cup cancelled;

If divisions have a good run and finish on time/early will consider Spring Trophy competition;

If non-availability of school pitches affecting teams, request away fixture or contact Aaron or Andy rather than not play;

Bexhill U17s (existing member) and Westfield (new) requested late entry for u17 teams – no objections received from membership and therefore accepted.

Full Time Logins: have been sent out, please ensure coach or team admin registered on Whole Game System (WGS) in order to receive these.

Girls Football – email sent to clubs regarding starting a Girls' program and to ascertain interest. Positive response although some teams not quite ready but interest there, so will keep in touch and aim to start programme in Spring 2021.

Trophy Officer

Advised all trophies relating to last season including cup finalists now distributed, if any not received please advise

Training Officer

Confirmed League still offering subsidies for Level 1 £80, Safeguarding and First Aid courses £10 each once they resume.

Affiliation Officer

Nothing to report.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Questions were raised from attendees throughout the meeting.

Question concerning maximum of 30 in a group as per Government guidelines; FA refer to this for competitive training – to be clarified with FA and subsequently **ACTION: TB**

No further business.

6. DATE FOR NEXT FULL MEETING

Confirmed as 25th February 2021 – venue to be confirmed

The Chairman thanked all those for their time and for attending.

Meeting closed at 21.20hrs

Information provided in relation to questions raised from attendees:

Registration numbers:

Minis – double playing number

U11 & U12 = 18

U13 – U16 = 20

U18 = 24

Mini soccer registrations – players are registered to age group pool, not team

Sin bins in operation this season

Referees:

A 16 year old referee can ref open age football. FA ruling is they can referee two years above their age; league is one year above their age. League will accept a two year gap if the game is in good spirit and the Managers are in agreement;

If no referee appointed and home club can't locate one, ask opposition. If neither club has a referee available, then either a coach or parent, with the agreement of both managers, can ref and take on the same authority as a qualified referee

U13's upwards is 5 rolling subs;

Any team or club totally not complying with FA guidelines – contact County direct;

Players permitted to play up 4 times in a season;

Online safeguarding recertification can be undertaken providing a safeguarding workshop has been initially attended in person;

Can be flexible with KO times, no cut off time for games, but opposition cannot be expected to make a KO time where they are required to leave home before 8am; can be flexible and if both managers in agreement;

U11's is semi-competitive football (results not displayed apart from Trophy Events), at U12's moves to fully competitive;

U14s – 35 mins each way match time;