



Yeovil & District Football League
Endove
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MINUTES OF A YEOVIL & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE MEETING HELD ON 20 JANUARY 2021 VIA ZOOM COMMENCING AT 19:00 PM

Attendance:		
YDFL Officers:	YDFL Committee:	Apologies:
John Shearing, Chairman (JS)	Ron Hodgson (RH)	Terry Sainsbury, Vice Chairman (TS)
Carrie-Anne Morgan, General Secretary (CAM)	Peter Hockley (PH)	Nick Hulland, Referees' Representative (NH)
Ashley Bussell, Vice Chair Youth League (AB)	Rob Lockey	Alan Simpson (AS)
Paul Murley, Treasurer (PM)	Terry Langdon (TL)	Colin Pippard, President (CP)
Monica Hayden, Youth League Secretary (MH)	Graham Baker (GB)	Nick Clarke, Registrations & Fixture Sec (NC)
Steve Brabbs, Youth League Asst Secretary (SBr)	Neil Mapletoft (NM)	Terry Harris, Welfare & Respect Officer (TH)
Simon Bachrach, Minutes Secretary (SBa)	Pete Diffey (PD)	
Ian Harley, Referees Appointment Secretary (IH)		

	Detail:	
1	Chairman's Welcome The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, stating that Somerset has been placed in Tier 4 of the National Lockdown.	
2	Apologies for Absence As registered above.	
3	Minutes of Previous Meeting The Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 December 2020 were accepted unanimously and will be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate reflection of the Meeting, once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.	
4.1	Matters Arising Item 7 – PM advised the investigation into insurance continues. He hopes to report at the next meeting.	
4.2	Return of Trophies – AB questioned whether all trophies are likely to be returned by the end of January deadline. PM advised moiré that ½ had been returned to date.	
4.3	Dorset County Cup – JS has spoken with Chris Ware of the Perry Street League; although he is supportive of a discussion with Dorset FA, his committee are not happy to support. Consequently, nothing has yet been sent to Dorset FA. It was noted that Wyndham have moved their home ground back to Somerset, leaving only Team Griffin playing in Dorset.	
4.4	Item 10 – JS has spoken with Dave Braithwaite at SFA who has advised that the League pyramid system is still in operation. JS will speak with Steve Denby regarding a Joint Liaison Committee.	JS
5.1	Secretaries Reports General & Sponsorship Secretary – CAM reported <ul style="list-style-type: none">- There have been a number of "behind the scenes" meetings. The County FA will be holding a League Forum on 25 January 2021 and a Saturday Adult Male Football meeting on 1 February 2021 to discuss if and how best co-ordinate the end of the current season.- Meetings with sponsors will be arranged as soon as practicable to discuss current and future	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - sponsorship. - The App is being kept up to date with all FA & Government guidance to keep everyone advised. 	
5.2	<p>Junior Fixtures Secretary –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NC's statement to Council was presented advising of the Zoom meeting held with Chairman and General Secretary to discuss the continuation of the 2020/21 season and possible contingency plans. A statement has been issued to Junior League Clubs confirming the proposals. A copy of the statement is attached to these minutes at Appendix 1. - The proposals were agreed unanimously, with the consensus they were well considered. CAM to bring the proposals to the attention of SFA. 	CAM
5.3	<p>Youth Fixtures Secretary –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - With all fixtures cancelled during the current lockdown, it is hoped that a restart on February 28, 2021 will be possible. All fixtures have been rescheduled on that basis with the League planned to end mid-May. This gives a 2-week buffer to the end of May if required. - Currently, U14 Div 2 may require night games in April to complete their fixtures. - There are 1099 players registered on paper, of which 1054 are entered on Whole Game and 45 are awaiting paperwork. - The Youth League will consider the Junior League proposals above. <p>Thanks were expressed to MH for her work in reorganising the Youth League fixtures.</p>	
5.4	<p>Referees Appointments –</p> <p>IH reported no change to the coverage of games. There were no other matters to report.</p>	
6	<p>Treasurers Report</p> <p>PM advised there had not been a lot of movement in funds; current balance £13,999. This is £3,000 lower than the season opening balance.</p>	
7	<p>Yeovil & District Mini League - update</p> <p>AB advised that under current lockdown the Development Leagues can play however, the U12 League cannot.</p>	
8	<p>Welfare & Respect Officer Report</p> <p>No matters to report.</p>	
9	<p>Referee Representative's Report</p> <p>No matters to report.</p>	
10	<p>Somerset Junior Football Alliance - update</p> <p>No matters to report.</p>	
11	<p>Player & Club Conduct</p> <p>No matters to report.</p>	
11.1	<p>Cancelled Fixtures (cancelled by Team in bold)</p> <p>No matters to report.</p>	
12	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There was no other correspondence.</p>	
13	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>CAM asked PM to pass her details of the trophies yet to be returned so she can remind clubs.</p> <p>JS advised that a League lapel badge has been produced. These can be obtained at a cost of £2.</p>	PM
14	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Date of next meeting 17 February 2021, 7:00PM via Zoom (unless restrictions allow it to be held in the Old Barn Club).</p>	
	<p>There being no other business the meeting closed at 20:04.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Chairman</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>Date</p>

Appendix 1

Statement to YDFL Junior Clubs 24 Jan 21

The continuation of season 2020/21 and contingency plans going forward.

Due to the number of teams in the Premier Division being considerably less than the other two divisions, there are relatively fewer games to be played in order to conclude that division. Therefore, as long as some play is enabled, this division should be concluded. We are at the moment assuming an end date of May 31st although some extension may be enabled by the FA.

The situation with the other two divisions is more complicated with more games to play for full conclusion.

- a) If lockdown restrictions are eased at the end of February, then the league season will recommence on Saturday 6th March with the intention of playing all three divisions to conclusion.
- b) If lockdown restrictions enable play by mid-March and matches can be commenced on or by 20th March, there would be an effort to conclude divisions wherever possible but for all teams to have played a minimum of 75% of their matches. In this case the leagues would be settled on a points per game basis.
- c) If restrictions are not eased until the beginning of April, but allowing play from April 3rd or 10th, the intention would be for all teams to play at least 50% of their matches by the end of May. Again, in this case the leagues would be decided on a points per game basis.
- d) If restrictions do not permit the playing of football by at least 17th April there would be no realistic opportunity of completing enough of the total league programme to make any solution viable so at that time, there would be a discussion about making the season null and void depending on the parameters and knowledge known then.

We sincerely hope that the Country is in far better health a month from now and that we can get back to playing football soon, but we felt it prudent to plan for every eventuality at this stage and give a clear intention to our clubs.