



Yeovil & District Football League  
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**MINUTES OF A YEOVIL & DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE MEETING HELD ON 17 FEBRUARY 2021  
VIA ZOOM COMMENCING AT 19:00 PM**

<b>Attendance:</b>		
<b>YDFL Officers:</b>	<b>YDFL Committee:</b>	<b>Apologies:</b>
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	Colin Pippard, President (CP)
Paul Murley, Treasurer (PM)	Terry Langdon (TL)	Nick Clarke, Registrations & Fixture Sec (NC)
Monica Hayden, Youth League Secretary (MH)	Graham Baker (GB)	
Steve Brabbs, Youth League Asst Secretary (SBr)	Pete Diffey (PD)	
Simon Bachrach, Minutes Secretary (SBa)	Ian Kellett (IK)	
Ian Harley, Referees Appointment Secretary (IH)		
Terry Harris, Welfare & Respect Officer (TH)		

	<b>Detail:</b>	
1	<p><b>Chairman's Welcome</b></p> <p>The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting. Condolences were conveyed to CAM for a recent family bereavement.</p>	
2	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>As registered above.</p>	
3	<p><b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b></p> <p>The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 January 2021 were accepted unanimously with two amendments* and will be signed by the Chair as a true and accurate reflection of the Meeting, once Covid-19 restrictions are lifted.</p> <p>Amendments:</p> <p>Item 4.3: <b>Matters Arising</b> It was noted that Wyndham have moved their home ground back to Somerset, leaving only Team Griffin Grypon playing in Dorset.</p> <p>Item 7: <b>Yeovil &amp; District Mini League - update</b> AB advised that under current lockdown the Development Leagues <del>can</del>, and U12 Leagues <b>cannot</b> play however, the U12 League cannot.</p>	

4	<b>Matters Arising</b>	
4.1	Item 4.2 – AB enquired about the progress of Trophy returns. PM advised this would be discussed at item 6 in the Agenda.	
4.2	Item 4.3 – AB asked if there had been any further information regarding the Dorset County Cups. JS advised there had not, but he would follow up on Wyndham Athletic to ascertain if they had withdrawn from the Competition.	JS
4.3	<p>Item 4.4 – JS updated on a discussion regarding a Saturday Junior League Meeting with SFA concerning the Pyramid System. Although not amicable, the Meeting had been considered good. Minutes have been circulated to all involved. Points of note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SFA are looking to all Leagues having the same focus on completing the season.</li> <li>- SFA have suggested 5 promotions to the Senior League. It was noted their current rules allow for 2 Teams to be promoted. SFA are considering holding a special board meeting to review this rule.</li> </ul> <p>Views of Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o PH felt that 5 promotions was unacceptable. It could mean Taunton League losing 4 Teams which is too many and would have an adverse effect on their League. He also asked if all Clubs looking for promotion are aware of the ground grading regulations.</li> <li>o JS said he agreed with Clubs looking for progression and he did not want to stop this. However, 2 promotions annually to the Senior League was sufficient, with only 1 from any League. Particularly as there had been no relegations from the Senior League in recent years.</li> <li>o AB felt that there was insufficient discussion with Leagues about Teams seeking promotion.</li> <li>o JS will take comments back to SFA.</li> </ul>	JS
5	<b>Secretaries Reports</b>	
5.1	<p><b>General &amp; Sponsorship Secretary</b> – CAM reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- She had attended the Leagues meeting hosted by SFA. Points of note from the meeting were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Season end date is set at 31 May 2021; however, this may be extended.</li> <li>o A plan for recommencement after Covid restrictions are lifted and completion of the season was agreed as a positive step forward.</li> <li>o Crowd funding options were discussed. SFA have used SNAP, a community-based platform. No information has yet been disseminated, CAM to follow this up.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	CAM
5.2	<p><b>Junior Fixtures Secretary</b> –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NC asked for the “end of season” statement to be restated to Clubs, confirming it is still relevant. Positive feedback has been received from Clubs.</li> </ul>	
5.3	<p><b>Youth Fixtures Secretary</b> – MH reported</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- All fixtures have been rescheduled with the intention of starting on March 14. This should allow the season to end on May 9, however due to the delay, no Cup Competitions can be played.</li> <li>- She advised that night fixtures may be required for some Divisions, particularly U14 Div. 2 as there are 32 fixtures to complete.</li> <li>- 1,100 registered players (on paper), 1,059 on Whole Game System. The discrepancy is due to a lack of paperwork which Clubs have been requested to provide several times.</li> </ul> <p><b>Proposed by CAM, seconded GB, that Clubs be given 7 days to produce paperwork. If not forthcoming fines to be levied for not attending to League business as per Rule.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AB recommended Rules Revision clarify the registration process to include the Whole Game System registration process.</li> </ul>	MH
5.4	<p><b>Referees Appointments</b> –</p> <p>IH reported there were no other matters to report.</p>	

6	<b>Treasurers Report</b> PM reported that the auditor, Clive Chant, had been diagnosed with a terminal illness. To allow Clive to complete the current year audit, if possible, our accounts will be closed early. Gratitude for the excellent service provided over many years was expressed by all in attendance.  PM reported other matters as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Due to computer failure, he has been unable to update the accounts for tonight's meeting.</li> <li>- All outstanding fines have been postponed at present.</li> <li>- There are three trophies still to be returned <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Edwards Trophy from Stoke Youth – MH to follow up</li> <li>o Strode (trophy 9) and South Cheriton (trophy 12) – CAM to follow up.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- SFA have advised the Youth Grant has been withdrawn. There is however other funds available for which PM has made an application.</li> </ul>	MH CAM
7	<b>Yeovil &amp; District Mini League - update</b> AB and GB reported the Mini League will play to the end of May 2021 with the intention to complete the Champions Cup and Champions Plate in the Development System (7s to 11s) and all U12 Divisions. It is unlikely there will be any U12 Cup Competitions however, there is an aspiration to play the High Holborn Shield and St John's Plate.	
8	<b>Welfare &amp; Respect Officer Report</b> Following a complaint from 1 November 2020 it was agreed that TH and IH should remotely meet to conclude the investigation and issue a Closing Statement to the Clubs concerned.	TH / IH
9	<b>Referee Representative's Report</b> No matters to report. Referee availability will be reviewed for March should the Leagues be able to recommence.	
10	<b>Somerset Junior Football Alliance - update</b> No matters to report.	
11	<b>Player &amp; Club Conduct</b> No matters to report.	
11.1	<b>Cancelled Fixtures (cancelled by Team in bold)</b> No matters to report.	
12	<b>Correspondence</b> There was no other correspondence.	
13	<b>Any Other Business</b>  There was no other business.	
14	<b>Date of next meeting</b>  Date of next meeting 17 March 2021, 7:00PM via Zoom (unless restrictions allow it to be held in the Old Barn Club).	
	There being no other business the meeting closed at 20:24.  <p style="text-align: center;">.....</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <span>Chairman</span> <span>Date</span> </div>	