

NORTH WEST COUNTIES JUNIORS
Minutes of the meeting held 1st March 2011 at Leigh Miners Welfare

Roll call

ACCRINGTON WILDCATS	/	LEYLAND WARRIORS	/
ATHERTON DRAGONS	/	LIVERPOOL LIONS	/
BANK QUAY BULLS		LIVERPOOL STORM	/
BLACKBROOK ROYALS	/	MILNROW COBRAS	/
BOLD MINERS	/	NEW SPRINGS LEGION	/
BURTONWOOD BULLDOGS	/	NEWTON STORM	/
CADISHEAD RHINOS	/	OLDHAM ST ANNES	/
CHORLEY PANTHERS	/	ORRELL ST JAMES	/
CLOCK FACE	/	PILKINGTON RECS	/
CROSFIELDS	/	PORTICO VINE	/
CULCHETH EAGLES	/	ROCHDALE MAYFIELD	
FITTON HILL BULLDOGS	/	RYLANDS SHARKS	/
FOLLY LANE	/	SADDLEWORTH RANGERS	/
GOLBORNE PARKSIDE	/	SHEVINGTON SHARKS	/
HALTON FARNWORTH HORNETS	/	THATTO HEATH CRUSADERS	/
HAYDOCK WARRIORS		WATERHEAD	/
HIGGINSHAW EAGLES	/	WEST BANK BEARS	/
HINDLEY	/	WESTHOUGHTON LIONS	/
INCE ROSE BRIDGE	/	WIDNES MOORFIELD	/
IRLAM HORNETS		WIDNES ST MARIES	/
LANGWORTHY REDS	/	WIGAN ST CUTHBERTS	/
LATCHFORD ALBION UNICORNS		WIGAN ST JUDES	/
LEIGH EAST	/	WIGAN ST PATRICKS	/
LEIGH MINERS RANGERS	/	WOOLSTON ROVERS	/

Minutes of February 2011 read.

Matters arising:

Non other than mini and mod – to be dealt with later

Correspondence:

Letter from John Pattinson – Barla vice chairman. (see below)

Re: benefits package for the NCL

The allegation is that Trevor and Peter Moran are trying to do a deal and secure funding for the NCL ahead of everyone else. They have denied that any deals have been done. A comment has been made by Peter Moran that if the NCL did not go to summer they would lose funding. Officially there has not been a reply from the RFL.

There should have been a meeting this weekend to talk about summer rugby. That meeting has now been cancelled but no reason given.

Will keep you updated. Watch the RL press and check with your own clubs.

Letter from Barla:

Reviewed the events that lead to us becoming associate members of Barla and offered to accept the league back as full member.

GA – don't need anybody. When we were in Barla we had nothing – Junior & Junior representative voted in by Barla members, mostly open age. Until voted in by Youth & Juniors may as well stay as we are. We need to negotiate from a strong point. Not being in doesn't stop kids playing rugby.

MD – shared view. We haven't come to any harm by being an associate member. Don't like the way the RFL work. Although we are associate members, we still see ourselves as being part of Barla and we have someone we can speak to at Barla. Roger Fagge - Barla Secretary is very approachable. Barla are basically toothless, have sat back and allowed RFL to take control. RFL are only interested in elite players, not the average kids. Will reply and say that until some things change we will stay as we are.

Mini- Mod

We went to a meeting with the RFL – NWC, Yorkshire and Hull. We questioned the need 3-5 players in transfer. Appears to have come from Yorkshire Juniors. Challenged him on the night. He doesn't think there should be any restricted and couldn't see any harm in 5 players leaving one club to go to another. He thinks that they should have free movement. Have agreed now that it has been put back until other leagues have been approached.

RFL want to bring in scholarship rugby, within the season. The scholarship players will go to play scholarship games and kids left over will play 7 – 9 a-side. Disappointed that sister leagues have attended previous meetings and have not spoke up on our behalf. We will attend future meetings to represent ourselves.

Over the last month, Warrington District - Hilary Steel – has stated that Mick is the one that is disagreeing. Mick is in it for the clubs and has no personal agenda.

GA – Meeting at Hopwood Hall, notes taken (not happy with the way notes were being taken – now proved to be right!) Next time it was seen, was when it appeared on the site and is different to what was discussed in that meeting. Unfortunately, people were away when the final decisions were made. We have agreed to disagree with the rules but have agreed to have a transition.

When asked where the marker rule came from – Yorkshire Juniors. They are adamant that the marker doesn't move and kids have more time to play the ball. As a compromise, we suggested that we are only going to bring these rules in from the start of next season with the proviso that this years U10s will play the existing rule. This years 9s going to 10s will play the new rules from September.

In May the RFL will discuss the rule changes. Before May, we want your questions and comments so that we can send them off to the RFL so they can prepare their answers.

New rule books given out – to be viewed only. We are NOT playing these rules in March, stick with the same rules until further notice! Something is now in place to review rules but rules will not be changed until next March. We are part of the community game and so we want everyone to be playing by the same rules.

They are trying to standardise everything. It won't work because you can't have the same rules for an 8 year old as for an 18 year old.

Discipline –

All dealt with now apart from the appeals.

Appeals 16th March at Leigh East.

Wigan St Judes U7s – appeal 7pm at Leigh East

Leigh Miners U12s

Ince U12s

Waterhead U11s

Fixtures

U8s – Orrell, Pilks and Bank Quay

The will be adjusted as soon as

Leigh Miners & Chorley have too many teams at home on the same week. Will try to sort that out.

One of the best games of kids rugby at U12s for the Lancs Cup Finals. Absolutely brilliant – discipline and skills were fantastic. Congratulations to both clubs for the way they represented the league. Well done to St Judes who came out on top 8-4. There is a video available priced £6. Officials were great and parents applauded both teams.

Any problems with fixtures, please let Mick know. Please either email or text Mick – don't rely on the forum to arrange matches.

U11s – starting from this Sunday, please text your result in (home team). Start text message with U11s Group A/ B/ C. Trying to get ready for the next season. U12s have done it for the last 2 seasons and it has worked really well.

This Sunday is the U12s cup matches, but there are fixtures outside of the cup.

Crosfields v HFH
Liverpool v Leyland
Langworthy v Irlam
Wigan St Pats Cougars v Westhoughton

Main Cup

Wigan St Pats v Rylands Sharks
Burtonwood v Orrell St James
Pilks Rec v Thatto Heath
Widnes Moorfield v St Judes

Plate

Ince Rose Bridge v west Bank
Clock Face v Oldham St Annes
Leigh East v Leigh Miners
Blackbrook v Chorley

Dev Cup

Portico v Shevington Sharks
Golborne v Waterhead
Rochdale Mayfield v Latchford Albion
Haydock v Cadishead

Not been able to get hold of anyone at Rochdale, and had been suspended from the association due to non-attendance. Could be that the team has folded but no one has responded. Under association rules they are suspended from playing.

Rochdale Mayfield is therefore out of the cup competition and Latchford get a bye.

With the development cup, have 4 teams in the plate already and the losing teams will join them. Draw will be made next week and be played to the following week.

In our cup, you are not restricted to the number of players that can play.

New Springs - At the end of each financial year there is loads of unclaimed grant money because clubs are not applying for it. If it isn't claimed the amount will be reduced and that will reduce the pot. Sign on for Grants Alert. Google the Foundation of Greater Manchester.

Transfers

They are a club matter. We don't need a letter from parents, the club needs to put together an appeal. Be honest, if you have had your quota tell the parent that.

Lottery

Fallen a little behind – January and February need to be done. Will get the details on the site.

Raging Bull – have our own ‘shop’. Click the link on the website. We will build that up. This will generate income for us. A major sponsor is coming on side - to be announced later.

Any other business

End of season dinner to mark the end of the season and the end of the U12s association with our league. Need to look at pricing and venues.

Next Meeting – Tuesday 5th April 2011

WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

Statement by John Pattinson, Community Board member representing the British Amateur Rugby League Association, in response to communications he has seen in the last 24 hours (over 23 and 24 February 2011) taken from the Wigan St Patrick’s RLFC web-site and other correspondence to a BARLA board member, in which NCL President Peter Moran confirmed that he and NCL Chairman Trevor Hunt are ‘currently negotiating a benefits package for all Tier 3 clubs in the Rugby Football League’s proposed new pyramid structure - on behalf of the NCL and the summer conference should it decide to move’.

“The statement made by Peter Moran on a package agreed by the National Conference League and the Rugby Football League on the use of public funded money has never been agreed at the Community Board. Nor has any subcommittee of the Community Board comprising Peter Moran (NCL) and Trevor Hunt (NCL) ever been discussed or agreed at the Community Board by the other Community Board members.

“The Community Board have never, to date, discussed the funding levels for Tier 3 and 4 of the pyramid. However both the RFL, and the Chair of the Community Board, have always indicated that funding levels will be equal for both Level 3 and Level 4 - including the winter part of the pyramid.

“I (John Pattinson) will not be supportive of the statements made by Peter Moran at the Community Board and will be challenging the existence of this sub group.

“The Community Board is the place that decisions will be taken on public funding issues for the community game - that decision process is required to be totally transparent and auditable.

“I am concerned over Peter Moran’s position as an independent member of the Community Board. Agreeing (as he has done as part of what appears to be an unconstitutional subcommittee) to the spending of public money on behalf of the National Conference League (of which he is President) is clearly not acting independently.

“My second concern regards Trevor Hunt, whose position on the Community Board is to represent other leagues that have greater number of teams than the 38 NCL sides. Trevor, like Peter Moran, was part of a subcommittee, but is also Chair of the NCL. In negotiating on behalf of the NCL he is clearly not acting for the other leagues he is on the Community Board to represent.

“I cannot understand why the RFL would form a subcommittee without first informing the other members of the Community Board and securing its consent. That would have allowed the independent Chair of the Community Board to check on, and agree, the subcommittee’s remit. This has always been the past procedure in respect of any subcommittee formed by the Community Board.

“I do not believe that this unauthorised subcommittee would have been authorised by Richard Lewis, the independent Chair of the Community Board, or by the Chair of Sport England (who fund the Community Board) had he been aware of its proposed formation.”

John Pattinson
BARLA Vice Chairman