

Johnstone & District YFL

MGM Minutes April 2010

Meeting opened a 7:20pm

Apologies from the committee were submitted for the following:

Paul Kyle (Child Protection Officer)	Woking in Lossimouth
Derek Torrance (Vice Chairman & Under 11's Match Sec)	Working New Job New Shifts
Stuart Coulman (Under 12 Match Sec)	Working Back Shift
Chris Johnstone (Under 8's Match Sec)	

Gerry Coyle (Chairman) Opened by informing all members that there were no minutes available. The reason given for this was that PK was working away and his computer was also down. Every effort will be made to have these minutes available and posted on web site. It was stated and generally agreed that there were no major issues arising from the last meeting.

Items Arising:

Gerry Coyle (Chairman) intimated that there was one item of business that he had been made aware of from Barrhead Boys Club. **Ian McArthur (Barrhead Boys Club)** was invited to take the floor to explain his point.

Ian spoke at length and in detail to the body of the hall about a concern he and his fellow committee members had with Scouts acting on behalf of professional clubs. The main concern was that the scouts had not followed protocol and despite being told, via the club coaches, that the player in question was happy at the Youth Club they approached the boy's parents directly. Barrhead feel that at 8 years old the boy is too young for Pro Youth & that there had been Player Protection issues. Ian asked for a concensus of opinion from the body of the hall. Could be ban these scouts – two in particular are representing Celtic – from attending J&D matches? Billy Baird (League Sec) asked for a proposal. Ian McArthur explained that this would be dependent on the feeling of the body of the hall. The floor was open to discussion on this.

Stuart Darroch (Bishopton Youth):- It was a good idea for younger ages

Pat O'Neil (St Mirren Johnstone West):- Had had dealings with Celtic scouts in the past and had no issues

Paul McCarthy (MoJams):- Had an issue with St Mirren approaching kids as they are already represented in our League. Paul had no objections to Celtic & Rangers taking kids for what he stated was additional, high quality, training. Paul questioned whether we had the right to ban scouts?

Scott Tillie (Gleniffer Thistle):- Questioned the legality of barring scouts from our venues

Archie Douglas (Barrhead Boys Club) : - Agreed that Pro Youth can be good but said the main concern was that Scouts had not followed proper procedures and had in fact went behind the Youth Club's coaches back to obtain permission to take this boy to their training

Billy Baird (League Sec) stated that D Little (SYFA) had informed him that the body of the hall make these decisions. This will be verified. It was also stated that no scout should be making direct approaches to a

player or his / her parents. Billy asked for anyone with any concerns or views on this to email or write to him regarding this. It was agreed to move on from this point.

AGE GROUP REPORTS

Under 8's

Joe Gibson – In Chris's absence informed everyone that printed fixtures were available. There were no pitch numbers on these but they would be posted on match days at Ferguslie Sports Centre

Under 9s

Andy Johnston – Asked the members to consider a split in fixtures to allow evenly matched games. If agreed this would be done for the remainder of the season. New contact number for Glentyan Thistle issued. Andy also mentioned that he had received a complaint that someone claiming to represent Houston Utd had been asking local shops for kits for kids tokens. This person was not representing Houston Utd. Two new teams had applied and been accepted Houston Utd & St Mirren BC

Under 10's

Gerry Coyle – No reported, and not aware of any issues with fixtures. Two new teams had applied and were accepted and included in April fixtures. Antonine BC & Pirre Park YC. Contact details included on match fixtures. No issues from the members.

Under 11's

Billy Baird – In Derek's absence informed everyone that fixtures were not available on the night but that Derek would be in touch with everyone and post them on the website that evening. No issues advised from members

Under 12's

All fixtures posted on the website. This is an external link and referee details can also be found here. Joe Gibson stated that Paul Sale (RDC) informed him that there would be no council 11 a side pitches available after May. This presents an issue as the League is planned to run to the end of June. Any team who wishes to play games after May should contact Billy Baird. Any team with their own home pitch should continue to play fixtures.

Billy Baird - League Secretary Report

- Community Sponsors the suppliers of the glossy fixtures have approached the league with a view to producing a Pitch Directory. This would provide details of all pitches used by the league, location, type of pitch and parking information etc. Community Sponsors has the backing of the local Police & the SYFA regarding this. The directory will also include discount vouchers that can be used by players & parents. This will generate £300 sponsor for the league in addition to the continuation of the "Glossy Fixtures" which will run for a further 2 years, generating £600 for the League. This system has worked well in the Newcastle area. **NO ISSUES OR OBJECTIONS FROM THE MEMBERS PRESENT**
- **Stephen Mann (St Mirren Youth BC)** – Not In Attendance – had stated that the duration of the league was decided by FIFA & SFA. Billy Baird countered this by saying that he had information to the contrary, stating that the League Members decide the duration of the League season, this was verified by David Little (SYFA)

- The league season cannot run beyond the 19th June as this is the date for the SYFA annual general meeting. **UPDATE : Our League Will Finish On 1st June 2010 & Restarting 2nd Week In August 2010 After Discussions With SYFA**
- Billy will discuss, with the local council, the availability of 7-a-side pitches beyond May.
- Irvine Bain (Erskine YC) – Asked when the RS7's was starting as there may be a fixture clash. Billy replied by saying he will look into this. There was a meeting set up by the SYFA to be held at Hampden between the J&D, P&D, RS7's. **UPDATE: Renfrewshire would commence 1 June 2010 and finish second week in August with Johnstone re-commencing second week in August.**

There was the some discussion regarding extending our current 2009 / 2010 season. This is now no longer an issue due to agreement with SYFA as detailed above.

Discussion took place with regards to playing ages for next season when following the new player pathway. Paul McCarthy (MoJams) asked what version would the 2002 age group participate in. Joe Gibson stated that no team would "Drop Back" to a smaller version of the game currently being played. Joe Gibson informed the member present that the Under 8's would play 4-a-side plus a goalkeeper. Pat O'Neill (St Mirren Johnstone West) asked about Insurance. This should be renewed as and when it lapses. A Vote was then taken by the 1999 age group to establish the preference for next season. Either 7-a-side or 11-a-side. The vote was as follows

15 For 11-a-side football next season

7 For 7-a-side football next season

The 1999 age group will therefore play 11-a-side football in season 2010 / 2011

Please see below the various age groups and match types:

season 2010 / 2011

Age groups 2005, 2004 & 2003 will play fun fours

Age groups 2002, 2001 & 2000 will play soccer sevens

Age group 1999 can play either soccer sevens or 11 a side (J&D Voted For 11-a-side)

Age groups 1998 and older will play 11 a side

season 2011 / 2012

Age groups 2006, 2005 & 2004 will play fun fours

Age groups 2003, 2002, 2001 & 2000 will play soccer sevens

Age group 1999 and older will play 11 a side

Paul McCarthy asked the status of the new constitution. Due to ongoing discussions regarding a league merger there had been no major movement on this.

Several questions were asked as to why the league was / was not changing. It was pointed out that there had been meetings with the J&D & SYFA regarding a "proposed new league". These were ongoing and the members will be updated as we progress.

TREASURERS REPORT

Most teams were up to date with payments. Everton 10's had an error in their cheque this would be returned for correction.

Bal Of 8th March = £8891.89 There were pitch payments for both Ferguslie & Lochwinnoch to come off of this figure. Accounts were checked & Verified (*GC: Need Names Of The Two Members Who Verified These?*)

Fun 4's play at the following times 9:30am Age 7's, 10:45am Age 6's. Cost is £5 per week

AOB

None