

Johnstone & District Youth Football League
AGM – June 2009

The meeting was opened by Billy Baird, league Secretary. Billy reminded folks that this meeting was the Annual General Meeting and as such anyone who was not a member should not be in the hall. Billy also reminded folks that questions should be addressed through the chair and that mobiles should be switched off or put on silent.

The minutes from the May 2009 meeting were read and approved as accurate. Proposed by Gerry Docherty, harmony Row and seconded by Scott Higgins, Port Glasgow Boys Club.

Matters Arising: It was noted that Robert Ingram was from St. Andrews BC and not Ardgowan as stated.

The AGM was opened up by Billy. He explained that there was only one form of communication received within the 28 day period therefore we would discuss this proposal and keep to the AGM sequence as adopted. Barrhead Boys Club (Archie Douglas) asked why the minutes from the previous year had not been read out. Billy reported that these had been lost in the many transitions that had took place over the previous year. It was not known where the minutes book had gone. Robert Ingram, St Andrews advised that he would look at his computer and check if these were on his system. Robert explained that he had taken the minutes for a period the previous year and that he may have these stored. It was accepted, while unfortunate, that the meeting should progress without the minutes and that these could be considered at another general meeting if found.

The meeting then went into a bit of a frenzy with a lengthy, major discussion on mergers of leagues and changes to the structures of children's football across Renfrewshire. Eddie Gallagher, League Chairperson provided his insight into the various discussions that he had been involved in. he advised that there had been discussions about a possible merger of the current Renfrewshire Soccer Sevens. Eddie explained that these had involved David Little from the SYFA and members from the Soccer Sevens committee. It was noted that it would not be the league committees remit to allow such a merger without the go ahead from the membership. Billy Baird, League Secretary pointed out that the committees view was that things were working well as they were and as such they did not see the need to merge at this time.

Representatives from the Renfrewshire Soccer Sevens intervened and pointed out that they were of the opinion that a merger would be possible and that they had a 30 point plan that could demonstrate why this would be useful. Irvin Bain, Erskine Boys Club requested clarification about the merger status and wanted to know if there had been any level of agreement from the Johnstone & District. Eddie Gallacher pointed out that it had been given consideration but no decisions had ever been agreed. Robert Ingram, St. Andrews and Wullie Peacock, Port Juniors advised the hall that their own league had voted in favour of the merger and challenged the committee to put this to a vote. This led to confusion over the constitution rules and it was accepted that this could not happen. Several heated conversations were then held over this matter with a variety of proposals and counter proposals put forward for the hall to consider. It was

reinforced that the only discussion points that could be voted on were the ones that had been proposed in writing. Following several conversations with committee members it was agreed that the only way forward was to defer any discussions about proposed mergers should be held over until the meetings in July and August 2009. This was accepted as a reasonable compromise and allowed the meeting to progress.

Proposal: Gerry Docherty, Harmony Row – It was noted that Gerry was proposing that the league situation should remain as is. He noted that the current under 11's should be allowed to progress to the 11-a-side game at the beginning of next season. Further to this he was proposing that if this was accepted that teams who have the facility to play with smaller goals (full soccer seven goals) or intermediate goals. Gerry Coyle, Glenbrae supported this plan and the two proposals were then put to the hall. A two thirds majority was made in favour of accepting both proposals and this was carried.

Treasurer report – Joe advised that the league had over £3800 in the account. He reported that there were a number of teams still owing fines and subs for parks. He stated that he proposed to put the figures on the league web page. Joe also requested two people to look at the accounts and audit the figures as a correct. Gerry Docherty & Jane Grimley from Harmony Row have agreed to carry out this task.

Fees: it was proposed by Joe that there was no need to increase the fees for teams and it was agreed to keep this at £30.00 per team for next season 2009/10. This it was noted should be paid by cheque on the proposed registration nights that have already been set.

Team Reports:

Under 8's – No issues raised

Under 9's – No issues raised.

Under 10's – No issues raised.

Under 11's – It was noted that teams who have their own parks for going to under 12's should alert Stuart before the season begins to allow an opportunity to plan fixtures.

Under 12's – No issues raised.

Voting:

All existing members of the league stood down from their duties and left the hall. The business was then carried out by Eddie Gallagher. The voting of positions were carried out as shown:

League Secretary – Bill Baird was proposed by Eddie Gallagher and this was seconded by Gerry Docherty, Harmony Row.

League Chairman – this position was put on hold until discussions were held with regards to the proposed merger.

Match Secretary

8s – Chris Johnstone - proposed by Gerry Coyle, Glenbrae and seconded by Robert Clark, St. Peters.

9s – Andy Johnston – proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by John Kennedy.

10s – Gerry Coyle – proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by Paul McCarthy, Mojams

11s – Derek Torrance – Proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by Brendan Boyle, Hillwood.

12s – Stuart Coulman – proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by Jim Boyle, Port Glasgow BC.

Treasurer - Joe Gibson – proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by Robert Ingram, St. Andrews.

Child Protection Officer – Paul Kyle proposed by Billy Baird and seconded by Joe Gibson, BOW.

Discussion:

Paul McNeil – It was agreed to hold over any discussions until a future meeting.

Paul Sale – Paul provided the hall with some proposals for next season this included the usage of the PPP school and the new parks allocated due to the airport rail link. It was noted that the parks at Lochfield (the Marshes) would be used for seven-a-side games and that it was hoped that teams using these parks could involve themselves in the setting up and putting away of the goals.

Gerry at Renfrew Vics requested clarification on the use of their own parks at Renfrew. It was noted that this would still be necessary to satisfy all the fixtures required.

Paul McCarthy, Mojams advised that it was still likely that St. Andrews would remain a seven-a-side venue for next year.

Alan McManus – Alan provided a short input regarding his sports franchise and invited teams to give him a shout if looking to purchase new equipment. Alan promised a tailored service where he would come to the teams. Due to the time available it was agreed that Alan could come back to a future meeting.

Members were reminded of the dates for the forthcoming registration nights. It was noted that teams did not require to bring along disclosures to these meetings.

It was noted that medals would be available for teams following tonight's meeting. Additional medals could be provided for a small cost.