

## **Nash & Co Devon Junior Minor League**

### **General Secretary Information Sheet 8**

My Phone number 07715651907 My e mail [mark.rowlesdjm@gmail.com](mailto:mark.rowlesdjm@gmail.com)

#### **Developing Processes for ensuring RESPECT is not just a word**

The League Executive is developing a sub group to look at ways in which the League can ensure that teams, individuals or Clubs that do not follow the RESPECT guidelines are consistently and fairly dealt with. We will work in conjunction with BOTH Devon and Cornwall FA, Secretaries of Clubs and referees to ensure unacceptable behaviour is challenged and individuals that do not comply are not part of our League. The sub group will develop a series of proposals that will be sent to Clubs for consultation. If any Clubs have any ideas please feel free to e mail me with these thoughts. It is easy to forget that the vast number of Clubs and teams play the game the way it should be played and we need to highlight this at the same time as stamping out unacceptable behaviour.

#### **Entering Team Sheets on Full Time**

I can speak on behalf of all Officers in the League when I say that we do not like fining clubs. I say this as we have had to send out too many fines in the past two weeks for team sheets not entered. In many of these cases the teams have previously entered them successfully and so can not be attributed to teams now not understanding the system. The fine is £ 20 and surely your Club can do better things with this money than give to the League. Also by failing to complete forms on time does mean that the League can not run as smoothly as we would like. I really hope that in the next few weeks fines for teams not entered no longer need to be issued.

#### **28 Day Rule re Transfers**

I feel that I need to reiterate the above rule that has been highlighted in a previous General Secretary Report. After you have requested a transfer of a player from a Club whether they decide to come to your Club or not you have to wait 28 days before you can go back to that Club for another transfer. The Club can waive this BUT they do not have to regardless of whether a player wants to leave the Club. Whether you like this Rule or not, this is the Rules and teams who wish to enforce this Rule are not doing anything wrong and their decision needs to be respected.

#### **Use of Photographic and Video Devices**

If you are playing on a private pitch and you wish to use either photographic or video devices you must get the permission of the home team. If you are on a council pitch this is not required as it is classed as an open space BUT the League does expect in courtesy that you speak to the home team in case there are any specific reasons why the use of such equipment would be inappropriate.

#### **Referee Appointment Information**

The General Secretary is overseeing Referee Appointments ( not Under 18 League ) for fixtures scheduled on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October 2017. Please can you inform me of any games in this period that the scheduled referee has not attended. This Saturday – 7<sup>th</sup> October there were 116 games fixtured ( not including mini soccer ) and twenty did not have referees appointed. This is an improving situation. Next week we are currently 16 referees short but we will work hard to try and reduce this number. Having sat with Brian and gone through his role and experiencing the work first hand I am even more aware of the work he does and the great rapport he has with the referees in our League.

Many referees are kindly doing two games and a couple thanks to personal persuasion did three games this week. Please can you ensure that games are ready to kick off on time and on the other hand accept that when referees are doing two or more games and coming from a different part of the City that some kick off times may be put back a few minutes.

Finally my thanks to all the Secretaries this week who I know have worked really hard to get referees for games that did not have any appointed.

### **Information from the Chair**

The offer is still there to have a Mini Soccer Laws of the Game meeting for any clubs that are interested to assist their parents or coaches who referee these matches.

This could also incorporate 9v9 or 11v11, as due to referee shortage, clubs may have to referee their own matches.

As we have found out recently there are different interpretations regarding The Laws of the Game by non qualified referees.

This offer is intended to help so please discuss within your clubs and let Mark Rowles know if you think this will help you.

### **Respect Barriers.**

Would you please make sure that these Barriers extend the whole length of the pitch and are then secured beyond the goal line.

As some of you will know that there was a fatal accident 2 years ago when a pin holding the tape down came loose and hit a young lad on the head. The Barrier in this case was not extended the whole length of the pitch, just for part of the pitch.

### **League Sponsorship**

Nash & Co Solicitors have decided that this year will be their last as the main sponsors of the League. We have appreciated their support and they remain committed to the League for the remainder of the Season. Bernard Leach our Sponsorship Liaison Officer is already targeting potential replacements and is working closely with other members of the Executive. We are confident we can find a new sponsor for 2018 onwards but if any Clubs have any ideas of companies to contact please contact Bernard or myself with thoughts and suggestions.

### **Sports Glasses Scheme**

We are reviewing and confirming our agreement with Specsavers regarding our discounted Sports Glasses scheme. Would you please let Dave Keast know if any parents have any issues with any Specsavers shops.

### **Handbook Changes.**

Activate Welfare Officer is now their Secretary Paula Morgan 07929.925.185

New Under 15 Girls Manager is now Ben Nash 07818116742

Modbury Rovers Secretary e mail should read [andrew.craig1966@icloud.com](mailto:andrew.craig1966@icloud.com)

### **Withdrawal of Teams**

Since the last newsletter unfortunately two further teams have withdrawn from the League and they are as follows

Under 18 Cambridge Division – SB Frankfort

Under 11 Drake Division – Plymouth Kolts

### **School Pitch Reminder**

Please note no dogs are allowed on school sites used for football within our League. We are fortunate to be able to use school pitches and we do not want to abuse this and potentially lose facilities.

### **Problems with Council Pitches**

A reminder for Secretaries to let me know if there are any problems to report re Council pitches. I send a report each Monday and so need information over the weekend. My thanks as always for your support

### **Cancellation of Fixtures**

Please can you ensure that when you have called out a private pitch to ensure you copy in the Referee Appointment Secretary and the relevant Fixture Secretary. Please ensure that for any Girls game cancellations Barry Metters is made aware please.

### **Devon and Cornwall County Cups**

The League wishes all Clubs still involved in their County Cups every success in their fixtures scheduled over the next two weeks.

Mark Rowles

General Secretary