

**Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire and Derbyshire Rugby Football Union
Competitions Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date of meeting: Monday 3rd November 2014

		Action
1	<p>Present Steve Allford (SA), Mike Waplinton (MW), Dan Sutton (DS), Melvyn Ashton (MA), Fred Pell (FP), Tracy Edmundson (TE), Phil Gordon (PG) & Phil Cass (PC).</p> <p>Apologies Nicole Brown (NB), John Bradwell (JB), Dave Miller (DM), Trevor Sharpe (TS) & Tim Bembridge (TB)</p>	
2	Minutes of last meeting	Agreed as an accurate record.
3	Matters arising	FP asked if the Domestic Unions Trophy had been discussed by the Board as per action item 8. MW replied that it had not as yet.
4	RFU Structured Season	The structured season for the Midlands has been issued. No issues have been reported.
5	NLD Structured Season	All knockout draws for the initial rounds have been made and with the exception of the Cup these have taken place. The draws for the next rounds have also been made and published on the website and to the clubs. The draws are attached.
6	National RFU Cups	The first round of the competition has taken place and the draw for the second round made and published. Due to the new results portal on RFU.com it is not possible to identify those clubs that defaulted. This has been highlighted as a deficiency in the system. There are 4 NLD clubs still in the Intermediate Cup, 6 in the Senior Vase and 8 in the Junior Vase.
7	League Reports	<p>All league fixtures have been published. There have been no major issues reported with NLD clubs although there have been a number of fines issued and matches defaulted. Two East Midlands clubs have withdrawn from the Midlands Leagues.</p> <p>The issue of league fixtures during the 2015 World Cup was raised. At the moment the proposal is that clubs will be given an option of whether to play or not during this period. Further clarification is needed from the RFU.</p> <p><i>MDOC minutes 16/1/14: The Community Game Board had made suggestions that during Rugby World Cup 2015 all league games might be suspended for two weeks. The Meeting was unanimous in condemning this idea and also unanimous in agreeing that clubs would want to remain active, playing in the afternoon or arranging early kick offs. Clubs would be trying to get people at their clubs for arranged festivities and would be working at keeping those people at the Club in order to watch World Cup on their big screens. It was felt that clubs would benefit if arrangements were left to the clubs to decide what they would prefer to do.</i></p> <p>MW stated that the ‘Game Review Board’ were looking at travel costs occurred by clubs in leagues where the clubs travel big distances. MW also raised the point that in his opinion some of the major clubs ought to be allowed to field 2nd teams in the National leagues. This currently happens in the South West and has reduced travel for all league teams. At the present time MDOC does not allow for 2nd teams. After a lengthy discussion it was felt that DM should raise the issue at MDOC for it to be discussed. <i>(PMN: This matter has been discussed by MDOC on several occasions and on each there is a large majority against the proposal)</i></p> <p>DM - MDOC.</p> <p>The revised adult competitions structure had been reviewed and clubs at L5 and below were to be canvassed on their preference for the Cup structure to be introduced for 2015-16.</p>

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		<p>Leesbrook and Cresswell will be monitored during the season due to the large number of nominal walkovers they conceded last season.</p> <p>As a reminder any club that breaches the 20% boundary for walkovers will be investigated by MDOC and possible sanctions may arise.</p> <p>The MDOC AGM took place on 16th July.</p>	
7	NLD Knockout Cups	<p>NLD Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The draws and regulations have been issued to the clubs and published on the NLD website. The SF draw will be made as soon as possible after the 29th November, although it is accepted that some matches may not have been played by this time due to fixture congestion. All clubs are reminded to notify any fixture arrangements or potential problems asap.</p> <p>Play-by dates for this season are;</p> <p>QF: 29th November SF: 14th March Finals Day: 25th April</p> <p>Finals Day Venue</p> <p>The venue for this seasons Finals day will be determined by Lincolnshire. The requirements have been passed to Malcolm Ross and MA.</p> <p>Given the large number of matches conceded a review of whether clubs “opt in” or “opt out” of competing is needed for next season.</p>	ALL
8	Domestic Cups	<p>Nottinghamshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The draw has been made and initial matches played. Finals day will be TBD at a venue TBD. There will be four finals.</p> <p>Lincolnshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The competition is using an “opt in” strategy for this season and the draws have been made and the initial matches played. Finals day will be Monday 4th May at a Stamford RFC. There will be three finals.</p> <p>Derbyshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The competition is using an “opt in” strategy for this season and the draws have been made. So far there have only been two default matches. Finals day is provisionally Monday 4th May at a venue TBD. There will be four finals.</p> <p>There is also a Veterans finals day proposed for mid-April.</p> <p>Domestic Unions Trophy</p> <p>The future of the Domestic Unions competitions was brought into question. The matter will be put before the NLD General Committee to decide the future strategy. The regulations surrounding the Trophy need to be formalised as they are currently not written down. This includes which matches are used to determine the winners.</p> <p>Proposed dates for the matches have been circulated.</p> <p>As some Domestic Unions are currently more able to support the competition than others a meeting should be arranged between the three to find a workable solution.</p>	DS SA
9	Merit Tables	No report and no known issues.	
10	Referees	Report received after meeting. No major issues, just the late notification of Sunday	

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	Representative	matches is causing problems with appointments.	
11	Youth/Junior Competitions	<p>The structure for competition for the next two seasons has been agreed. This will consist of competitions at U13-U17 and U19 levels. Draws have been made and most competitions were under way. However, the U19 cup is struggling due to withdrawal of clubs and has only four teams.</p> <p>Dates for semi-finals, finals and sevens competitions have been set.</p> <p>There is a Derbyshire U18 competition. This is independent of either NLD or Derbyshire and is reported to be running well, although it has diluted the NLD senior U19 league as some clubs have opted to play in the less demanding administrative "friendly" league.</p>	
12	Any other business	<p>Rob Linthwaite (RL) presented a proposal to allow Central College Event Management Students to assist in the operation of the knockout competitions as part of their studies at the September meeting. An update on this is needed.</p> <p>Glossop's fixtures had not been included in the NLD handbook. This is thought to be an oversight by the compiler.</p> <p>East Leake and Cresswell are reported as struggling to put out regular sides.</p> <p>A second complaint had been made about the "unhygienic" changing facilities at a club. This matter has previously been raised with the club in question and they have been made aware via the RDO of the possible grants, etc. available to improve the facilities. However, there are no regulations guiding minimum standards for changing facilities.</p>	DM/RL
	Future meetings	Next meeting will be Monday 12 th January. Venue, The Fox.	

Dave Miller - Secretary 2014-2015

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Knockout Competitions Summary

Round 1 Results

Shield

Grimsby	AWO	Kesteven
Southwell	3:31	Sleaford
Lincoln	38:17	Boston
Stamford	10:26	Casuals
West Bridgeford	28:10	Glossop
Moderns	33:27	Melbourne
Bakewell	AWO	Matlock
Ashbourne	70:5	Mellish

Plate

Bingham	32:14	Stamford College OB
Cleethorpes	20:17	Long Eaton
Leesbrook	15:13	Skegness
Bourne	HWO	Rolls-Royce
Belper	21:19	Chesterfield
Tupton	22:34	East Retford
Worksop	29:17	Amber Valley
Ashfield	14:21	Buxton

Vase

Notts Corsairs	AWO	Horncastle
Gainsborough	HWO	Lowdham Lions
North Hykeham	54:26	Woodhouse Giants
Barton & District	HWO	Nottinghamians
Hope Valley	AWO	Castle Donnington
Meden Vale	HWO	East Leake
Ollerton	AWO	Cresswell
GEMS	HWO	Bye

Quarter Final Draw (to be played by 29th November)

Cup

Paviors v Ilkeston	To be played 29 th November
Scunthorpe v Derby	TBA
Newark v Mansfield	To be played 8 th November
Spalding v Market Rasen	TBA

Shield

Kesteven v Casuals	TBA
Lincoln v Sleaford	TBA
West Bridgeford v Ashbourne	TBA
Matlock v Moderns	TBA

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Plate

Leesbrook v Bingham	TBA
Buxton v Cleethorpes	To be played 29 th November
Worksop v East Retford	TBA
Bourne v Belper	TBA

Vase

Horncastle v Barton & District	To be played 29 th November
Castle Donnington v GEMS	HWO, GEMS conceded
North Hykeham v Gainsborough	To be played 29 th November
Cresswell v Meden Vale	TBA

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