

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

Date of meeting: Monday 27th July 2015

			Action
1	<p>This meeting was held as a virtual meeting Those who provided inputs are listed as present.</p> <p>Present Steve Allford (SA), Fred Pell (FP), Tracy Edmundson (TE), & Dave Miller (DM).</p> <p>Apologies Mike Waplington (MW), Phil Gordon (PG), Melvyn Ashton (MA), John Bradwell (JB), Nicole Brown (NB) & Tim Bembridge (TB).</p>		
2	Minutes of last meeting	The minutes of the meeting on 8 th June were agreed as an accurate record.	
3	Matters arising	These are dealt with under the appropriate section.	
4	RFU Structured Season	The structured season for 2015/16 has been issued.	
5	NLD Structured Season	<p>The draw for the County Championship has been published. NLD will play in the Shield and will be away to Staffordshire on 30th April and home to Cumbria on 7th May with a bye on 14th May.</p> <p>This is a change of dates relative to the structured season and potentially impacts on the dates for the Domestic Union cup finals.</p>	
6	National RFU Cups	<p>The draw for the 1st round has been made and published to the clubs. The draw for the 2nd round will be made following the conclusion of the 1st round matches.</p> <p>NLD clubs that are involved in the 1st round are;</p> <p>Intermediate Cup</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bakewell • Spalding <p>Senior Vase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grimsby <p>Junior Vase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gainsborough • Buxton • Nottinghamians • Bourne • Stamford College OB • East Retford • Skegness <p>All other participating NLD clubs will join in the 2nd Round.</p>	
7	MDOC Report	<p>A summary of the fines status over the past season shows a 50% drop in the fines collected, despite the League Secretaries being stricter. This is also notable as MDOC traditionally fine less than the other divisions. In total 46 fines were levied, 7 of these were against NLD clubs with 2 clubs being fined twice.</p> <p>The “Midlands West Reserve League” is continuing to expand and has been rebranded as the “Midlands Reserve League”. It was asked if any NLD clubs would be interested in joining this league for future seasons.</p> <p>MW had sent an e-mail to MDOC raising the question of inclusion of 2nd (and below) teams in the RFU league structure. This was again discussed. Based on the evidence of problems (registration, walkovers, administration, etc.) experienced by the South West Division and the uncertainty over the Adult Competition Review (ACR) this matter was parked until the ACR implementation was resolved. It was also</p>	

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		pointed out that the SW Division had not fully implemented inclusion of lower teams, as only Somerset and Dorset & Wilts leagues mixed 1 st and lower teams, whilst Berks, Bucks & Oxon leagues had separate leagues for the lower teams. A statistical analysis of the mixed leagues shows that the lower level teams are more than twice as likely to concede walkovers than the first teams in the equivalent league (6.6% for lower teams against 2.5% for first teams, and compared with a Midlands rate for the same level leagues of 3.1%).	
8	League Reports	All matches have been arranged and clubs are being flexible to work around the RWC dates. However, they need to be requesting exemption for "next available weekends" in a timely manner to MDOC if they are making other arrangements.	
9	NLD Knockout Cups	<p>NLD Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The agreed "play-on" dates are;</p> <p>Round 1: 5th September</p> <p>QF: 17th October</p> <p>SF: 6th February</p> <p>Finals Day: 23rd April (at a venue to be proposed by Nottinghamshire)</p> <p>For season 2015-16 there is a change in the RFU league regulations such that any club who does not reduce the number of players when causing uncontested scrums shall be subject to a sanction of league points deduction. The implication of this on NLD knockout matches that may be played as a double header has led to regulation 17.5 being re-written to state that clubs who do not reduce numbers when causing uncontested scrums may be subject to sanction up to and including disqualification.</p> <p><i>"It is the responsibility of the team causing uncontested scrums to ensure that the player is not replaced. Failure to comply may result in sanctions up to and including disqualification from the competition."</i></p> <p>These updated regulations need to be published on the website and issued to the clubs.</p>	DM
10	Domestic Cups	<p>Nottinghamshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>No report.</p> <p>Lincolnshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>No report.</p> <p>Derbyshire Knockout Competitions</p> <p>The competition is again using an "opt in" strategy but there has been limited interest in taking part. Finals day will be over the weekend of 30th April at TBA. There will be four finals.</p>	
11	Merit Tables	No report from the local merit tables but see the notes in the MDOC report referring to the Midlands Reserve Leagues.	
12	Referees Representative	The number of clubs that are in arrears for fees at the end of the season and have to be chased for payment continues to cause unnecessary work for the society.	
13	Youth/Junior Competitions	It was queried whether the Junior Competitions still come under the remit of the Senior Competitions Committee. Advice from NLD is needed on this and a rep needs to attend the meetings if it is still in the remit.	TE / MW
14	Any other business	Committee Members for season 2015-2016 are; Chairman: Steve Allford	

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		<p>Secretary: Dave Miller MDOC Rep: Dave Miller Nottinghamshire Rep: Phil Gordon (TBC) Lincolnshire Rep: Melvyn Ashton (TBC) Derbyshire Rep: Fred Pell Referees Rep: John Bradwell Junior & Youth Rep: TBC pending the NLD decision whether this is within the remit of this committee.</p> <p>An update is needed on the TBC members.</p>	<p>PG / MA / TE</p>
15	Future meetings	<p>Next meeting will be Monday 14th September. Venue, The Fox.</p>	

Dave Miller - Secretary 2015-2016

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Knockout Competitions Draw; 2015-2016

Cup

QF (play on 17th October)

Market Rasen	V	Newark
West Bridgford	V	Scunthorpe
Paviors	V	Derby
Matlock	V	Ilkeston

Shield

1st Round (play on 5th September)

Chesterfield	V	Glossop
Mansfield	V	Ashbourne
Melbourne	V	Belper
Sleaford	V	Boston
Stamford	V	Spalding
Kesteven	V	Southwell
Casuals	V	Lincoln
Dronfield		BYE

Plate

1st Round (play on 5th September)

Grimsby	V	Cleethorpes
Stamford College OB	V	East Retford
Bingham	V	Bourne
Buxton	V	Amber Valley
Worksop	V	Tupton
Moderns	V	Mellish
Ashfield	V	Long Eaton
North Hykeham		BYE

Vase

1st Round (play on 5th September)

Woodhouse Giants	V	Castle Donington
Nottinghamians	V	Leesbrook
Meden Vale		BYE
Ollerton		BYE
Skegness		BYE
Gainsborough		BYE
Barton and District		BYE
Horncastle		BYE

QF (play on 17th October)

Gainsborough	V	Barton and District
Horncastle	V	Skegness
Meden Vale	V	Woodhouse Giants / Castle Donington
Ollerton	V	Nottinghamians / Leesbrook

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