

**Minutes of The Girls and Women's Management Committee Meeting  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 via Microsoft Teams**

Present:- M McDonald (Chair), C Abbott (Competitions Secretary), P Brasher, D Burkett, D Collier, J Gee, J Hill, P Hill, L Hutchings, A Mayes, P Mitcham, A Newell, A Reeves, C Smith, K Webster, C Williamson.

Apologies for Absence were received from B Archibald, J Bull, I Greenstock, K Steed

**GW 04/21 Welcome to New Members**

The Chairman welcomed Les Hutchings, Chloe Smith and Kevin Smith and Chris Williamson to their first meeting.

**GW 05/21 Election of Vice Chair**

It was unanimously agreed that Julie Gee would continue in the position of Vice Chair.

**GW 06/21 Minutes of Previous Meetings**

The following minutes were agreed as a true and correct record:  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2020  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 – Fast Track

**GW 07/21 Matters Arising from those minutes**

**a. Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020**

**GW 02/21**

No Committee member had raised any objection to this process therefore it would be adopted.

**GW 08/21 Correspondence**

**a. [REDACTED] U16 v [REDACTED] U16 – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2020**

The Referee had written to the Cambridgeshire Football Association regarding the behaviour of [REDACTED] management team. After reviewing evidence, it was agreed that the Secretary should write to [REDACTED] reminding them of the respect code of conduct and this had been done.

**b. [REDACTED] U12 v [REDACTED] U12 – 24<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

[REDACTED] had written to the Competitions Secretary regarding the behaviour of [REDACTED] in the above match. After reviewing the evidence with the Cambridgeshire FA Discipline team, it was agreed to write to [REDACTED] reminding them of the respect code of conduct.



**GW 09/21**

**Safeguarding in Open Age Football**

The Competitions Secretary had written to the following clubs who had Under 18 players registered but manager did not have an in date valid DBS:

- ██████████ (Cambs FA Affiliated)
- ██████████ (Leicestershire & Rutland FA Affiliated)
- ██████████ (Hunts FA Affiliated)
- ██████████ (Cambs FA Affiliated)
- ██████████ (Suffolk FA Affiliated)

**GW 10/21**

**Review of the Season to Date**

**a. Club Charges**

The Competitions Secretary provided a list of club charges to date, so far, the breakdown of charges was as follows:

Failing to Fulfil Fixture	24
Failing to Complete Full Time Information	15

All the Competitions Secretary informed members that all Clubs who had failed to submit Full Time Information had been given a warning prior to a charge being issued.

**b. Covid Guidance**

██████████ U15 had written to the League with their concerns regarding the Covid protocol in place for their match at ██████████ on 19<sup>th</sup> September. The Competitions Secretary had written to ██████████ reminding them of the protocol. The ██████████ Secretary had responded and vowed to ensure everything was in place for future games.

**c. Team Withdrawing from the League**

The following teams had withdrawn from the League:

- ██████████ U12
- ██████████

It was agreed no further action.

The Competitions Secretary reported that players who had wished to continue playing from the ██████████ U12 team had moved to ██████████

**d. Under 8 Division**

The Competitions Secretary reported the Under 8 was due to start on 7<sup>th</sup> November. This would now commence once the season had recommenced.

He also reminded members that it had been agreed the League would take Under 8, 9, 10 and 11 teams at any point in the season.

**GW 11/21**

**Season Restart**

**a. Cup Competitions**

After some discussion it was agreed to suspend the League Cup Competitions until further notice. It was also agreed that this decision should be reviewed at the end of January.

**b. Restart Date**

It was agreed providing we have Government and FA approval the League would recommence on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December. This would be communicated to clubs along with the decision on Cup Competitions as soon as possible.

**GW 12/21**

**League Development**

**a. 9 / 11 a side option Under 14 and above**

The Competitions Secretary had received several observations from clubs regarding the current rule and asked members for their views on this and if we should look to propose a rule change for the 2020/21 season. This provided some good discussion and it was agreed to seek the views of clubs and have a further discussion at the next meeting.

The Competitions Secretary also gave a break down of the matches that had been played at each format:

Age Group	9-a-side	11-a-side	Total Matches
Under 14	24	21	45
Under 15	22	9	31
Under 16	17	16	33
Under 18	6	5	11

**b. Under 18 Division**

A discussion then took place around the Under 18 Division as this age group always seems to have challenges every season. Suggestions put forward were scrapping the Under 18 and having Under 17 division or moving the Under 18 division to a Sunday.

It was agreed once safe to do so that members of the committee should visit the Under 16 teams to get the views of the players before making any decisions for the 2020-21 season.

**c. Referee Coverage**

59.1% of matches had been covered by a qualified registered referee. There were still several challenges around the amount of youth matches being played on a Saturday morning.

GW 13/21

## Women and Girls Development

### a. Wildcats

A. Newell gave members an update of the Wildcats programme. These were as follows:

#### Running Wildcats Centres

- Cottenham United Colts
- March Academy
- Bar Hill Colts
- Cambourne United
- Isleham United Youth
- Trumpington
- Kennett Youth
- Melbourn Dynamos
- Ely City Crusaders
- Chesterton Eagles
- Milton Colts
- 

#### Preparing for Spring Delivery

Club	Reason for not restarting in 2020
[REDACTED]	Haven't been in contact, A. Newell chasing
[REDACTED]	Not returning until more relaxations are made
[REDACTED]	Not officially running wildcats programme but have started age specific sessions with 15 plus players.
[REDACTED]	Haven't been in contact, A. Newell chasing
[REDACTED]	Struggling for pitches and coaches.
[REDACTED]	Waiting to hear back from venues
[REDACTED]	Yet to complete Wildcats Training
[REDACTED]	Preparing for spring delivery due to lack of resources.
[REDACTED]	Lead Coach now not available until spring – speaking to club to confirm. Planning for next summer.

#### Potential New Centres

The following clubs have been identified as potential new centres:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]



**b. New FA Strategy**

The FA have released the following new strategy: The strategy outlines The FA's Eight transformational objectives to be achieved by 2024:

- EARLY PARTICIPATION – Every primary school-aged girl to have equal access to football in school and in clubs
- DEVELOPMENT PARTICIPATION – Every girl to have equal access to participate for fun, for competition and for excellence
- CLUB PLAYER PATHWAY – Collaborate with clubs to develop an effective high-performance, inclusive player-centred pathway
- ELITE DOMESTIC LEAGUES AND COMPETITIONS – Create the best professional women's sports leagues and competitions in the world
- ENGLAND – Win a major tournament
- FOOTBALL FOR ALL – Recruit and support a motivated, diverse range of local leaders organising football for their communities
- COACHING – Support the development of exceptional coaches at every level of the game who are representative of our society
- REFEREEING – Ensure that every female referee afforded high-quality bespoke learning and development opportunities from grassroots through to the elite game

Members were informed further information regarding the strategy could be found by visiting:

<https://www.cambridgeshirefa.com/news/2020/oct/19/the-fa-launch-new-strategy-for-womens-and-girls-football-inspiring-positive-change>

**GW 14/21**

**Any Other Business**

C. Williamson left the meeting at this point

**a. [REDACTED] U18 v [REDACTED] – League Cup**

J. Hill asked for a reason to why the decision of the fast track meeting was to replay the game. The Competitions Secretary and Chairman explained that after holding an investigation it was felt due to the unusual circumstances regarding this it would be very difficult to ascertain who was responsible for the fixture not being played and therefore the only decision that could be reached was to replay the game.

D. Collier, A. Newell, C. Smith and K. Webster left the meeting at this point.

**b. [REDACTED] - Request to drop down the Womens Championship North**

[REDACTED] had written to the Competitions Secretary asking the League to consider moving them to Womens Championship North with immediate effect.

The Competitions Secretary gave the meeting some background to this, he also informed the meeting that he offered [REDACTED] the opportunity to move down at the end of last season when the FA confirmed that movement between divisions could take place. This offer was refused by the club via email on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2020.



The Committee agreed that they could not agree to the request as the competitive league season was under way and also they had already refused an offer to move down.

There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8:25pm

**C N Abbott**