

# Staffordshire Rugby Union

## Mini and Youth Committee

### Annual General Meeting

Held at The Moathouse, Acton Trussell on 19 June 2017 at 7:00 PM

#### Those Present

Robin Websdale	Chair Mini & Youth	07977 592215	<a href="mailto:robin.websdale@hotmail.co.uk">robin.websdale@hotmail.co.uk</a>
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Gary Trow	Cannock	07852 267757	<a href="mailto:garytrow@yahoo.com">garytrow@yahoo.com</a>

#### Distribution

Those present plus:-

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Ian Cantrill	Stafford		<a href="mailto:ian.cantrill@hotmail.com">ian.cantrill@hotmail.com</a>
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#### Principal Points Arising

<b>Appointment of Officers</b>	<p>Robin Websdale (RW) confirmed that Declan Bradley had stepped down as Chair of the Mini &amp; Youth Committee. RW confirmed a willingness to serve as the Chair for the season 2017/18. This was seconded by Mike Bezus and agreed by majority vote.</p> <p>It was agreed also following a show of hands that Mark Hall would take the role of Vice Chair to support RW.</p> <p>Nick Hardy will act as Secretary to the Committee.</p>
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<b>Competition Organisers</b>	<p>It was agreed that the following will take on the role of Competition Organisers for 2017/18.</p> <p><b>U12:</b> Simon Barker (Burntwood)  <b>U13:</b> Jason Farr (Newcastle)  <b>U14:</b> Asa Skipp (Tamworth)  <b>U15:</b> Stephen Eastwood (Burton on Trent)  <b>U16:</b> Mark Hall (Trentham)  <b>U17:</b> Michelle Brough (W'ton) [Provisonal as nominated in her absence]</p>
<b>Competition Formats</b>	<p>RW had received confirmation of preferences for competition formats in advance of the meeting from 12 Clubs (Barton under Needwood, Burntwood, Burton, Leek, Lichfield, Longton, Newcastle, Stafford, Stoke on Trent, Tamworth, Trentham and Willenhall). Preferences were also expressed on the night by a further 4 clubs (Walsall, Burntwood, Wednesbury and Cannock).</p> <p>There was immediate consensus on the format for the U13, U14 and U15 Competitions.</p> <p>Following a discussion, it was agreed that the U12 Competition would be a Waterfall concluded on a single day.</p> <p>Following a discussion on the options for the U16 Competition those present voted for their preferred option between a Cup and Plate or League competition. The vote was 6 in favour of a Cup and Plate competition and 5 in favour of a League.</p> <p>The age group Competitions will take the following formats</p> <p><b>U12:</b> Waterfall held on a single day  <b>U13:</b> Waterfall held over five Sundays  <b>U14:</b> Cup and Plate  <b>U15:</b> Cup and Plate  <b>U16:</b> Cup and Plate  <b>U17:</b> Knockout Competition over two Sundays</p>
<b>County Festivals - Venues and Dates</b>	<p>It was agreed by those present that County Festivals will be hosted by the following clubs on the dates given.</p> <p><b>U7:</b> Stafford                    15/04/18  <b>U8:</b> Burton on Trent       15/04/18  <b>U9:</b> Walsall                    15/04/18  <b>U10:</b> Cannock                15/04/18  <b>U11:</b> Willenhall              15/04/18  <b>U12:</b> Burntwood              15/04/18</p>
<b>Fair Play Award</b>	<p>Agreed that Fair Play awards will continue to be made at County Festivals for 2017/18 season for U7-U11 Age Groups.</p>
<b>Youth Competition Finals – Venues and Dates</b>	<p>It was agreed by those present that County Competition Finals will be hosted by the following clubs on the dates given.</p> <p><b>U13:</b> Trentham                15/04/18  <b>U14:</b> Newcastle              22/04/18  <b>U15:</b> Lichfield                22/04/18  <b>U16:</b> Leek                        22/04/18</p>

	<p>The Under 17 Competition will be held at the following venues on the following dates.</p> <p><b>U17:</b> First Round at Tamworth and Stoke <b>25/02/18</b>  <b>U17:</b> Final at Wolverhampton <b>08/04/18</b>  <b>U17:</b> 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> Place playoff at Burton <b>08/04/18</b></p>																																																	
<b>U13-U16 County Dates</b>	<p>The dates for each Junior Competition are as follows.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>U13</th> <th colspan="2">U14</th> <th colspan="2">U15</th> <th colspan="2">U16</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>24/09/17</td> <td>17/09/17</td> <td>Round 1</td> <td>17/09/17</td> <td>Round 1</td> <td>17/09/17</td> <td>Round 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12/11/17</td> <td>05/11/17</td> <td>Round 2</td> <td>05/11/17</td> <td>Round 2</td> <td>12/11/17</td> <td>Round 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10/12/17</td> <td>07/01/18</td> <td>Plate Rd 1</td> <td>07/01/18</td> <td>Plate Rd 1</td> <td>10/12/17</td> <td>Plate Rd 1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11/02/18</td> <td>18/02/18</td> <td>Cup SF</td> <td>18/02/18</td> <td>Plate QF</td> <td>11/02/18</td> <td>Cup &amp; Plate SF</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25/02/18</td> <td>15/04/18</td> <td>Plate SF</td> <td>25/02/18</td> <td>Cup &amp; Plate SF</td> <td>22/04/18</td> <td>Finals</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15/04/18</td> <td>22/04/18</td> <td>Finals</td> <td>22/04/18</td> <td>Finals</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	U13	U14		U15		U16		24/09/17	17/09/17	Round 1	17/09/17	Round 1	17/09/17	Round 1	12/11/17	05/11/17	Round 2	05/11/17	Round 2	12/11/17	Round 2	10/12/17	07/01/18	Plate Rd 1	07/01/18	Plate Rd 1	10/12/17	Plate Rd 1	11/02/18	18/02/18	Cup SF	18/02/18	Plate QF	11/02/18	Cup & Plate SF	25/02/18	15/04/18	Plate SF	25/02/18	Cup & Plate SF	22/04/18	Finals	15/04/18	22/04/18	Finals	22/04/18	Finals		
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<b>Competition Calendar</b>	<p>The purpose of the Competition Calendar was discussed (to avoid weekends where both school competitions and CB/Representative competitions take place so as to avoid over/underplaying of players). A copy of the calendar is attached.</p>																																																	
<b>Age Group Competition Organisers Role</b>	<p>In addition to the management of the competitions, it was agreed that organisers should also be responsible for ensuring that the Age Group trophy is found if missing, or returned, and made available for presentation on Finals Days. They should also liaise with the Management Committee in relation to having an SRFU rep available to present trophies.</p>																																																	
<b>Playing Up and Down Age Groups</b>	<p>In response to a question about playing mixed age groups in festivals/fixtures or otherwise, it was agreed that a copy of the latest version of Regulation 15 (August 2016) be issued. Reg. 15.2 is clear in this respect. A copy is attached.</p> <p>The Guidance to RFU Reg. 15 (2016 version) sets out a few simple “Golden Rules” which should be remembered when considering whether or not a player may play out of age grade. These are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and young people must play rugby in their correct age grade;</li> <li>• Children must not play in any matches or festivals until they are 6 years old;</li> <li>• There is no “playing up” an age grade until U12 (for boys);</li> <li>• There are no dispensations in the girls’ game due to the age banding which already exists;</li> <li>• U7s and U8s must not play contact rugby under any circumstances;</li> <li>• Children must not play with adults until they are 17 (boys) (with conditions) or 18 (girls) ; and</li> <li>• Only in exceptional circumstances may children “play down” an age grade.</li> </ul> <p>The “Golden Rules” are guidance, whereas Reg. 15 is prescriptive so clubs should refer to the Regulation in the first instance. Whilst Reg. 15 is self-explanatory, any queries to be directed to RW or MB.</p>																																																	
<b>Date of Next Meeting</b>	TBC																																																	