



All,

So in the blink of an eye, the first 6 weeks of the season have been and gone! Hopefully you are all enjoying your football and looking forward to a couple of weekends off over the half term holiday!

Club Agreement Forms

Unfortunately, despite some weekly requests and reminders, a number of clubs have failed to return their Club Agreement forms to me. This is disappointing and perhaps a little concerning as it would suggest that some clubs are either not reading the updates or taking notice of them. I will be individually contacting those clubs who have not returned their forms to me, to advise them that with immediate affect they are disqualified from playing games within the CYFL. This disqualification will affect all teams within that club and will only be lifted once the completed and signed form, along with the payment for the associated fine have been returned to me. If you are aware that you have not returned the form, then please do so asap and do not wait for my further chase email.

Thank you to those clubs who have returned their forms in a timely manner. Your support is very much appreciated.

Registration ID Cards

We have also received an increasing number of issues relating to the availability and checking of Registration Cards on match days. The ruling is quite clear – players are not permitted to play unless they have a valid registration card. There have been disturbing allegations that players are playing without valid registrations and if this is the case, these players will be ineligible and perhaps more worryingly will not be covered by any form of insurance should they become injured or injure another player.

Please note that Pamela and Kerry are performing their roles very efficiently and are processing registrations the same day so there really is no excuse for playing a player without the correct registration documents being in place. I will also point out that all transfers have also been completed the same day once I am in receipt of all the necessary paperwork, so again, we are doing everything we can to speed things along.

Match Day Checking of Registration ID Cards

Their Registration ID Card should be held by the team manager and if the manager is not able to present this card upon request – either to the opponents or a member of the CYFL Management Committee – then that player should be considered as ineligible and as such the team will be liable to disciplinary sanctions from the Management Committee. I would therefore urge all teams to check their opponents ID cards prior to kick off and also please be aware that members of the CYFL Management Committee will be ‘walking the parks’ and may request to inspect your registration cards before or during a game. We would ask that these Committee Members are treated with respect and courtesy and your assistance in this is welcomed as the quicker the cards are made available and checked, the quicker their work will be completed.



Online Match Reports

I am pleased to report that the number of teams who have not been completing their online match reports in a timely manner each week has reduced dramatically. Since we have moved out of the amnesty period for teams, we have been averaging less than 6 non-compliant teams per week. Not only is this helping to assist us on a weekly basis with our data collection and reporting, it is also reducing the level of fines that clubs are incurring. A win-win situation! Please pass on my thanks to your administrators and managers for their continued support in this area.

Christmas Break Reminder

Please note that we are proposing to play fixtures on Sunday 20th December this year, so any clubs who do not wish to have a fixture that day, please ensure that you submit your free week request in accordance with league rules. However there will be **NO** fixtures scheduled for Sunday 27th December 2015 or Sunday 3rd January 2016.

Central Appointments System

After the first 6 weeks of the season, I am pleased to update that the Bedfordshire Football Association have been able to appoint referees to 93% of our games. This is a hugely encouraging number, as the start of each season is a notoriously difficult time to make appointments as referees get back into the swing of confirming their availability and there are a huge number of County Cup fixtures to accommodate. We do appreciate that there still continues to be some specific areas of the County that we struggle to appoint referees to and we are still suffering with the historic issue of having enough senior referees prepared to officiate the older age groups on a Sunday afternoon. However, this is a work in progress and both the CYFL and the Bedfordshire Football Association are committed to improve this coverage as we seek to achieve somewhere close to 100% coverage.

	Current	Refs	%
PM	276	238	86%
AM	283	281	99%
Total	559	519	93%

Enjoy your break over the next couple of weeks and here's to the weather up until Christmas supporting a positive fixture list.