

LKA Competitions Committee Meeting

Wimbledon Community Centre
28 St Georges Road
Wimbledon
London
SW19 4DP

9th Jan 2010

Present:

Mark Fenton (Bec), Adam Champion & Andy Withers (both Croydon), Moses Hutchinson-Pascal & Niccola Hyslop (both Highbury), Sally & Lol More (both Nomads)(LKA Competitions Administrator and LKA Competitions Coordinator), Karen Palfreyman (LKA Chair), Rob O'Brien (West London), Laurie Swan (Supernova) and Brian Mattock (Pelham)

1. Attendance

Apologies received from Mitcham, North Downs and Woking
No apologies received from Scorpions and Trojans

2. The LKA Leagues

a. Referees

Referee commitments have been fulfilled so far this season. Some discussion on a proposal to ask each club to provide 2 London Regional League qualified refs, who actively ref in that league, per team in the LRL. Proposal was ultimately downgraded to a target for each club to aspire to in the next few years. Next season, refing commitments will be given to named LRL-qualified refs where possible and to clubs where not, and teams may will have to live with under-qualified refs for some matches.

It was felt that there needs to a mechanism for the refs to feed back to the LKA committee when they have had abuse from teams/players during a match. Actions: **KP** to provide form for **AW** to add to website. **KP** to advise clubs of new procedure via LKA website, including what information will be provided back to the referee on action taken and that sanctions will be at the discretion of the LKA committee.

b. Proposed rule changes

The rules have been tidied up (only cosmetic changes) and a new version will be released shortly to clubs. There are 3 proposals for next season though:

- Amend Section 9.2.3 regarding number of players that can be dropped to a lower team, proposal to change from 2 to 3. Feeling in the meeting was that 2 was correct and didn't need to be changed
- Amend Section 2.2 of the Appendix regarding allowing clubs to "double up" their lowest team in order to get a team out, proposal to allow this in the lowest LKA division only.

Feeling in the meeting was that the current system caused confusion and was unfair to other clubs

- Amend Section 3.2.3 of the Appendix regarding allowing teams to avoid automatic promotion, proposal to always promote the winners. Feeling in the room was that the current rule was adversely affecting other clubs

Action: **All Clubs** should discuss the above proposals and then vote on at the next meeting (8th May)

c. Under age players

All clubs to note that the rule is that an Under 18 must have a signed consent form from their guardian and coach before playing in senior leagues. Minimum age is 13. This is reflected in the LKA competition rules.

d. Issues with Fixtures Live

After some discussion, Action: **LS** to pass on details of his unresolved problems to **LM** to follow up with EKA.

Note there is no longer a requirement to show referee players' cards, a print out from Fixtures Live is sufficient.

e. Fixture changes for remainder of season

There will be some changes, especially given the recent snowy weather. Bec are having to play some games at Ernest Bevan and West London at Christ's School due to roof problems at St Mary's College.

Highbury 4 have been removed from the league due to not fielding a legal team in any fixtures in the first half of the season.

3 Inter-Area

a. Junior representative teams

U16 coach is Dan Pratt (Croydon)

U16 manager is Karen James (Croydon)

U13 coach is Bill Berry (Bromley)

U13 manager is Karen Palfreyman on an interim basis

b. Senior representative teams

No manager or coach has been found, however during the meeting MF volunteered to manage.

Action **MF** to find a coach etc

Action **MF** to provide details to KP on a kit supplier for the team

4. Hosting EKA Events

a. NYD

LKA will host NYD but AW/AC pointed out that Croydon may give up their lease on Lloyd Park/CASSAC, so the LKA may have to approach Croydon council to secure the venue. Action: **AC** to chase Jane Belfourd (CASSAC and Croydon chairs) regarding status of Croydon's lease.

AW noted that the LKA may wish to take up the lease on Lloyd Park (~£2k) for outdoor competitions if Croydon relinquish it. Action: **KP** to discuss in LKA Development/Committee meeting as appropriate

5. League Structure

The issue of the play-off place for the LKA has gone quiet. LM pointed out that LKA have 36% of national players, 12 clubs and ~50 teams yet are not considered a region and splitting into 2 regions to only join back up at a regional level was pointless. The clubs were happy with the current structure but want to see the top-ranked LKA side go straight into the play-offs. Since agreement has not been possible at a regional level, the issue needs to be addressed to the EKA.

Action: **LM** to take the play-off question to EKA for resolution especially given the play-offs are only 3 months away

Clubs should consider whether they want the current structure to continue for next season.

Action: **All clubs** to consider any changes to the current structure and propose them at the next meeting (8th May)

6. Fixtures

Next season, the fixtures administration will try to take into consideration clubs with HSKL teams playing away so that subs can be provided. This will have to be balanced against the desire to give clubs match days where all teams are playing on the same day in the same venue aka "club days".

7. Outdoor Competition

Action: **All clubs** need to notify the competitions officer of the number of teams for the autumn league (in September) by **end of July**. A note on team standard should also be included to avoid mis-matches.

8. 2010/11 Indoor Season

Action: **All clubs** need to notify the competitions officer of the number of teams for the indoor league by **end of August**. Failure to respond will result in teams not being entered as a number of teams were entered late last year causing the fixtures to have to be redone several times

9. Junior Competitions

There are no junior competitions running at present.

KP has booked Trinity School for 22nd May 2010, between 9.00 - 16.00 for a one-day tournament for Year 3 children (6/7 year olds). All clubs are asked to provide 1 team, 1 ref and 1 manager and to put some enthusiasm behind this event to pave the way for more junior competition at NYD and next season.

Action: **All clubs** to provide junior players (as many as possible), a ref and a manager for this junior tournament

10. AOB

Highbury asked for their registration fees to be refunded for disqualified Highbury 4. This will be dealt with by the LKA committee. Highbury also offered to play friendlies against any other clubs to give the players they do have some game-time.

It was noted that Student teams are always looking for games and are also looking for refs (costs paid for) for the Nationals in March.

A request was made for light refreshments for these meetings in future, given that people are giving up their time for a 2 hour meeting. Action: **KP** to consider request

11. Date of next meeting

Saturday 8th May 2010, same venue