

## MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

December 2020

As many of the teams and volunteers who became involved in our League over the last few seasons will know, the Football Association has followed the Government guidelines for restarting competitive grassroots training and games. Your Club committee has met and discussed the various issues that we would need to sort out before we can actually ask anyone to come back to our match venues and enjoy playing in tournaments again, at long last.

At our Annual General Meeting in October we again discussed the Government and Football Association Rules for COVID 19 precautions, and, the special circumstances we must consider. The decision was that we cannot safely promote resuming Disability League tournaments at this time. The rules regarding social distancing and travel, coupled with the Tier Levels make any League event too risky for our officials, players and any support staff.

We will have further committee meetings as the season progresses to review how the situation may evolve, especially as we find out more about how the vaccination programme develops.

In whatever way the situation changes, we will require each and every member of our League, players, their carers and parents, our coaches and anyone else we may need to attend our sessions, to commit to following any precautions we impose, in every way. We will be asking every potential team to provide written proof of their team COVID 19 Risk Assessment and will require every player to be fully registered on the Whole Game System, no exceptions. This will help us check eligibility to play and assist in the NHS Track and Trace rules as required.

As there is very little chance we will be resuming early, this delay should offer sufficient time for teams to get the above into place. We sincerely hope that our Risk watch will be able to let us resume matches fairly soon and we will send out plenty updates to keep you all informed. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon while keeping everyone as safe as we can. In the meantime, we sincerely hope you can all get back to safe and minimum risk training and that we all remain healthy in the face of this awful disease.

I wish all our members a Very Happy and Safe Christmas and I hope we all have a much better 2021.