

20/10/2020 17:30

THE FA THREE COUNTIES ABILITY COUNTS LEAGUE AGM MINUTES

Attendees

Derek Cunningham
Beth Craven
Steven Skelton
Ben Langworthy
Mike Humphries
Carol Griffiths
Sam Watkins

Apologies

Scott Russell
Ian Preece
Caroline Jones
Helen Gill

Welcome everybody to the Three Counties Ability Counts League AGM 2020. To start us off we have a report from our Chairman Derek Cunningham.

Chair Report

“Hello and welcome to everyone joining our online annual general meeting for 2020. You'll know that this has been one of the strangest years for football that anyone has ever experienced, apart from maybe during the war years. We managed to get half of season organised before the lockdown and this was used to run a competition called the Goodwill Cup. Congratulations to Hereford because they were able to demonstrate to us all the practices of good sportsmanship and were honourable winners of the first Goodwill Cup.

As a result of the Covid 19 restrictions it does mean that we have all missed out on a great deal of enjoyment and participation in the game we all love, and the season which started in October is still out of reach for us to be able to organise tournaments in our normal fashion. Subject to whatever it is the government and local authorities decide is safe for us to be able to do, we on the committee will make every attempt to bring back competitive tournaments as soon as it's humanly possible.

All this does mean that I have very little to report this year.

I must however thank everyone on the committee and at the various County football associations for their continuing help and support in guiding us and managing all the operations of the League.

A big thank you to Beth our Secretary. Despite being in lockdown for so many months, she still managed to keep our affiliation and registration work continuing with the FA and hopefully will be able to start sending out some ideas of expressions of interest to clubs that are still operating and may show an interest in competitive games when we are able to do it. So thank you very much Beth for all that work. Thank you also to Steven, who you will hear from later, our treasurer, because as a result of the COVID-19 restrictions we did have to consider making some refunds to the teams for the annual fees for the League.

Essentially, it came out at about half the annual fee was available to be returned to those teams who required it. I understand that this work has now been completed but Steven will give us a better appreciation of that in a few moments.

After we've got through the main business of the AGM which is essentially just reporting on the state of our finances and electing officials the rest of the time we have online will be handed over to yourselves for any other business if we have received any from the clubs in the days prior to this meeting. I'll leave that to Beth to talk about and discuss later.

So for no other reason than nothing much has happened through the year regarding the League I just want to assure everyone that we were all keen to maintain the activities that we've done in previous years and to get them started again as soon as we possibly can. However, we cannot take irrational or unsafe decisions about starting, due mainly to the consideration of every one of our players who take part in the games. We have to ensure, perhaps even more so than in mainstream football, that everyone can remain safe at all times when they're travelling and attending any tournament or any other event that we set up. I hope that you all agree with that and understand where we're coming from. It's no reluctance on the part of the committee to run the competitions, we are desperate to come back as much as you are.

But, thank you again for attending today and hopefully we'll have better news in the near future, subject to the government's efforts to bring down the level of COVID 19 in the community, about getting us back to a safe position. Thank you very much and STAY SAFE!

Derek Cunningham

Chair"

AGM

It's lovely to see everybody as it's been such a long time. The FA are slowly getting back into it with many still part time but hopefully going back full time soon.

The league now have the new website and promotional video. The video got donated for free.

Beth is going to start sending out expressions of interests soon to all teams and any new interested teams.

We want to make sure football is safe to return to when viable and safe for all whilst considering travel etc.

We hope all teams do well in the future and hope everybody keeps safe.

The minutes from the last AGM 08-09-2019, proposed by Carol, seconded by Mike.

Matters Arising

The handbook idea from that meeting will be carried into next season.

Secretary Update

Beth gave an update and explained that we will be going onto the Whole Game system from next season and teams will need to register their players onto this and also that the expressions of interests will be sent out soon.

Ben followed up by saying all players will need to be registered by email and have their own FAN number. Any issues come to Beth, Ben, Scott, Ian or Mike.

Action - Ben going to find out whether players can individually or via club secretaries and brief instruction for teams. Any more info on registration or league will be sent out as and when we receive it.

Treasurer Update

Steven talked through the income, balances, account and expenses. The league account sheet is attached also to this email. Election of Officers, nominations for Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer. Proposed by Ben and seconded by Carol.

The positions are to remain Derek as Chairman, Beth as Secretary and Steven as Treasurer. Derek would still like to retire so we are looking for volunteers to fill his position.

AOB

Mike has started training with Hereford with minimal numbers. Ben says the limit of 30 still exists, indoor football is 6 but there are certain allowances. Carol says Kidderminster Athletic are training and following protocol with use of hand sanitizer, many footballs etc. Sam says Aspie Avengers are training, using track and trace and also have use of different equipment. Beth says OurWay are doing the same as the other teams

The league will want to know each teams Covid 19 risk assessment for example track and trace, hand sanitizer, 2m distance and have taken reasonable precautions as part of the registration process but also make sure they are affiliated with their local county FA. The league will also need their own risk assessment as will each venue.