



Herts Youth Inclusive Football

AGM & Committee Meeting Thursday 3rd August 2023

Herts Sports Village, Hatfield, Herts

Attendees – Mark Collins – Everett Rovers FC, Tracy Light – St Albans City Youth FC, Derek Cooper – Bedwell Rangers FC, Kerry Sager – Hemel ACES FC, Piers Hudson– Berkhamsted Raiders FC, Paul Reynolds – Berkhamsted Raiders FC, Jimmy Armstrong– Hitchin Town FC, Lincoln Tapper – Everett Rovers FC, Jos Sharp – Harpenden Colts FC

Apologies –, Chris Donno – Cheshunt FC, Mike Warby – Cheshunt FC, Lucy & Gary Dale, Nik Patel – Everett Rovers FC, Mary – Omonia FC, Rebecca Citroen – St Johns Ladies Deaf FC, Karen Stephanou – Watford FC CSE Trust, Karen Merry – Welwyn Pegasus FC, Frankie Westoby – Royston FC,

1. Welcome /Introductions /Apologies
2. Previous minutes*
3. Chairs Report
4. Financial Report
5. Secretary's Report/Roundup
6. Feedback from season 2022/23
7. Election of Committee for 2023/24
8. Herts FA/Whole Game System
9. Safeguarding
10. Any other business
11. Date of next meeting

1. **Welcome/Introductions/Apologies** – See above.

MC Welcome to all. Great to see new clubs here too: Berkhamsted Raiders FC, Hitchin Town FC, Welcome from MC, Chair, Intro's from all.
Representatives from Berkhamsted Raiders, Everett Rovers, Hemel Aces, St Albans City Youth, Bedwell Rangers, Hitchin Town
(Jimmy works closely with Mark Burke, Hitchin)

Apologies read out.

TL Holiday season but almost all clubs involved sent RSVP thank you.

2. **Previous minutes from last AGM** shared and link to other minutes from last season.
No items raised.

3. Chairs Report – Mark Collins (MC)

Full season after the disruptions of COVID the season before, ran 7 tournaments, no festivals in the end (had two planned) Would like to run festivals to encourage new players /those who are not confident. Great for newer clubs to run festivals if possible – should try to do one for next season. Didn't run the June tournament in the end due to a lot of activities happening /presentation days at clubs and committee were burnt out.

On average we have had 25 teams at each tournament, approximately 170 participants at each.

Prioritised Herts teams but have had to limit clubs such as Billericay wanting to bring teams despite us really enjoying them being involved. But due to capacity and parking we have had to be careful.

Thanks to Watford FC CSE Trust for the Dome – a big help to be able to run the season.

Overall, all the tournaments ran smoothly last season. A few issues with parking at the first one.

PR – Berko came for first time – players loved it.

MC - Great to have new teams, Berko Raiders, Welwyn Pegasus, Omonia FC.

MC - Ask all clubs – how can we improve the tournaments – continuous improvement.

TL – will do a short survey/form to all.

MC - Regularly 25 teams – we could do more, but we are almost at limit.

KS – more U12's – using SPACE to advertise.

MC – may get to a point where we would split U12/U16.

TL – agree with splitting if too busy, but mindful it will raise costs/time for committee to organise.

MC – improved mid-season when we managed to get more volunteers/runners for scores/match day delegates/ - can still improve this.

TL – Volunteer Coordinator role if we can fill this it will help.

DC – Volunteer parents on the day – were keen to get involved.

4. Financial Report – MC

Opening balance £11,759.57

Closing balance £9,643.43

Reduction in funds of £2,166.14 however part of this was a timing issue with the Kids In Sport grant landing in last year's accounts – excluding timing issue, account reduced by £616.14

Total expenditure: £4,401.14

Kids in Sport came in later due to COVID – tranches x 2 at same time.

Kids in Sport will be their last grant of £1500 this season.

Costs – should let parents know the cost of the tournaments.

Purchased respect barriers, balls, cones.

Thank you to Dave, Hemel Aces for the banners and signage.

Donation to Kenny, a superb member of HYIF and all are missing him/wish him well.

Each Tournament costs approx. £615.

Refs, paramedics, medals, trophies.

Charge £3 entry. £450 approx. income – maybe increase this?

TL Do we start charging a registration fee at the start of each season?

TL Thanks to Becca, St Johns who has offered to help with fund applications.

£9,500 in the HYIF Community account.

5. Secretary's Report /Roundup – Tracy Light (TL)

TL – A lot of work goes on behind the scenes to run the tournaments. We are also doing a lot of knowledge share, some mentoring new clubs, out of area sharing knowledge, signposting new players, enquiries, best practice, Mark, Karen, and I on the Herts FA Inclusion Advisory Group – feedback on growing the game in Herts. Numbers of participants are still below 400 in Herts.

Showcased tournament to Middlesex FA and providing knowledge share to both Middlesex FA and London FA as they start their youth tournaments. Great they have started.

New dates for 2023/24 in place – need hosts and a host for a festival. Date TBA.

Suggested an end of season tournament but think a lot will be wanting a break/away.

Thanks to the medical company – Pro Medicus who have been the trusted supplier for paramedics for each tournament.

Thank you to the referees. We have regular referees who know us and know the players which helps. We also were able to give a 15-year-old female referee some experience in a supportive environment which led to her refereeing our U12's successfully and confidently that last two tournaments – well done to J.

Watford FC CSE Trust – Karen Stephanou has been a great support from the start in 2015 – thank you to her and to the Trust for the Dome and their support. We hope to carry on working closely with Watford FC CSE Trust.

Thanks to all the volunteers, those who have stepped in to help on the day at tournaments.

Spent time applying for funds, but it is time consuming, and you have to give the feedback too. MC – suggested HSP – John Sutcliffe as an option.

TL - More we raise the more we can do, but need people to run the tournaments if we do a lot more, PR – do for free if we raise too much?

KS – put a list of clubs on SPACE.

Signposting – giving people information of where their closest club is that has an inclusive section.

TL – clubs in Herts – we always wanted to grow the number of clubs, but it has been harder than we thought with still only approx. 2% of clubs in Herts that have an inclusive section with players travelling quite a way. A lot of clubs do have players with additional needs playing, but there are limited options to go for players if that doesn't work out and for some, they are not welcomed to mainstream teams so there are many youth players falling out of football or not getting the opportunity at all.

PR – workshop for club, JS – did workshop at club, MC – did an ADHD workshop,

Volunteers: Thanks to all who have offered to help. Need a Chair which needs to be filled. Big shoes to fill, MC – need a figurehead, might not need someone working in Inclusive Football necessarily.

LT Kindly offered to review all the documentation /governance.

Fill the key roles first and prioritise actions.

Bryan will step down in December, Mark will step down in Feb. This means losing two of our founders who have a lot of experience, understanding and knowledge with Inclusive Football. We will miss them being involved.

MC - Need to find hosts for the tournaments.

Everett – October /March

Berkhamsted will look at dates too.

Hemel – possibly May.

Ask clubs who would like to run a festival too.

TL gave an update on Sported – we have been accepted as members – TL will get a small group together to work with their portal to ensure we get the most out of the support and apply for the £2k funding.

6. Feedback from season 22/23

MC – gave Chair report, TL – gave Secretary report.

Agreed to do survey to get feedback from all parents/carers/players/clubs/coaches.

MC gave a presentation at Herts FA – 5 clubs were there – 4 already doing it.

U8 – not run this season, this season won't be enough.

TL – we can encourage more U8's through festivals though.

MC – Thank you Watford FC CSE Trust and Karen.

MC – need more match day help to set up, get teams to get there early.

TL Get volunteers to be on the pitch where their child is playing if we can.

MC – need a list of volunteers in advance.

DC – give information to parents/carers/volunteers in advance – what are the expectations/tasks that need to be done.

7. Election of Committee for 2023/24

Chair – Mark Collins until end of Feb
Secretary – Tracy Light
Welfare Officer – Lincoln Tapper
Treasurer – Nik Patel

Deputy Chair – would be helpful to get a deputy in at start of the season who can then take over from Mark in March.

Deputy Secretary – to work closely with TL for this season as this will be TL's 8th season, there will be a time when TL will want to take a step back.

TL – volunteer flyer and Chair job description has gone to Dani at Herts FA for Go Vol.

MC/TL Thank you to Lincoln and Nik who have stepped into the roles. Thanks to all for the offer of help in general tasks.

TL Flyer for volunteers – this is what we need from you/list – what's expected from volunteers.

TL/LC – will arrange call to go through a handover and ensure courses are completed.

TL – will arrange a flyer for Chair to be sent around. KS – try Support 4 Dacorum.

8. Herts FA/Whole Game System

Herts FA, Kieran Fox – MC will contact re affiliation and England Accreditation.

MC Double participation in disability football was the plan.

All the clubs need to be registered on the Whole Game System.

Some clubs need advice on how to register on WGS.

JS - Systems for registering sports – love Admin.

9. Safeguarding

TL – audit of all the safeguarding, what do coaches need as a minimum to be involved.
MC Match Day Delegate – need High Vis, but not DBS – we will ensure all info up to date.
Review everything to ensure all in place.

10. Any other business

JC, Hitchin Town FC, What's the criteria to host? MC 4 or 5 pitches – Astro/full size can come out.

MC – or put name forward to host a festival. MC – explained the set up of the tournaments – champ/prem etc. If you have just a few players, then we can slot into teams.

KS – great way for players to get match experience even if they don't have a full team.

TL – teams outside of Herts? – Billericay, Harlow, Hamble, Southampton – great to have them, but limited on space now.

MC - maybe we can take 1 or 2 teams but need to see who applies first. Depend on how many teams, prioritise Herts teams, might not be able to have all their teams.

11. Date of next meeting

October. Wednesday 4th October 2023 – Online Teams Meeting: 7pm to 8pm