



Chairman's Column:

Why do I volunteer?

I have asked myself this question many times over the last twelve years since I first became involved in the administration of children's football as a referee in 2004. I have asked myself the question with greater frequency over the last twelve months since I assumed the role of chairman for this prestigious and rapidly developing league.



And it's a question many of you have no doubt asked yourselves as people involved in junior football over your time and I'm sure the answer is a similar one to my own.

You enjoy supporting and encouraging youngsters in their development and love of football.

I am very fortunate to work under an incredibly talented and dedicated management committee who donate hours of their own time before and after work to ensure your league works for you. A lot has changed in the last eight years since I joined the management committee and I feel as a

league we are making progress in the right direction.

Watching the mini-soccer weekly at one of our four centres always renews my passion for the game as I see the youngsters doing exactly what they should be, which is enjoying the sport.

Volunteering does not just end with children's football. As a league we have joined in partnership with the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline and are absolutely delighted to support this worthy cause. Over the season we will be hosting and taking part in a number of fundraising activities for this charity and will be calling upon your support to help make an impact to those whose lives have been irreversibly affected by this manmade tragedy.

Seeing the work done by this charity; its members and our own league secretary, George Elliott has reminded me again of the great sacrifices people make daily to better the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves.

I call upon you all to support your R DYFL in our backing of this worthy cause and as always I thank you for all your kind words and assistance in making this league a progressive and successful one.

Yours,

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Chairman R DYFL

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The Rowsley & District Youth Football League

News and Information from the League Management Committee



Referees

We have appointed a new referees secretary for the new season and have started to work closely with the DCFA in order to increase our coverage and retention of referees.

We are currently in discussion with the DCFA and a senior referee to install our own Referees' Development Officer. We hope that this will allow more youngsters the support and confidence to take up this vital role and progress in another area of the sport they love. We are hoping for this to be in place for the New Year.



Please note we have made a few changes to our costings and fees:

Referee costs for the 2016/17 season

Mini Soccer Referee/Pitch fee: £20

U11 - U14 Referee Fee: £20

U15 - U18 Referee Fee: £23

League Appointed Linesman, £15 per linesman, cost to be split between the two teams.

We do ask that should you need to contact our referees' secretary regarding your match referee please do so in plenty of time so matters can be resolved. As a reminder, please leave a text message during working hours as mobile phones cannot always be answered while working.

We are looking at recruiting more referees for our ever expanding league and should you be interested please contact Sean Hoole at referees@rdyfl.co.uk

As a league we do adhere to the FA's Respect campaign and do expect all of our member teams and clubs to do the same. Without match officials, this league would not be able to run as successfully as it does, and we ask for your support weekly with our young and developing match officials.

Communication

Last season we as a league ran a Survey Monkey evaluation of our practice to inform our development for the current and future seasons. We asked the following question: "How effectively do you rate the communication pathways within the RDYFL?"

Unfortunately, this scored our lowest score and gave us a number of action points to work on. At the AGM in July we launched and then subsequently published a communications policy which we expect all of our member clubs and teams to adhere to and support.

This does give secretaries a significant amount of guidance on how to open up effective channels of communication with league officers and avoid the 'covering all bases' approach which caused a number of issues last season.

Please familiarise yourself with this document and its contents, and together we can make this a stronger, more effective and efficient league for all.

