

## **YLC Committee Meeting Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

### **Online League**

1 The latest online league concluded on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July and only one match is left to be played between Leeds D and Doncaster C. The season went smoothly and the YLC felt that there is no need to change anything for next season.

2 An issue still arises that some players are still reluctant to play on RealBridge. In a match due to be played between Wetherby Hello There and Malton B, Malton B were approached and asked if they were prepared to switch to playing on BBO instead of RealBridge as Wetherby could not raise a team to play on RealBridge. The team that played had played all season, so the real issue was that they had not taken the opportunity to learn to play on RealBridge. It was felt that Wetherby should be contacted with the offer of help for their members to learn RealBridge as teams shouldn't be entering the competition if they are not prepared to play on both platforms. Mike to liase with Wetherby and Stephen to take matters further if help is needed with learning RealBridge.

3 Some suggested dates were agreed for next year's summer online league. The following dates were agreed

29<sup>th</sup> May

21<sup>st</sup> June

6<sup>th</sup> July

## **Face to face League**

1 For the upcoming Yorkshire Face to Face League the following latest play by dates were agreed –

Matches 1,2,3,4 by 16<sup>th</sup> February

Matches 5,6,7 by 13<sup>th</sup> April

YLC will adjudicate results of any matches that are left unplayed after the applicable latest dates.

2 A request was made to the YLC that when the fixtures are scheduled, that away fixtures for a certain pair, one of whom needs wheelchair access to premises only be scheduled for away matches where wheelchair access is present.

In itself this request is achievable, however it was felt that by granting this request we open ourselves up to being in breach of discriminatory laws at a later date and as such felt that this is not the best way forwards in tackling wheelchair access or other disability requests. It was agreed that Robin would suggest to the Diversity Committee that they consult with clubs and that something gets put in place for the season commencing in 2025, but for now we would not build this request into the compilation of fixtures.

The drawbacks of granting such a request were discussed-

1 We cannot know for certain which team the said pair is to play for and even if we did know, by acceding to the request regarding fixtures a problem could arise if that pair were to play for a different team within the same club. By not making provision for this we could be seen as discriminatory for inadvertently scheduling the said pair to play at a venue which has no wheelchair access.

2 Accommodating one pair only is discriminatory in itself. If we were intending to schedule the fixtures according to this request, then we should throw open this option to all clubs prior to the start of the season. If we then get several requests the compilation of fixtures which are in themselves quite complex would have added complexity which might prove too difficult to accommodate. There is also the situation where if one season we managed to accommodate several requests, but the next season we couldn't then this itself would be seen as inconsistent and in itself could be seen as discriminatory.

3 Some clubs may object if they find themselves always away to the same team, especially if it is a long way to travel, which might be the only way to adhere to multiple requests.

**Next Meeting:** - The date for the next YLC meeting is Tuesday August 13<sup>th</sup> at 10.00 a.m.