



NHA League Management Committee
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JANUARY NEWSLETTER

FAO: Club Secretaries:

The League Management Committee would like to draw your attention to the following items: -

1. **The Clubs Forum**

The next Clubs' Forum meeting will be on **Tuesday, 7th March @ 7:30 @ Taverham.**

The main agenda item will be "Proposed Rule changes for 2017/2018".

The date has been brought forward to give Clubs more time to formulate their proposals. Issues raised from the last Clubs Forum Meeting can be found on the website.

2. **Pitch Safety:**

Following the NUA message to all umpires concerning "pitch safety", the League Management Committee would like to add the following advice to Clubs: -

1. **Both** teams should assemble away from the spectators and in their own designated area. Both teams should be on the same side of the pitch.
2. No more than three team officials should sit with the teams. They are the Coach, the Team Manager and the First Aider.
3. Spectators should stand outside the pitch where possible.
4. Where there is no viewing point outside the pitch, spectators should not join the players in the designated area.
5. All hockey balls must be collected up and stored in a safe place before the start of the game.
6. Teams playing in the next game must remain outside the pitch until the end of the game.
7. Children under 8 years should watch the game from outside the pitch.
8. No prams on the pitch.
9. No dogs on the pitch.
10. No bikes on the pitch.
11. No smoking on the pitch.
12. Captains are responsible for ensuring these rules are upheld.
13. No game should start until these rules are in place.
14. The game should be stopped if these rules are broken at any time and the advice from the NUA should be actioned.

I am sure most Clubs are doing this already and to them we say a big "thank you".

The League Management Committee would also like to thank the NUA for their support and help in dealing with a tricky issue. We hope this advice from both the NUA and the LMC will help Clubs to ensure all Norfolk pitches are safe for players, officials and spectators.

3. **Team Sheets:**

There are three issues: -

- a) Doubling Up (DU) Please will you show on the team sheet when players **double UP** as well as when they **double DOWN**.
- b) ALL players must have a number listed alongside their name on the team sheet.
- c) A reminder that goals cannot be attributed to players if they are not recorded on the team sheet. This is your responsibility NOT the Division Secretary.

4. **Respect**

There have been several complaints about poor behaviour and bad language. If you have any problems during a game, please do the following.

1. Stop the game and make your complaint to the Umpires if you think the behaviour is so bad.
2. Make a complaint at half time to the Umpires.
3. Write your complaint on the back of the team sheet at the end of the game and make sure the other Captain is aware that you are doing this.
4. Ask the umpires if they are willing to make a comment on the back of the team sheet.
5. Make sure any under 18 players knows that they must tell their Captains if they have any problems that are going unnoticed during the game. i.e. with inappropriate language or behaviour.

It is very difficult for the Committee to deal with complaints where there is no evidence of Umpire cards or of any comments made on the team sheet.

I hope this helps. Please forward the Newsletter to all necessary Club personnel. You can also find a copy on the website.

Regards,

Chris Williamson
League Administrator

