**2017/18 Season - Questionnaire for Clubs**

Dear Clubs,

The current WS committee is looking ahead to the 2017/18 season and has prepared the questionnaire below to assist us with the planning of the new season and introduction of any potential new initiatives. Please note that any new initiatives are still in the discussion stage and we cannot guarantee that they will be introduced next season.

To help us weigh the benefits of new initiatives and also evaluate those introduced this season, we would be extremely grateful if you could take the time to respond to the questions below.

1. **Bye-laws – Dual Registration:** In order to address the goalie shortages experienced in recent years by various clubs help encourage people to play in goal we introduced in August 2016 the experimental bye-law to allow dual registration of a player to allow them, subject to specified conditions, to play on the same day one game outfield and one game in goal. Are clubs happy for this bye-law to continue next season?

Agree

Disagree

Comments:

1. **Electronic Match Cards:**  Do you have any feedback following the introduction of electronic match cards this season?

Comments:

1. **Knock Out Tournaments:** This season due to the limited pitch availability we streamlined the Knockout Cup meaning teams were not guaranteed 2 games. Please let us know what would be your preferred option:

Loser of round 1 will not have a second game

Loser of round 1 is guaranteed to play a second game.

1. **One Day Tournaments:** Previously two one day tournaments have been held during the season. These were scaled back and this season there is only the 5 aside tournament.

Would you like to see more one-day tournaments?

yes

no

If your answer is yes, do you have any preferences on the format (e.g. 5-aside, 7-aside, 11-aside) and when they should be held (e.g. an 11-aside tournament at the beginning of the season?

1. **Promotion & Relegation Policy:** The current WS’s promotion and relegation policy is flexible and will vary at the end of each season in order to try to maintain divisions that contain teams of a similar standard, and we look at the results at the end of each season to make this decision. The committee has discussed various options and would appreciate your feedback on them.

(a) **Play-offs**: At the end of the league, the bottom placed team in a division would play the top placed team in the division below (or the top 2 and bottom 2 teams would play each other once) and the play-off games for the league would be played over e.g. 1 or 2 play-off weekends with dates of such weekends being put in the calendar at the start of the season and results would be binding save for any extraordinary circumstances arising before the start of the new season.

(b) **Automatic promotion/relegation**: promotion and relegation of the top and bottom teams (or top 2 and bottom 2) would be automatic and binding save for any extraordinary circumstances arising before the start of the new season. Please let us know your preferred option:

Current flexible policy as set out in the bye-laws

Play-offs

Automatic promotion/relegation of top and bottom teams

Automatic promotion/relegation of top 2 and bottom 2 teams

Comments:

1. **Premier and Division 1 teams:** As you are aware over the last few seasons we have promoted the top 2 Division 1 teams after round 1 and then split the Premier in two. Is this a practice teams would like to continue or would you like to see a return to 8 teams in the Premier and 8 in Division 1?

Continue same practice as previous 2 seasons

8 team premier & 8 team division 1

Comments:

We value your views and opinions, and would appreciate if all clubs could reply before our next committee meeting on **Wednesday 19th April 2017**.