

NOTICE FROM U15/U16 COMPETITIONS CO-ORDINATOR

Dear Team Manager/Coach,

First of all I would like to thank everyone for submitting your match cards so promptly and efficiently this season. The U15s squad managers have been particularly brilliant this season. As you'll appreciate, your efficiency has made the work involved in maintaining the leagues so much easier ... in fact, it would be impossible without it.

Regrettably, I have had the unpleasant task of docking the competition points of two U16 squads who have on more than one occasion not only failed to provide the results on time but have neither completed nor submitted their match cards as required by the competition regulations. This is therefore a timely reminder to all who administrate on behalf of their squads. Your time and effort as a volunteer is valued and does come with responsibility. I'm sure that your lads appreciate it as much as I do.

I would also like to take this opportunity to remind all coaches of regulation 4305.1 which states that full time SHALL BE CALLED in youth games when the points difference reaches 35. The rest of the game time shall be played as a friendly with the winning side adjusting the number/quality of players on the field or by playing players out of position or with such amendments to the game rules as shall make a more even contest & more enjoyable game for all.

Match cards should never be submitted stating, for example, winning margins of 60+pts. A 35 point margin is a clear indicator that a one-sided contest has taken place and this should not under any circumstances be allowed to continue and widen further. On match days, a coach's responsibility for his/her players extends to the players on the opposing side too ... very little learning takes place on either side when teams are not well matched. As a coach, you will learn nothing of value about your own players when they're not performing under pressure and no matter how much bravery and endeavour is shown by the opposition the fun will have been completely driven out of their experience. Please do not take pride in handing out a drubbing, take the opportunity to turn it into a worthwhile and enjoyable experience for everyone who takes part on the day.

With my thanks for all you do in our great game.

Dai Bugler