

Junior Competition - Tuesday nights

Further to the meeting of Junior Club representatives from the Yardley League on 21st June 2016, and to address the issue of the number of matches being played within those sections, the Yardley League working party propose to have one Competitive section (unless there are at least five teams entered in each age group).

Teams will still enter the appropriate age group, but if there is a need to combine them, then the winners of each section will be the highest placed U16 and U14 teams in the combined league.

As before, players within these teams will not be allowed to play in any other section of the league, unless a transfer is requested – see below.

Key points to note:

- The competitive section will have its own set of rules, based on Regional League rules
- Teams will have to provide a C Award umpire or above for these matches, either before or after the team has played
- Clubs will also need to provide a scorer, the scoresheet will be similar to that used in other leagues.
- Players will only be allowed to play in either the competitive section or the grassroots section, but to allow for players who show that they have developed and should be playing in the competitive section, there will be opportunity to move them into the competitive section after all teams have played each other once – actual week will be made clear once the fixtures have been finalised. They cannot then play in the grassroots section.
- As some teams will not be able to enter these competitive sections, because of distance to travel etc., then the league cannot be used as a qualifier for regional rounds of the National U16 and U14 competitions. However, it may be that the top two play the top two from the High Peak League to decide who goes forward
- Teams finishing in the top two will not have to take part in these play-offs if they do not wish to enter the National competition, the option will go to the next placed team
- Clubs will be limited to two teams per section.

Entries for both sections will need to be in by 26th August 2016 – late entries will not be accepted.

Entry forms for the Competitive Section will be available on the website from the beginning of August.