

Hi,

Here is a summary of yesterday's meeting. For those who attended please 'reply to all' if there is anything vital you think I haven't included or not reported correctly. To those who didn't attend, you missed a lively meeting!

Regards,
Astrid
Club Secretary – Broad Town Colts FC

1. Stu announced his resignation from the position of Club Chairman. This is due to his upcoming tour of duty in Afghanistan which will mean he won't be around to attend the meetings etc required by both the North Wilts League and the Wilts FA.

Action: Anyone who wishes to be considered for the position of Chairman (which includes women!) to register their interest by email to Astrid by **noon on 12th February 2011**.

Astrid will circulate the name(s) of the interested parties on 12th February.

If more than one candidate - each family to email Astrid their vote for the Chairman they'd prefer.

If only one candidate - each family to email Astrid their **acceptance, or not**, of that person as Chairman. **Deadline for votes – Thursday 17th February**.

****ONE VOTE PER FAMILY PLEASE****

A Club meeting will be held at 12 noon (post training) on Saturday 19th February to officially install the new Chairman.

2. Matt outlined his concerns over negative comments he had overheard at last week's game with regard to the standard of coaching the team was getting. He asked if anyone wanted to move for an official vote of no confidence in him as Head Coach but that was not taken up. Concerns over comments posted on 'Facebook' were voiced and it was agreed that care must be taken so that no reference to Broad Town Colts or the players would appear on this site. N.B. the comments referred to at this meeting referenced neither.

It was accepted by the committee that the proposed monthly meetings as a forum to air issues/concerns had not happened. In future these meetings will take place immediately following the first training session of each month – next meeting due Sat 5th March. However, it is every member's responsibility to advise the Chairman/Secretary by email if any urgent issues arise so they can be addressed immediately.

Action: Astrid to email out a reminder the week before each meeting is due.

3. Everyone was invited to raise issues:
 - a) Mike Deacon pointed out that asking every player to pay the same level of subscriptions when the number of matches they played differed widely was unfair. Currently the monthly subscription is £20 of which £12 is paid to Matt for team management and coaching and the remainder covers North Wilts League, Wilts FA and tournament fees. Any balance is held for additional expenses such as equipment, social events for the players etc. So far we have been lucky in that we do not pay for the use of our home ground but that will change next season when we move to 9 a side and need a larger pitch. The current cost of hiring a pitch is approx. £25 per game. A revised payment structure to be proposed for discussion at the meeting on 17th February.

Action: Mac and Astrid to review subscription levels and propose a fairer payment structure – **deadline 12th February.**

- b) Ian Coward voiced his concerns over last week's match against Tetbury, his main issue being the lack of an organised warm-up session which he felt disadvantaged the boys and ultimately led to us not achieving the win we were capable of. Matt did not agree that a lack of a warm-up had affected the game and, although he'd take this feedback on board, he reminded everyone that he had previously been criticised for working the team too hard before a game.
- c) Matt asked for volunteers to referee home matches as his place is on the sidelines with the team.

Action: any parent willing to be a referee to let Matt know asap.

- 4. Social Committee: it was proposed and agreed that a social committee of 2 or more members was needed to organise activities for the boys. Mike Deacon has already approached Swindon Town with regard to a Stadium Tour and will follow that through.

Action: volunteers for this committee to mail their interest to Astrid – **deadline 12th February.**

- 5. Matt raised the issue of the current team selection policy. He felt that he did not have the freedom he needed to make the best decisions for the team and therefore the club. He proposed to revise the criteria and focus on effort and endeavour which would give those boys who gave of their best, at whatever level, the reward of a team place. Everyone agreed that Matt should have total control on team selection allowing him to decide what he feels will benefit the team most for each game.

Stu said that due to some conflict between the way the team was selected and his personal opinions he felt obliged to step down as assistant coach, although he affirmed his support for Matt as a parent and club member.

Action: volunteers to assist at training sessions to contact Matt direct.

Due to the size of the squad concerns were raised over the boys who would not get regular team places. It was agreed that, where possible, 2 teams would be entered into the end of season tournaments. This would mean all the boys could take part but also meant that a firm commitment to turn up when selected was essential.

Also, due to the size of the squad it was agreed that new players would only be allowed to join the club if an existing player was to leave i.e. 1 out 1 in. When we move to 9 a side next season the squad size should not be an issue.

- 6. Sponsorship: Trudy advised that there was no guarantee that Empire Cinemas would continue to sponsor the team next season so alternatives need to be investigated – costs involved are approx. £1,000.

Action: everyone to consider who they could approach (employers?) as potential sponsors!

The meeting ended with an informal vote of thanks to Stu for his time and commitment as Chairman.