

Bristol Corinthians League 2023 AGM Minutes

The Lawns, Thursday 29th June

From 6.45PM: Arrival

7PM: Meeting to start.

1: Introduction to the expanded committee

Andy (Easton Monday) Cobbsy (Redstar) Rich (KCC) Matty (Henleaze Corries) made themselves known. Apologies from Andy (Fry Club) unable to attend due to personal circumstances

2: Summary of last season to cover:

Russ gave an overview of a largely successful season. The cup finals were the best in terms of spirit for some years. The associate members scheme went well. The return of the England/Wales fixture went well with a rare win for England in the over 45s. Whatsapp group and Matty's help with collection/collation of results was a huge help. The expanded committee had really helped spread the load and bring fresh ideas about developing the league. Most games were played in good spirit but there were still a small minority of games that were completely beyond the pale and action must be taken to eliminate this problem. Mike added that Kaz who runs the over 60's rep team is currently in hospital and the meeting sent him best wishes for a speedy recovery. The team is also seeking players aged 50+ to represent the league in an over 50's monthly league in Tewkesbury. Anyone interested contact Mike and he will pass on to the manager Mark Kearns.

3: Financial update

(see screenshot attachment)

Current figure in the account is £1715

*update: Current balance £6446 with 39 teams having paid subs

Cup final expenses £470 (finalists contributed £400 so net cost to league = £70)

Other expenses:

- Website hosting fees etc: £324
- Programmes for international: £95 (approx £250 raised for charity via this event)
- Trophies: £144

Charity donations since last AGM: £7438

Running total of donations: £40,100

League is in a healthy position financially

Mike explained that the programmes paid for at the international was an executive decision, but they had been sold on the gate and made a significant contribution to the charity take on the day. In addition to the teams nominating below for this year's funds, 3 teams will be chosen at random from those who haven't won anything for 3 plus years (suggested by Rich from Swift) to spread the donations wider than just the successful teams.

3: Presentation of trophies and charity donations.

Winners to be presented with modest trophies and speak briefly about nominated charities.

Division 1: **Easton Cowboys:** Action Community

Division 2: **Banjo Munchenbadback:** Juice Community Project

Division 3: **Thornbury Town:** Sands

Division 4: **Henleaze Corinthians:**

Action Medical Research <https://www.justgiving.com/actionmedicalresearch>

Division 5: **Heritage United**

Paul's Place <https://www.paulsplace.org.uk/>

Over 45's

Div 1: **Wick Gerry Hatricks:**

Cancer research/MND association: <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/get-involved/donate>

<https://www.mndassociation.org/>

Div 2: **LB Imps Colts Vets**

St Peter's Hospice <https://donate.justgiving.com/donation>

Over 50's:

Div 1: **Easton Monday 95: Aidbox community.co.uk**

Bath Gateway out and about <https://www.parkinsons.org.uk/information-and-support/what-parkinsons>

Over 35's Senior cup winners: **Yate Town Vets**

Darby Rimmer MND foundation <https://darbyrimmermnd.co.uk/>

Over 35's Junior cup winners: **Corinthians**

Mesothelioma UK <https://www.mesothelioma.uk.com/>

Over 35's Junior finalists: **Weston Pirates**

Macmillan Cancer Support <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/>

Over 45's cup winners: **Chew Magna**

Chew Chat

Over 45's Losing finalists: **Redstar** Bristol Children's Hospital

Over 50's Losing finalists: **Chew 50's**

Whizzybug <https://designability.org.uk/we-dont-want-to-wait/>

4: Personal insurance presentation by Chris Lines

Chris was unable to attend due to pre-season training with Bath City. Russ outlined the principal benefits as he understood them. He will speak to Chris with a view to setting up a Zoom presentation that all individuals potentially interested could attend.

5: Website/Whatsapp update

Matty reported that the Whatsapp had been a success. He extended thanks to all managers for reporting results in a timely fashion. Dan from Filton observed that the whatsapp was a godsend for the technophobic who struggled with the website. This was noted, but the committee also encouraged all those who were on board with the website to continue filling it in rather than leaving Matty to do it all.

5. Items for discussion. A vote will be taken on some items where appropriate, a majority vote by those in attendance is required to action the proposals.

Leagues/Fixtures:

- **Restructuring the 35's league to introduce a smaller elite div 1 with 6 teams playing home and away.**

This was accepted without reservations

- **Other 35's leagues to continue as larger divs playing once (number of teams in each TBC)**

- **50's to split into 2 small divs playing home and away**

This was accepted without reservations.

- **Permission to change dates of fixtures no longer permitted. Fixture list to be set in stone after a given cut off date.**

The general response in the room to this was positive. Most teams seemed to agree that constant re-jigging of fixtures was a pain. There were some reservations about the window for possible changes and whether this could be extended. The committee agreed to consider this. Appropriate scheduling of fixtures would be even more important under this system and Mike observed that with Matty taking over on this then there should be no problem. Bank holidays/festivals etc would still be avoided as much as possible. The question of when weather related postponements should be replayed was raised, the ideal would be within 2 weeks of the original date, but certainly in the same half of the season. A question was raised about teams defaulting to a 3-0 concession if this served their purposes to win the league for example. The committee hoped that no team would stoop this low.

- **Proposal to curtail length of the season as a result of changes made above, all league games to be played by end of April**

Agreed

Cups:

- **Rounds 1 and 2 of cups to return to the Autumn**

Agreed

New applicants:

- **Proposal to admit all new applicants into an Associate league (Division A)**

Agreed (TBC depending on number who come through)

Corinthian spirit/Discipline:

- **Proposal to tighten up further on discipline and take a harder line on teams who do not play to the rules.**

Andy (EM) gave a speech about the importance of the spirit as the cornerstone of what BCL is about. Russ observed that if all we aspire to is the standard of regular Saturday football then we might as well pack up and join the GFA Vets league. Playing the game in a competitive but generous spirit is our USP so enforcing the rules more strictly is really about protecting the integrity of the league. The general feeling about this was positive. A question was raised about what exactly the red lines would be. The committee will publish these prior to the season starting. The committee also mentioned that they planned to watch some games at random in order to monitor adherence to the spirit. The question of referees was raised and the problems of appointing neutral refs which can contribute potentially to problems during a game. This has been a perennial problem and no obvious solution presents itself. However it was agreed that abuse/bad behaviour towards match officials could only make the problem worse and must be eliminated.

- **Proposal to remove the father/son rule**

There was a short discussion about this before it went to the vote. A significant majority voted to retain the rule. The committee will send a strong message to teams about not abusing the rule to their advantage.

6: Teams leaving/New teams looking to join the league/Name changes.

At time of going to press we have said farewell to:

Almondsbury Vets, Chew 35's, Portskewett Vets, Jerseyatric Rangers, Ashley Vets, Nailsea 45's, Cardiff St Pauli, Teyfant, Sands United (9 teams)

Name changes: None notified

Teams transferring from over 45's to over 50's: Shipham

New teams: 35's: Industry 141

45's: Bathelona 45's (cup only)

New teams who have paid subs: Real Thornbury, VUFC, Yate Old Boys, Odd Down Vets, Nicholas Wanderers, Odd Down Vets, Little Stoke Vets

6: Any other business (To be notified to the committee 24 hours prior to the meeting at the latest)

Aim to close meeting by 8.45