

BLACKWATER & DENGIE YOUTH FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

19th June 2024

Witham Town FC – 8pm

**Present:** All Member Clubs except for Dunmow Rovers YFC, Dunmow Utd. YFC, Elsenham Yth FC and those clubs not continuing in 2024/25

1: **Chairman's Opening Address**

The League Chairman, *Mick Wood*, opened the meeting and welcomed all Clubs and Members of the League Committee. He also introduced *Lana Gillard* from ECFA who then spoke about:

2: **Lana Gillard** – ECFA Development Officer

i: *Lana* spoke about some of the updates from ECFA and thanked everyone for volunteering and supporting youth football.

ii: She stated that the ECFA affiliation portal was now open and that in future disciplinary would be dealt with via the Whole Game System.

iii: *Lana* then spoke about players names no longer showing on Full-Time, the new ECFA Referees Development Officer and that the referee course details being on-line.

iv: *Lana* spoke about the new “No Heading” and “No Throw In” rules for U/7's – U/9's.

v: *Lana* went on to talk about the “Your Club Programme” which is tailored to individual clubs to help make the running of them easier. *Stuart Emerson* gave a brief outline of how it works and *Lana* asked that if any club had an indoor venue with an outdoor pitch where sessions could be held to please contact either *Stuart* or herself. The Wilvale Yth secretary confirmed how beneficial the sessions were to his club.

*Lana* told clubs that they should contact ECFA if they wished to be involved. She said that she would be able to speak to clubs when the AGM finished. She left some leaflets with a QR code for clubs to access details.

The chairman thanked *Lana* for her time and information.

2: **To Receive and Confirm the Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting**

**Proposer:** Gt. Bradfords YFC **Seconded:** Gt. Notley YFC

***Accepted by a unanimous vote.***

3: **Matters Arising** There were no matters arising from the 2023 AGM minutes.

4: **To Receive and Adopt the Annual Treasurer's Report** - *Attached to master copy.*

The balance sheet having previously been emailed to all Club Members.

**Proposer:** Baddow Spartak YFC. **Seconded:** Tiptree Jobserve YFC

***Accepted by a unanimous vote.***

**5: Election of New Clubs**

The Committee recommend the following Clubs for entry to the league:

Fritch Utd.YFC, Springfield Yth FC, Stansted Yth FC (playing in Dunmow)

There are three further clubs requesting to join but have yet to be vetted:

Braintree Legion YFC, Terling YFC, Another with details yet to confirm  
*If these clubs have a successful vetting they be allowed to join.*

**Proposer:** Wilvale Rangers YFC      **Seconded:** Sporting 77 YFC

***Agreed by a unanimous vote.***

**6: Constitution of the Competition for season 2023/24 - Previously sent to clubs**

*Matt Jarvis* spoke about how difficult it has been to sort the constitution and asked that clubs wanting to move up or down divisions contact him, via email, within the next 7 days. Several clubs asked why some teams U/7's – U/9's, have been moved by 2 divisions and *Ed Booker* explained that this sometimes happens when teams leave and a division is then too small to run.

*Matt* explained that the divisions are looked at during the first 6 weeks and changes made after that.

A question was asked regarding a Girls League but the Chairman explained that too few clubs had entered teams for it to be viable.

**Proposer:** Sth Woodham Ferrers Utd YFC      **Seconded:** Gt. Bradfords YFC

***Accepted by a unanimous vote.***

**7: Election of Officers and Management Committee - Attached to master copy.**

The Chairman stepped down and the Life V/President, *Marion Wakeling*, thanked him for all his hard work and asked him if he wished to continue for 2024/25. He said he was happy to do so and thanked all the committee, club secretaries, managers, parents and players for supporting the BDYFL during the 2023/24 season.

**Proposer:** Maldon & Tiptree YFC      **Seconded:** Gt. Notley YFC

***Agreed by a unanimous vote.***

The Chairman then asked that all Officers and Committee members that are standing again be voted for en-bloc as well as those that were seconded mid-season. *Full list attached to master copy.*

Mrs Rachael Bennett  
Mr Ed Booker  
Mr Stuart Emerson  
Mr Paul Eldridge  
Mrs Debbie Hill  
Mr Mark Hill

Mr Matt Jarvis  
Mrs Jackie Leno  
Mrs Angie Owen  
Mr Malcolm Shaw  
Mr David Stacey  
Mr Jim Toth

Mr Stephen Vieira

**Proposer:** Notley Yth FC      **Seconded:** Burnham Ramblers YFC

***Agreed by a unanimous vote.***

**8: Appointment of Auditors**

It was proposed that the present auditor be re-elected. *Baverstocks*

**Proposer:** Baddow Spartak YFC

**Seconded:** Broomfield Yth FC

***Agreed by a unanimous vote.***

**9: Alteration of Rules - *Full wording attached to master copy. Previously sent to clubs.***

The FA Standard Code cannot be altered.

i: **Cup Rule: C1(ii).** Add the words “for that team” so that it reads registered with the competition, for that team, for at least .....

ii: **Cup Rule: C3:** Gt. Bradfords YFC submitted a rule change which would allow all cup matches to end with a result via extra time and penalties if required. They also requested that head-to-head results then be taken into account if teams are still level after all group matches had been played.

**Proposer:** Great Bradfords YFC

**Amendment:** The committee counter proposed an amendment that removed the head-to-head section as it would hinder the original rule addition being accepted by ECFA.

**Proposer:** Gt. Bradfords YFC

**Seconded:** Sth Woodham Ferrers Utd. YFC

***Amendment Agreed***

Both rule changes C1(ii) and C3 to be voted for En-Bloc

**Proposer:** Baddow Spartak YFC, **Seconded:** Woodham Radars YFC

***Agreed by majority vote – Danbury & Bicknacre YFC - Against***

**10: Confirmation of Season**

Start of Season 08/09/2024

End of Season 31/05/2024

The chairman wished all clubs Good Luck for the 2024/25 season.

**11: Any Other Business – None Submitted by clubs 14 days prior to AGM**

i: **New Website:** *Marion* spoke about the new League website - bdyfl.org - and thanked the clubs for submitting their on-line applications on time. She emphasized that clubs must update their club portals if they withdraw or add teams as it will be cross referenced before the season starts and only teams that are entered and paid will be issued with fixtures. Clubs must also update with any changes of management/committee.

She then explained that fines will now be issued via the website portal and that there will possibly be no more fine summaries, obviously if problems do occur then *Mick Wood* or herself will be in touch by email. She asked for the three new clubs to see her and *Jim Toth* once the meeting was over.

*Jim* and *Stuart* are the website administrators and can be contacted with any club portal issues. She thanked them for their help in getting the website up and running and asked clubs to be patient as everyone is learning the technology.

ii: *Mick Wood* spoke about the need for teams to ensure they get their fixtures played as the 2023/24 season had been severely affected by the wet weather so it's paramount that they are played. If teams are available to play each other on non-fixture weekends then they can arrange to play but must inform the relevant fixture secretary and that match will then be posted on Full-Time, they must also inform the referees secretary.

iii: *Matt Jarvis* spoke about changes to the Sin Bin rules and that full details would be available on the ECFA website.

iv: *Mick Wood* presented *Matt* with a special Committee Award in appreciation of all his hard work and dedication this season.

**13: Sportsmanship Presentation – Full list attached to master copy.**

i: 48 Sportsmanship Shields were presented with the winners also receiving a first aid kit and the R/U receiving a match quality football.

ii: *Mick Wood* asked *Lana* to present The Jack Newton Sportsmanship Trophy, which was awarded to a U/10's team whose fantastic celebration when ending R/U in their cup final was a joy to witness. The committee had decided earlier in the year not to present this award, due to not being able to decide the criteria, but the team, coaches and supporter's jubilant reactions to being presented with their R/U trophies confirmed that this is what youth football is all about.

It gave the committee great pleasure to award the trophy to:

*Sporting 77 YFC U/10's Sharks*

There being no other business, *Mick Wood* wished everyone an enjoyable season, a safe journey home and he looked forward to seeing them all at the SGM in February 2025.

Various Committee members requested various clubs speak to them before leaving.

**The Meeting Closed at 9:41pm**