

MIDLANDS ADULT LEAGUE

Mid-Season Update - 2023

Halfway through the season and time for an update before the January resumption.

GMS Update

EH objective for GMS this year was stability and I think in that respect it has been delivered.

But there is still a lot of work to be achieved in making improvements and making it far more user friendly.

Hopefully, you will have noticed a number of improvements have been made to the Fixture information from GMS and displayed on the Area website.

The next change will be visible during January and will display both team details and the names of scorers and details of cards issued. To allow their details to be displayed, all of the registered users on GMS should have received an e-mail from EH asking them to update a Consent setting on their GMS profile. Names will still be recorded in GMS but not transferred to the public Area Website without Opted in on 'Show name on EH website.' Once live I would ask all clubs to check and understand why players have decided not to give consent.

Remember that Venues and Start Times (to enable GMS reporting both start and end time should be entered) should now have been updated for the restart of the season. If you have a valid reason for not being able to update, make sure your Divisional Secretaries are aware.

Fines

Still too many fines being issued.

I know GMS can be clunky, but we have provided work arounds so there are no reasons for non-compliance.

The following are what we are expecting to see on each fixture:

Team Sheet – completed BEFORE the game, although late changes will be allowed.

All players, with shirt numbers

Two umpires, even if one Home and one Away

Coaches and any other people on the bench

Match Sheet/Timeline – expected to be completed within 24hrs of the game.

Goals – time and type

Cards – time and type

If not completed fully GMS will not save.

Promotion/Relegations

A pictorial view of the numbers of promotions/relegations will be published on the Midlands website before the restart in January and GMS will be updated to reflect. The general principal is two promotions from every Division, except Development only Divisions, and matching relegations. There could be more relegations if more than one team is relegated from the National League.

Photography

We should remind Clubs that the taking of photographs or videos are only permitted with the agreement of the opposition.

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Forfeit games/Requests for rearrangement

Remember to **contact your Div Secs first**, you may agree with the opposition but not get Div Sec agreement. There is a document on the Midlands Website that shows you the Guidance on actions and what is allowed.

Fair Selection

Unfortunately, this season we have a number of queries about team selection.

The Regulation Section 8 was updated this year in an attempt to make it clearer as to what is and not allowed. To ensure you are complying, if you are considering playing a player from a higher team, please contact your Divisional Secretary. We will be analysing the requests we receive, to see if the Regulations can be made clearer next season.

We have found one item to be reviewed and that is the table in 8.4.4, which is grade based and 8.4.2 which is team based. For clarification, 8.4.2 should take precedence, this means you cannot play a grade 3 goalkeeper in a grade 5 game if the lower team is more than two teams below, without an approved SXP.

With a number of rearrangements already scheduled and snow forecast in January, do not take chances on player selection. The 50% rule applied to all teams, even in the same Division.

Please ensure your Team Sheet on GMS reflect all players on the pitch and the bench, including coaches.

SXP Requests

Please use the new online form. It should make it easier for you to enter and Divisional Secretaries to assess.

[Midlands SXP Request](#)

Women's League Structure Consultation – Results

Following four consultation meetings, a review of options and votes on Division Structure and Relegation/Promotions, I can announce the Vote results as follows:

82% in favour of the merging of Divisions 5 & 6 to provide as many twelve team Divisions in a wider level 5 as possible.

76% in favour of matching the twenty promotions, from the new level 5, with three relegations from level 4 plus the two worst ninth placed teams based on average points per game.

We are also taking the opportunity to change Divisions 2's to an East/West split, to hopefully aid travel.

Finally, to maintain a consistent two promotion opportunities in all Divisions, there may be more than two relegations in some Divisions.

The structural changes will be made after the 2023-2024 promotion/relegations at the end of the season. See Midlands Website and GMS.

Although relegations from 5 to 6 and promotions from 6 to 5 will be irrelevant because of the merging.

Illustration of the new structure are posted on the Midlands Website.

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Regards,



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