



## RFL COMMUNITY BOARD CHAIR SUMMARY – TUESDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

Dear Community Game Colleagues,

Last evening's Community Board meeting was largely focused on Our League Active – the community game's participants membership programme – which is to be expected as we are moving ever closer to its launch.

I gave the Board an update on progress in order to ensure they are fully up to speed with the latest changes and information. They were particularly pleased to hear about the policy for **casual players** which has been introduced due to feedback and stipulates that open age casual players can play up to three times without needing to take out membership – they feel this will ease concern among clubs.

We informed the Board that we have been creating various communications tools which will be used as we ramp up momentum from now until the end of the year. These tools include a series of films that have been recorded with Fraser Dainton the sports presenter/journalist, interviewing Robert Hicks answering all the questions that parents, players and clubs may still have. And we are also creating a digital postcard to be sent to all participants and parents.

In addition to the extensive consultation and communication we have previously issued, we all agreed that, in order for the communications to reach all participants and parents, the clubs will need to help us spread the word and to this end, the Board suggested creating some copy, giving simple to follow information about the membership programme, which clubs can use to put on their websites and send out to players and parents.

It is in everyone's interest in the Community Game that this membership is successful, and it will work far better if we all continue to work together to communicate the change and ensure everyone is ready and clear on the reasons and benefits.

Marc Lovering then gave the Board an update on the Community Strategy and Sport England application for funding for 22-25. He said discussions have, as always, been constructive and positive and we are due to have the strategy ready to present to the Community Board at the December meeting, in time for the new season.

We are excited about the progress that has been made in both the women's & girl's game as well as the inclusion sports and keen to see these continue, as are Sport England.

We then discussed two workstreams we will bring to the December meeting to start to liaise in more depth on for the new season: 1) RLWC2021 – community game preparedness and 2) touchline behaviour/match officials. The Community Board agreed to take these two subjects away and have discussions with various colleagues in the game so that we can have a very interactive planning session about them in December.

I feel the Community Board we have are a very engaged, dedicated group of individuals, representing various sectors of the game. If you do not know your representative, you can visit the RFL website [HERE](#) and find out more about them. They are keen to hear your opinions and feedback and to be able to feed these back to us at the RFL. Please email the competition email address: [competitions@rfl.uk.com](mailto:competitions@rfl.uk.com) and your message will be passed on to them.



Many thanks for taking the time to read and I hope to be able to meet you all in the real world again soon.

Kind regards

**Sandy Lindsay MBE, Chair, RFL Community Board**