



## Swindon & District Football League

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### **SDFL 131<sup>st</sup> AGM 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

President's welcome

Good evening everyone and welcome to the 131st AGM of the SDFL.

Unfortunately for us all, the second virtual AGM to be held this way. I believe everyone will agree with me that the last fifteen months has seen an unprecedented upheaval in all our personal, social and working lives.

The SDFL was not left untouched as the last two league seasons were curtailed with our usual Cup competitions not even starting, and the County Junior Cup competition was also cancelled.

However, with vaccinations came hope and when grassroots football was given the green light to start in April the committee felt that we had to give something for the clubs to get going again.

A series of options were given to the clubs on what their thoughts were and they decided that to complete the league season was impractical but a new format for a cup tournament would give them some football back with some meaning, not just friendlies.

Once the format was known with group matches and then moving into a knockout stage, similar to the World Cup, more and more teams wanted to be involved and in the end 23 teams started (in total 67 games over 6 weeks, no mean feat).

The league were extremely grateful for the sponsorship of Your Sport Swindon, and Don Rogers Sports in supporting this competition and also to New College with their facilities of a 3G pitch for the Finals.

I would like to thank the committee for all their hard work and keeping their enthusiasm going in such a stop and start last 12 months and the club secretary's for keeping their clubs going as your significant contribution lead to the overall success of the YSS Cups.

Finally, I would like to mention a few positive changes that will be coming next season.

A District League with 3 divisions, with our league fixtures taking priority, followed by a Cup competition. The League has also taken the initiative to introduce a referee training scheme partnering with the County FA. So, I am more than just hopeful of a successful season next year.

Stay safe

Pete Mildenhall

28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

[Do you have a question for the League Fixture Secretary?](#)

[Please advise the League Secretary in writing by Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, please?](#)