



In the Zone

Weekly news publication from the YBL



51 Tuesday 3 November 2020

Contact the YBL

YBL.ORG.UK

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2020/2021 season

PUSHED BACK

Opening Weekend moved to January

Following the government's announcement on Saturday regarding the forthcoming nationwide lockdown, the YBL Board of Directors met on Sunday evening, in the emergency Board meeting to discuss plans for the YBL in the short term.

Pre-empting the lockdown details, the Board have decided to move back the start of the season until January 2021, as a result extending the season later than already published.

I will go over those details momentarily.

But, first, the Administrative and Officials Pre-Season Conference that was scheduled for this Sunday 6 November has now been pushed back. They will be held on Sunday 6 December at the same times.

With a select few clubs struggling to obtain their normal venue pre-lockdown and the uncertainty of the exact date we will be returning in either December or January to training, the 'opening weekend' will now be around the weekend of Saturday 9 January. Giving teams not back from the 'break' to have at least a week's training sessions before competitive games start. The season will now run from 9 January to Saturday 31 July 2021.

Our optimistic thinking has the senior league starting around this time as well. With the hoping of eased restrictions and being able to play within Basketball England and the governments guidelines. However, more updates on the senior league will be given after the end of lockdown on Wednesday 2 and our Board meeting on Saturday 5 December.

We are still running under the assumption that the league will start in January. Invoices issued will still need to be paid.

Player Registration Forms will still need to be submitted to the YBL ahead of the new deadline of **Sunday 22 November**. This gives us time to process and upload information on to clubs Secure Page.

As a result of the change in the season, the YBL have moved the Pre-Season rearrangement date of the 8 November to **Sunday 29 November 2020**. This includes any changes that the have been made by the league today.

If the lockdown is extended further, we will evaluate, the Board of Directors will discuss our plans going forward and the plans around what it looks like for the remainder of the season. This will include the format of the individual leagues and the impact it will have on us and our members.

All the original fixtures published for November and December, including those of the senior Men and Women's league have now been added to the end of the season. Unfortunately, I am unable to update you with all the individual leagues changes in our normal Excel format, as there have already been many rearrangements, and these are already displayed on the website league pages. Clubs are advised to look at their leagues for the new published dates.

Our CVL leagues for U9 and U11 have been pushed back from January, starting with the original fixtures published starting now in February.

The January CVL have been moved to the weekend of Saturday 5 June 2021.

We are still uncertain of the guidance that will be given for this format of our game, as a result, we are unable to publish anything at this time. We will endeavour to feedback to clubs any changes and confirm the format for this season by the time the end of January rolls around.

The YBL office will remain open at this time for any questions from our members. Our details can be found on screen and in the 'Contact the YBL' section of the website.

I look forward to updating you all in early December. Until then; keep active, keep involved, speak with friends and stay safe.

NEW YBL CLOTHING RANGE

The start of our new YBL clothing range is being rolled out, starting with our new 2020 Referee top (left), with our Grey Officials top (right). Order yours now from the website. Courtesy of our good friends at Bigfoot Basketball, there are more items to follow, including our new Table top and Soft shell YBL Officials Jacket.

STARTING OF WITH DEVELOPMENT



James Davies

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This year we are fortunate to have been given some funding to help towards the development of referees and table officials, in the form of helping fund individual courses. We are still waiting to facilitate our own courses, but in the meantime we will be opening a window of opportunity for individuals who are able to find courses on-line.

For the next two weeks we'll be accepting Grant Aid forms from individuals wishing to be supported on their Officials Journey. You can find the Grant Aid form in the downloads section of the YBL website. There will be two rounds of funding as set out below.

- November Monday 09** **ROUND 1** Junior Member Round **Tuesday 3 until Monday 9 November 2020**
- November Monday 16** **ROUND 2** Senior Member Round **Tuesday 10 until Monday 16 November 2020**

This funding is only available to registered members of the YBL at the stage. We will only be accepting Grant Aid requests for referee and table official courses at this stage.

IMPORTANT NEW DATES

NOV SUNDAY 22 **Player Registration Forms** Rearranged Date

Teams playing the opening weekend to submit their player registration forms for processing. Late entries after this date, may not be processed in time for your players to play their first fixture. Teams playing at a later stage, will need to submit at least 7-days before their first fixture.

NOV SUNDAY 29 **Pre-Season Rearrangements** Rearranged Date

Deadline for pre-season rearrangements between clubs must be completed before this date. Any rearrangements after this date will need to be done using the online Game Form following league rules.

DEC SUNDAY 06 **17:00 Administrative Conference** Rearranged Date

Team Managers, Club Secretaries & Covid-19 Officers

Pre-season conference YBL clubs, for the above positions within your club. It will be mandatory for at least one of those members to attend the conference call for this information to be passed onto members of staff from your club.

DEC SUNDAY 06 **19:00 Officials Conference** Rearranged Date

Referees and Table Officials

Pre-season conference YBL officials. It will be mandatory for at least one of those of your selected officials to attend the conference call for this information to be passed onto members of staff from your club. All other officials are welcome to attend.

JAN SATURDAY 09 **OUR NEW LOOK SEASON** Rearranged Date **JULY SATURDAY 31**

The start date has been pushed back to the second weekend of January (weekend of the 9th) and we have extended the season to end Saturday 31 July 2021.

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