



2024/25 Girls Secretary's Report

Summary of the Season and Beyond

This season I actively tried to encourage all youth teams to develop a team in each league with a view to dual registration for those that wanted it. This allows managers to assist development by ensuring all their girls played at the correct level (i.e. strivers tend towards West Riding Girls League and those needing a little more time on the ball into the Harrogate & Craven District Girls League. This has had mixed results as some first timers in the West Riding league have found it too demanding and inflexible in their rulings, whereas some who have spent the season in the Harrogate league haven't had enough matches and have found it difficult to sort friendlies for the gaps between.

In summary what will happen next season is a fair few teams shifting between leagues but in essence we will end up with a reasonable spread between the two. Lower age groups are certainly looking to start development teams in Harrogate league and, as confidence builds, they're moving over to West Riding league which makes good sense. There is a reluctance amongst managers to play weekly in the Harrogate league and until this changes development in the West Riding league will be more progressive.

We have 3 new teams next season (at U7, U8 and U10's) and the new U10's team will make their age group the first to have three teams which is fantastic. We will also create a new U6's dev team and an Open Age women's team which will provide an outlet for all our girls as they finish their grassroots journey.

Many thanks

Andy Craddock

Girls Secretary