

CLUB COMMUNICATIONS 2024-25 SEASON

Date Sent	21 st August 2024
Subject(s)	National League 2024-25 – Update

Dear all

Just a follow-up to Friday's email regarding team entries. Just a few more items of housekeeping for your consideration.

TEAM ENTRIES

Team entries are confirmed, not only on payment of entry and affiliation fees, but also once any outstanding invoices/fines are settled. A number of clubs were fined for non-attendance at the AGM and invoiced accordingly, and a number of these remain unsettled. If you are unsure as to whether this applies to you and whether it has been paid, now is the time to ask!

Please also note that if you are wishing to add teams at this stage, then it is likely those requests will be waitlisted, pending responses from other clubs. It often isn't as simple as just adding a team to a competition – as an example, changing a competition from 16 to 17 teams requires 4 additional matchdays to be found in the calendar. At this stage, we will explore options but cannot make any guarantees.

E-SCORING

Just to reiterate on previous communication, e-scoring in Premier Division and Division 1 and 2 matches this season is **mandatory**, but we are already hearing that one club is intending to not e-score their matches. It is just worth advising that fines will be applied for non-compliance, and, *in extremis*, additional sanctions may be applied for repeat offenders. The cost of a laptop will be far less than the cost of a weekly fine, so please do the right thing and help us all to raise the profile of the game. Division 3 matches will be scored using paper scoresheets.

For those clubs who did flag the need for assistance, I will be finalising the details of a training session with Gianni at Genius Sports for an evening in September and will let you know once the date has been confirmed. There will only be one session booked, so please ensure that your club is represented, if you have asked for help.

Finally, on this topic, please reflect on the fact that all clubs have been on notice since last October that e-scoring was coming and would be made mandatory, initially from January 2024 and then the end of the season. A laptop grant scheme was made available to clubs last year, to help with the costs of sourcing same, and that was funded from a one-off funding pot from Sport Ireland. From a governing body perspective, we have done everything we can to prepare clubs for this, it is now time for clubs to pick up the baton and prepare for the season.

PLAYER REGISTRATIONS & TRANSFERS

We are already receiving requests for transfer forms, for players to move clubs. If any come to you, please be minded that teams aren't yet finalised for the coming season until the team entry and affiliation fees are paid, so on the basis of that cutoff being 31st August, the transfer process cannot begin 1st September, and players should not assume that simply changing their Club on JustGo is an adequate workaround.

In terms of player registrations, please note that I have added teams to each Club on JustGo, all of which begin NL0, NL1, NL2 or NL3. These are the lists that players need to be added to in order to receive their player numbers for the season.



Attachments: