**NWHL Report for Season 2016 – 17**

This season although we started with 45 teams entered, only 43 were competing through the season. Within the Cup and Shield competition, 15 competed in the Cup with 10 in the Shield which is a rise on last year due in the main by the re-entry of the University teams. The results of the competitions were as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Winners | Runners - up |
| Premier Division | Newark 1 | SBU III |
| Division 1 | Nottingham Trent Uni 1 | Nottingham University III |
| Division 2 | Newark III | Woodthorpe 1 |
| Division 3 | Nottingham Trent Uni II | Beeston VII |
| Cup | Nottingham University II | Newark 1 |
| Shield | Beeston VI | Worksop III |

Overall the season ran smoothly as, with a late Easter, even the crammed 12 team Premier Division managed to fit in their fixtures. There were more fines this season partly due to a slight increase in conceded matches but also for admin issues. There were also a few complaints this season regarding umpiring and sportsmanship which the committee had to resolve.

The leagues again this season were highly competitive with the race for the Premier Division settled on the last match between four possible teams. Newark and Nottingham Trent University have had particularly successful seasons within the divisions.

The Cup and Shield matches were played on a boiling hot day with some great matches. It was the Shield this year which went to extra time and penalties much to the enjoyment of a large group of spectators. The Cup match was settled in normal time with Nottingham University IIs denying Newark the double this season.

The AGM for this season is to be held on 11th May. Currently there are no changes proposed for the handbook. There is however still the possibility of having to move to 5 leagues in the near future should entries for the next season go over 48 teams. It is a handover year as WBM are taking over the role of league secretary which should serve to strengthen the committee as I believe many of the current reps are staying on.

The pre-season meeting has been booked for the 7th September at Highfields.