

SDJSFL League Survey 2019

The League has an annual survey to help League development. The survey was open to all players, managers, club officials, parents and referees.

Not every respondent answered every question.

The number of responses: 952

What is your main role	Responses	Percentage
Players	196	21%
Manager/Coaches	354	37%
Referees	60	6%
Parents/Spectators	234	25%
Club Official	108	11%

Which are the following are you aware of:

	Yes - Aware	No - not aware
League App	52%	48%
League Twitter	54%	46%
League Facebook	66%	34%
League Website	87%	13%
Birthday email sent to players	18%	82%
Refs giving Respect scores	52%	48%
League Funding	31%	69%
League Newsletter	71%	29%
Club badges on First Buses	74%	26%

The League has a loan pilot for U7-U10 (this allows players to be loaned across on a match day to their opponents if a team is short of players). Would you like to see this carried forward for future seasons? (Note this was voted in at a past League AGM by clubs and is a National FA pilot)

Yes	68%
No	32%

Yes (u7-u10 only)	43%
Yes (all age-groups)	25%
No	32%

If you have been involved in a game when the loan pilot has taken place what are your thoughts on it?

- ❖ It has worked well. More kids get an opportunity to play, which can only be a good thing!
- ❖ It was perfect for under 9s. That was the only time we've used it.
- ❖ Saved us from not playing as able to loan opponents two players to get the game on. Everyone played and good time had by all.
- ❖ It is good to ensure a more even game
- ❖ I think it's a good idea, enables players to still play rather than either calling off a game or playing with less players. All players are still enjoying the day and learning
- ❖ I think it's a good idea but should be changed to u7 to u12 Many games cancelled due to short on players
- ❖ Dislike the idea
- ❖ Game would of got called off but informed opponents of this and it went ahead.
- ❖ It's great
- ❖ I think its good for us but when u get older they could make their team win and the other team lose
- ❖ Can make a player feel that they are not good enough for their team and if the team they play with loose it can cause friction between players. As a coach you don't know that players strengths so giving instructions may upset their play
- ❖ Don't agree!
- ❖ My players where unhappy about playing for the opposition team
- ❖ Very good
- ❖ Didn't think it was fair on the team to play against there own member.
- ❖ I didn't use this because i didn't want to alienate one of my players who wouldn't understand the good intentions behind the idea and would view it negatively to the detriment of our team spirit.
- ❖ It seems unfair on the loaned player to play against his own team.
- ❖ Not good. Player got picjed on for playing on oposite team.
- ❖ Some teams don't like it. Demorilising.
- ❖ It's not fair to play with less men
- ❖ More players playing. A win win for all.
- ❖ It was a friendly match and player played very well
- ❖ Great for development, takes the "win at all costs" element out of the game.
- ❖ It's Good idea , children of all ages should be encouraged to play with one another
- ❖ A fair solution to a team being short on players.
- ❖ Other teams do not always want to do this nor do my club team so doesn't work as effectively as the power play option.
- ❖ Kept a game on and kept everyone involved. A great idea
- ❖ Best and probably only way to even up the sides at short notice.
- ❖ Good idea
- ❖ Keeps games on.
- ❖ Helped make the experience more enjoyable
- ❖ Great innovation
- ❖ It is fine at U7 and U8 but identity is important beyond that, the players may not want to switch teams
- ❖ Helps get rid of win of all cost managers
- ❖ Created a much more friendlier game between the players and spectators.
- ❖ My son swapped teams and now when he sees the opponents he always says hello to them.
- ❖ Terrific idea. Well done to all.

The League opted to enable the FA Power-Play for U7-U10 (this allows players to be added to the team if a team is losing by 4 goals or more). Would you like to see this carried forward for future seasons? (Note this was voted in at the last League AGM by clubs)

Yes	72%
No	28%

Yes (u7-u10 only)	53%
Yes (all age-groups)	19%
No	28%

If you have been involved in a game where the power-play has taken place what are your thoughts on it?

- Good idea
- The reason I don't think it's great is at 5 a side level when other teams have 7 on they get in each other's way and start not trying as there are too many on field
- It works well
- I don't think the kids benefit from it and can be confusing for them
- It didn't help the losing team it hindered them by flooding the pitch i.e. if players are all chasing the ball then additional players make it worse.
- Used both when winning and losing, it HAS to be continued.
- It kept the score down
- More players playing
- In my experience when playing teams that are significantly better than us it is viewed as a pity play to the better team. In fact one coach actually referred to it as 'the mercy rule'. I don't feel that it adds any benefit to the game, so far it has just made our boys feel worse about a loss.
- I feel it just confuses the children.
- Give the trailing team the opportunity to get back into the game
- Confused the players
- It's good for the kids that are losing
- Can be good for the match team 4 down can recover and usually score to put confidence back
- Worked well
- Yes very much in favour
- I've spoken to the opposite coach to remind them of the power play rule so we could try and keep the game even
- Very confusing because it is usually forgotten about till it's too late!
- It's a great idea and has been used numerous times.
- Good as about fairness
- Good idea
- Makes no difference at all.
- The players got confused over positions and if a further goal was scored to equalise, players do not want to leave field of play. Some managers opted not to do power play..
- Thought it worked really well, although I think there should be more transparency with it, seemed to be a little underhanded,
- Created a much more even game

- Made the team winning work harder, losing team gained a bit of confidence. However, didn't make a huge difference overall.
- It made the game closer
- I think powerplay undermines the way that we teach the kids, we have a pitch of a specific size and are helping them to understand positions within the playing space. Powerplay doesn't support this, crowds the space and breaks up the organisation within the team. Also it is my view that there should be a more effective grading system implemented by the league to ensure that teams are more evenly matched.
- Gives a false result and feeling for you players
- Good idea...players don't get too demoralised....more kids involved
- It just seems stupid
- I really like it as it enables a period of play where it is competitive for both teams and offers a bit extra game time for players on the bench at the time.
- It allows more play time for the players if you have subs it challenges the opposition. Most of the time the players don't realise it has gone to power play
- Don't agree!
- Makes for a better game for both sides
- It works well & it keeps the chins up of the losing team
- I do think it's good to help out the teams, although think it's then not realistic for the winning/losing side.
- more players can make playing harder. less room and more issues.
- Opposing coaches have declined this option on several occasions as they say it can be disheartening to their players and could potentially make them feel worse if the extra player doesn't effect the scoreline
- Worked well in our experience
- Not good teaches children if they are not good enough they get help and this isn't real life this happen s in no other aspect of life both as a child or adult
- not enough teams use it
- This is a good initiative, but should be for development ages only.
- The match becomes chaotic. We train and play in a set formation this messes this up and confuses them. More players means less space or doesn't work. Please ditch the idea.
- Was very uncertain at first, but it seemed to have a positive effect, but would only use it at the youngest couple of age groups.
- I do not feel it helped either team, it confused the team that had extra players and demoralised them further when we scored further goals even with the power players!
- Too many kids in the pitch, parents not understanding what is happening and abuse or unnecessary confusion caused.
- No club was embraced to put extra player on
- Helps balance the scores, prevents players from becoming demoralised.
- It made the game more fair and helped the opposition so they didn't get upset
- Good as it gives losing team more chance to keep the score lower
- Great for development, takes the "win at all costs" element out of the game.
- Quite useful as it makes it more enjoyable for everybody involved.
- Makes the team struggle with the extra player on the team but you can also see the benefits at times
- Very good for both teams. Avoided the difficulties faced previously.
- Works well
- It's a good idea because it's a way of trying to balance the strength of the teams.
- A good idea
- Very effective, gives the losing team a chance to gain some confidence

- I have watched teams who could of used this rule but be it due to pride or just not willing to accept the offer of help it has mostly been declined so the score and game has become a joke even if other manager has moved players around into unfamiliar positions and rules like so many passes before a goal or weaker foot only , the rule needs to become mandatory.
- Worked really well. One of the best ideas as it really even's things up. Although surprised that some teams don't want to do this if their team goes 4 goals behind.
- Enables teams to be more balanced but not all managers will use it as see it as a weakness which I do not believe is correct!
- We are a under 7 side where this can be confusing to players as ultimately we train as 5 a side and therefore the players are not used to playing with 6 or even 7. I believe this actually hinders a game and is not always benificial
- I think it's good For team moral and support in younger groups however in older ages football needs to be as close to the fa rules as possible.
- It took place with little fuss. Only issues we had is one team did not want to do it because they wanted to hammer us, then again he was a poor excuse of a coach as kept his best players on all the time and never used his subs to give equal game time.
- Too early to judge it as only done one game on power play
- I don't think it teaches the children anything! Kids have to accept to lose as well as win. Our team didn't use it when we lost 5-0 as the management didn't agree with it, and in my opinion quite rightly so. But a team we beat did use it and ended up with 2 extra players on and still lost 7-0, how do you think that makes kids feel? Just my opinion and I know they're kids, but it's a sport, it's competitive....you've got to take the rough with the smooth and teach kids life's not easy and you can't win everything!
- I have witnessed several games where Power-Play was used. I feel it is important to continue to adopt the Power-Play for several reasons. I games that I saw it used, the losing side did NOT leave the pitch after the game in a demoralised state. The kids left the match with a smile on their face as they didn't get beaten 20 - 0. The referee controlled the Power-plays in an excellent manner. I believe Power-Play should remain in place for the remainder of the season for Under 7 to Under 10.
- I have been involved in several games where Power-play has made a huge difference to the final outcome of Enjoyment of All players and Spectators. Some Managers may disagree with Power-Play but how would they feel if they were on the receiving end of a heavy defeat by 10 or 20 goals. The introduction of the Power play has increased the excitement of the game in Junior football. It encourages the team WITH the Power play to score and reduce the deficit in score. It encourages the team WITHOUT the Power play to work towards improving basic technical skills in football by passing the ball more accurately and precise to team-mates. It can encourage better TEAMWORK throughout both teams. It has improved the spectator experience by making games more exciting and Parents and Spectators have embraced this. As my role as Referee, I have thoroughly enjoyed Games where Power play has led to a more competitive game and has provided an increase in the level of enjoyment for the Kids. Due to the introduction and successful implementation of Power-Play where applicable, I have seen for myself that following the completion of the games that no child has left looking miserable and demoralised following a heavy defeat. Finally, I believe that Power-play should continue to be used and that If Managers elect NOT to use it then that should be fed back to the League by the Referees through the Referee Respect Scores and by Managers using the Full-Time notification of results. Prior to the introduction of the trial of Power-Play, Managers who's sides were winning by more than 6 goals often failed to Manage the mis-match and instead would continue to encourage their team to 'keep banging goals in' This can't be good for the game of Football in this country at that Level. Please keep the Power-Play for the Under 7's to Under 10's
- It works but beyond U11 they are categorised by ability, in theory

PLAYERS ONLY: If you could go back in time, would you join your team again?

Yes	79%
Not Sure	12%
No	9%

PLAYERS ONLY: What do you enjoy most about playing for your team?

- Friends
- Making friends and having fun
- The team play good passes and help to score.
- Having fun
- Team mates
- Meeting new people
- Team spirit making friends
- Playing with friends
- Playing with mates
- Friends
- Spending time with my friends and playing a hobby
- Camaraderie
- Scoring goals
- Everyone is so nice. No mardy players
- Playing football
- Funding
- To Learning new things
- Team mates - all get on well. Manager's are very supportive and make the training sessions interesting.
- Playing with my friends
- Get to make new friends
- Friends ive made
- Winning
- We've got a good coach. We've got some good players in our squad. Proud to be captain.
- Playing in a good team with great coaches.
- The manager paul and coach paul
- Having fun
- We are family, we play for each other .
- I love football & having fun with my team mates
- Playing with my friends and having fun
- We all get on and my coach is really good

What are the big challenges that face your club?

- Funding
- Finances
- Funding
- Finances. Parents not communicating.
- Running costs
- Money and getting volunteers to join club
- Expectation from the league. The need to remember we are volunteers
- Lack of good quality pitches
- Getting the right mix of parents and kids.
- water logged pitches, playing friendlies
- Securing Referees for home matches, quality of opponents pitches,
- The league table matches are too hard
- FA Whole Game System. Our girls team use it and to go to that system would be backwards step.
- Money (lack of) and poor standard of facilities / pitches.
- The FA. They are throwing up problems and preventing us from developing.
- Referees
- Facilities
- Finding available referees
- Player recruitment / volunteer recruitment
- Attracting more/better players
- For me it's a lot of the things behind the back scenes.
- Opposite team being rude
- Modernisation. Lack of facilities/ownership of land.
- been able to afford stuff for the boys ie balls and training equipment
- Parents and funding
- Having everyone let us know efficiently when they are not available, and other clubs not doing equal playing time like we do.
- Keeping interest going.
- keeping parents happy trying to ensure they all get equal playing time
- Signing players- team has struggled to field 11 plus subs
- Best ask the Chairman
- Paying subs
- Committee communication, or lack of!
- Finance and needless paperwork
- The attitude with appointments players parents!
- The county fa not helping and answering to emails.
- Finding suitable referees and players/spectators abiding by the respect code
- Money, players, coaches
- Keeping players season to season. In the bottom division we have to play against teams each year that join from other leagues or teams from higher in the league who simply changed their name/joined another club who are much better than teams at our level and should be playing higher up. This makes it hard to keep our better players who move on, it's unfair on the players of parents who volunteer at the club who don't have any choice.
- Pitches and funding
- Uneven ability leagues. Fixture clashes between 2 teams with the same coaches
- Communication, parental commitment, funding for coaching badges etc

- Pitch quality, sufficient referees and of the required standard.
- Generating the required amount of money. Attracting and keeping players when there are other clubs close by. Maintaining the playing surface. Competing games at the right level.
- Raising morale when not winning. Money issues. Cost of pitch hire.
- We are in the wrong league again
- Massive losses on a weekly basis due to been placed in the wrong playing league 2 years running
- Inadequate safeguarding lack of respect for parents
- Getting the managers approval
- Handling parents expectations and continuing to provide quality facilities to play at.
- Funding for kits
- Not being listened to, maintaining morale of teams being placed in divisions far above the ability range which leaves young players vulnerable to bullying.
- Non funding especially from FA. Sub fees too much and not fair for parents to pay £180 for the year.
- Organising fixtures around school holidays and securing refs for games
- Funding and the discrimination from the league to certain teams/areas
- Volunteers
- The expenses of playing in the league.
- Passing
- pitch condition, lack of other facilities near by
- Funding is the main issue we are finding
- Keeping players motivated for the remainder of the season knowing they are likely to be defeated heavily in 10 of their remaining 11 games (1 other team in the league appear to be in the same position as us ie 3 or 4 leagues too high).
- Getting and retaining volunteers - parents want their children to play football but are often unwilling to support the club by volunteering. Adequate pitches - there are not enough quality pitches available for all the teams in the Sheffield area. When we play away against teams from Chesterfield, Rotherham and Barnsley their pitches are of much better quality. Club and Team Sponsorship - we do not want to increase the subs for players but if we do not find adequate sponsorship for kit we may have to.
- Fund raising
- Travel
- Recruiting players
- Player motivation
- getting referees
- Arguing with own players
- Parking and funding
- I've no idea we only have one meeting every May when it's always doom and gloom so I'd rather keep out of it!
- Funding and finding refs
- Creating more facilities to support more kids teams.
- Funding for drainage
- Bit too much travel . A lot of parents don't have transport putting a lot on those that do
- Funding and non footballers cleaning up after their dogs. People seem to let their dogs mess around the penalty spot/goal mouth intentionally
- County FA referee ID card scheme. A total disaster this season. A crystal clear example of how the County FA cant deliver what volunteers can. The league need to do it again next season so it gets done.
- Funding and facilities

- Juggling different abilities and juggling playing for enjoyment but also wanting the team to progress and develop. Also keeping a positive atmosphere with personality/attitude clashes. It's doable but a challenge :)
- Don't know
- Retaining players, playing facilities.
- Soon we play 9 a side and We're not ready to play 9 a side. It's hard to train cos we have no lights or the pitch is wet
- Money to provide all equipment and kit for children
- Being placed in a Division above our abilities two years running which has not been addressed by the league.
- Red tape/costs/facilities/referees/player recruitment
- Top of the league table and players turning up
- Weather issues
- Funding and assistance from our secretary's
- The state of pitches, and finding referees
- Losing players as they change interests as they get older
- Money and playable pitches
- Pitch and referee availability
- Finance
- Balance of ability across the league teams that motivate or demotivate players if they are not even. Promoted teams allowed to play in lower leagues just to trophy hunt are both demoralising and teaching impressionable teenagers poor sportsmanship values
- Getting people to do things outside their own age group teams.
- Financial sustainability; ensuring sufficient numbers of volunteers to run the club and to manage/coach teams; for some teams, ensuring sufficient numbers of players in a squad to be sustainable over the course of a season.
- Insuring that we do not a "Click of Officials" dominating the club
- Finances and communication.
- None its kids football and all about enjoyment whilst having a slight competitive edge
- Parents thinking they know more than coaches
- Funding & Space. We are growing at a fantastic rate but we need additional pitches. As things stand we are bursting at the seams with more teams lined up for the new season as well.

What does the League do well?

- big itself up
- Love Futsal for the younger age groups
- Keep everyone well informed.
- comunicate
- Organises and support
- Social media
- Respect campaign
- Communicate.
- Excellent help at all times of the day.
- Not sure
- Well organized with the amount of clubs and players
- Communicate and league online system works well. Love the new features added.
- Enables so many children to play / enjoy football
- Creating fixture schedules for so many teams.
- Fines
- Fine
- Player registrations admin
- Competitions
- Organise fixtures early
- Organises leagues and fixtures very well, especially considering how many clubs and teams the are.
- Everything they should do.
- Organise futsal
- Social media
- Good communication via newsletters.
- Organise futsal
- Organised fixtures
- Organisation
- Find new ways to fine clubs for indiscretions
- communicate
- Seems to be well organised
- Match fixtures
- Organises cup comps etc...
- not really a question
- Post on Facebook
- Communication on the newsletter to all managers and the club logos on buses is top of class.
- Newsletter
- Newsletter
- Thank you for the League funding we have received. It has meant we have had one player who's family simply cannot afford to pay are able to continue to play. The club also received funding for coaching and referee course saying a lot of money so thanks again.
- Meetings
- So many things. Very forward thinking, willing to take on pilots like the sin bin, power play & loan scheme, encouraging fair play, links with the Childrens Hospital ... too many to single 1 out.
- Organise the sponsorship
- Advertising the league and it's associated partners.
- Social media

- Newsletters and communications
- Managers that give up their own time are truly amazing.
- I spoke to a family relative heavily involved in football in Stoke a month ago. He was asking about this League. When I enquired why, it was because this League is highly regarded as one of the best in England for its approach, communication and innovation. I never realised just how lucky we are.
- Excellent administration, not easy.
- Communication is generally very good with lots of platforms to interact with league news.
- Communication is good.
- With regards to the above - nothing
- Fixtures
- Ease of finding information is good, communication with managers / clubs is easy and the set-up of the leagues are good also.
- Providing feedback and praise
- Treat people with a total lack of respect, be condescending & belligerent.
- Fine junior clubs for minor mistakes.
- Organisation of the multiple leagues and teams
- Website
- Organisation
- Organisation
- Fine clubs.
- Protect the children playing
- communicate
- Publishes the praise
- Providing a structure for children to play football.
- "Player registration is brilliant, all the age registrars do a great job.
- Great communication through newsletters and the websites, particularly as it now has a search facility.
- Fixture arrangement is very good generally."
- The website is very informative and up to date
- Great info always
- Fixtures
- The league are great overall as they give a platform for a fantastic morning every week for kids
- The league are great overall as they give a platform for a fantastic morning every week for kids
- Don't know
- Unsure
- Nothing
- I think the league is really well run
- Most things
- Provides a fundamental platform for the whole Sheffield area to play football
- Advertise it self
- Promotes itself
- Player registrations and team registration is easy. I have used the ref system and that worked well. Not sure many are using the friendly service as had no joy from that. Was surprised when my son got an email from the league wishing him a happy birthday, it was a lovely touch.
- ??
- Well organised, good ethos.
- Don't know

- Newsletter, promoting the league, the sin bin rule, the power play rule.
- Provides a good environment for kids to learn how to play and enjoy football
- Decent organisation of cups/fixtures. Respect and communication of offers/issues/general information
- Organised
- advertising
- Fine people
- Fixtures and cup comps
- They organise matches really well
- Unsure
- Communication
- Fixture organisation
- organises matches and has good, well trained and caring coaches on the whole
- Good at communicating information via their newsletter and website.
- The newsletter is excellent; the induction and help for new managers is very good and the registrar for my team's age group (U14) has been brilliant in helping with player registrations and cancelled/rearranged fixtures. It is also excellent that the League insists on a manager having the FA L1 coaching qualification and all managers/coaches being DLS checked.
- My experience in my first season as a manager has been very positive: I have been very impressed with the respect shown by all our opponent and the support offered to me by more experienced managers.
- Sends and distributes fees!
- Provide information
- Broad beam communication. Direct communication with clubs could be better at times but that's an observation, not a criticism, as I realise at busy times it can be difficult.
- Keeping hundreds of kids active in a safe environment.
- Communication and funding
- informative
- Administration
- Reseeding at Xmas
- The respect line is generally well observed.
- Planning
- Communication is good.
- Make it very professional
- Good Communication
- Communication
- Keeps everyone up to date with what's going on
- Run SDJSL, its all reasonably good, one or two frustrations

What solutions do you have to improve the League?

- make things simple make it more fun for everyone involved. Less red tape (excluding welfare and child safety)
- I'd like to see the league incorporate futsal for the older age groups
- I think things need looking at when pairing new teams up at start of the season taking all information into account
- none its doing fine
- Improve / simplify the players forms
- Less fines. Been fined this season even when not guilty.
- Futsal for older age-groups.
- Ref ID card to be done by the League again as this season with the county doing it its become a shambles with massive delays.
- Better levelling out of teams, for example this year our boys have been placed in a league way above their abilities. They have lost every single match and it has been demoralizing for them. These kids are 9 years old and just want to enjoy the game, this is nearly impossible when they are getting thrashed every Sunday. We don't expect to win every match but a more level playing field should be provided.
- Not jump teams to many steps up in the league and keep the games competitive but fair for both sides
- Registration needs to be made easy and maybe a third party company do it clubs do more than enough but you still charge as well as affiliation fees. Same you also now charge for postponed games. If you want to keep player playing I suggest you invest in 3/4g so team's can train at a reduced cost.
- Players looking for a team to advertise themselves instead of the current system of teams advertising needing players.
- One "A" division across all age groups.
- More reductions in coaching courses.
- Better meeting venue
- Longer winter break
- Flexibility a more common sense approach more respect for the fact that we are all working voluntarily and doing our best
- Less post match administration
- Winter break and extend season - fixtures that are scheduled for the winter period rarely happen, and are often difficult to fit in and rearrange. It often results in struggles over winter and a summer period where clubs are idle.
- I'm pretty happy with the organisation to be honest.
- None
- Stop fining people, and stop charging to register players. It's ridiculous how much profit the league makes from its member clubs
- Put the fine money back into the clubs
- Rules and regulations are hard to find. An online secure library/intranet would be really helpful.
- Stop fining people, and stop charging to register players. It's ridiculous how much profit the league makes from its member clubs
- For cup games have more equal fixtures based on ability
- Things should be in place to help and protect players from teams that fold so they can continue playing for other teams even if that means some teams going over the max squad number
- Stop issuing stupid fines

- stop messing around with loan pilot and power play - how can a team learn from their own mistakes by adding extra players if losing? The most ridiculous idea ever.
- Fines for minor rule breaks which are enforced seem petty, when clear breaches of sporting behaviour when reported seem to go unpunished.
- Not treat volunteer coaches & managers as a source of income. Educate rather than simply through fines at clubs. Create open dialogues with managers. You communicate solely with committee members which in the large do not filter information down. You promote engagement with children as they are rightly important. I therefore propose you engage directly with managers as they are equally important. Trust and faith has been lost with the league due to bus passes not being delivered upon, despite being promised. Coupled with no communication to the status. If that was a club it would have been heavily fined.
- Better dialogue with club officials
- More fair and even groups when fixtures are released
- Stronger more experienced refs
- Start at u6 and move up to u21
- The league be more willing to support referees when they have a game at which could be some controversy
- Be more willing to attend club meetings to explain decisions, rules etc to managers and answer their questions - face-to-face!
- Suspend regular match sheet offending managers. Only thick uneducated managers keep breaking the same rules all the time. We have one in our club and every club meeting he blames the league for petty fines but if you keep doing the same mistake every week despite club officials sitting down and going through it with them, do only idiot and it's not the registrar.
- Advertise when teams are looking for coaches/managers
- I would make all new/reformed teams play in a couple of "ranking" tournaments to help decide where they play, would also let the league observe the new team's approach to Respect, SDJSFL is years ahead of a lot of leagues in this area and it's noticeable in teams from other leagues.
- Listen to the grassroots coaches and clubs, ask before you implement things and the fines are over the top
- Extend transfer window.
- More even ability leagues in younger ages.
- Fixtures organised at the start of the new season with refs and times/ locations. It is horrendous for families to organise their weekend waiting for matches to be sorted. All other sports are much better organised.
- Keep up the good work.
- We have to get kids away from playing football in Dec / Jan / Feb
- A grading game system needs to be developed to enable teams to compete at the appropriate level. This would also apply to the cup competition, week one of cup arrangements is a waste of time and demoralising for the weaker teams.
- The league needs to be more flexible with games when they are postponed. An extension would be welcomed to the end of May to complete all league matches.
- More understanding regarding the effect the massive losses have on the kids playing
- Remove unsafe managers our voice is not heard by the club or league
- Better pitches
- "The "fine" system seems complex and excessive. Sometimes I think the league forget we are volunteers that have full-time jobs alongside families to support....so £20 to £100 fines for admin issues or being late in submitting a result, etc are too much. The appeals process seems pointless too as I've yet to meet anyone that's overturned a fine yet.

- Also, as a new manager this season issuing a "how to" guide for all of the full time reporting, emailing opponents, matchday admin requirements....would have been a real benefit. Too often I've been at matches where neither manager is 100% sure on the process or what they need to supply."
- Fixtures to be sent out to managers
- Training in how to communicate in an appropriate & professional manner. Training on problem solving with focus on understanding that resolution rather than militancy is a positive outcome for all. Training in decision making, focusing on the fact that each decision impacts greatly on young people.
- Stop being too stuffy and get rid of the fines and have a more relaxed and pleasant approach to kids football!!!
- Allow for more flexibility when it comes to moving fixtures. There are times, especially during school holidays and bad weather that means games can not be played. Fining a team for this is not the solution, however allowing the managers to arrange at a more convenient time (even if its mid week) makes more sense
- Change the favouritism and prejudices
- Stiffer sanctions for poor attitudes and/or dirty play
- Use a card system to warn people instead of fining constantly
- Parents to have a better availability of league standing and information.
- More common sense required when sorting out the leagues. 18 defeats from 18 league games during 2017/18 season and only relegated by one division despite appeals etc. Defeats this season include 15v0, 17v1, 13v0, 13v1, 9v0, 10v2 show how poor this decision was, not sure how either team can benefit from this type of scoreline.
- Vetting of clubs joining the League - We have had some Clubs joining the League recently who have a total disregard for respect to players (both their own and opposition), opposition coaches and spectators.
- More proactive approach to Clubs and teams with a history of poor respect - The League sending out match watchers to games without the opposition requesting them first. The League displaying those Clubs and Teams with poor respect scores on the League website.
- More teams per league, kids really just want to play football. Last season our team went 6 weeks with no football due to weather & no match days.
- Fine clubs to easily
- Not much , best league in Yorkshire
- Games should mean setting at all ages you learn from winning or losing having a league where your results don't matter serves no purpose
- Nine
- Less fines for insignificant things
- Think when a teams struggling every week they need to act quicker in getting teams up against teams off a similar ability. What I mean is making them play 10 games his to long if there getting hammered and puts kids off. There only friendlys in younger age groups so think quicker and get them up against teams they will be competitive against
- Stop the arguing
- Unsure
- Play teams closer to where we live. Stop fining ! We mangers have a lot to sort out in our own time without this! Sort the ref situation as finding a ref through the web site does NOT work, allocate refs to matches! Other leagues in country do this. Publish all age group results to managers this helps to see how other teams are getting on against our own.
- The only issue I think could be improved on is access to a toilet(although I know it's not always possible). But sometimes a game can be an hour away, and adding warm up time, then the actual game. It can be hours with no toilet. Maybe the host team should give information on whether they have access to them, when arranging the game.

- More work on making sure the younger teams do not have so many mismatches.. power play doesn't always solve the problem.
- Check to ensure that fixtures are fair (equal number of home and away games) and listen and act upon feedback from the teams.
- Don't change it if it isn't broke ie power play . Crazy rule
- I don't like fines but can't think of an alternative. I had one fine for not re-arranging a game but when I check back I was told what to do on the email but forgot to action. Fixtures out earlier would be good.
- Help all clubs with 3g venues.(ie barnsley and other areas)not hust sheffield.
- Kick off times for fixtures well in advance so Sundays aren't written off for other activities (esp as it's a key family time outside of those who love football).
- Increase age that players have to retreat to the half way line.
- Get more volunteers to be ""mystery shoppers"", observing behaviour / Respect campaign.
- Make it compulsory for coaches to pass FA Level 1 qualification, with subsidised prices, and refer back to player development over winning games as much as possible.
- More observers at games to monitor the ability of coaches and to ensure the respect policy is being adhered to as some people fall short on the true values the game is about FA observers would then be able to see poor behaviour and be able to address this issue. Also referees should score teams and parent's for good or bad behaviour.
- More time taken in grading teams/remove respect questions from full time. These are an open invitation to air petty grievances & ultimately cost teams money in fines, fines that come from team funds that are there for the boys/girls to utilise for trips away/kit etc. None can be proven & these questions can be answered negatively for any number of reasons, none of which may be legitimate. This ultimately does not engender respect between clubs/teams etc.
- Better cup games not the ones that you only play 1 half of a game
- More severe punishment for abuse of ANY kind
- My son was bullied and i was forced out of a club by parents from my team. Everything i did was for the young lads and even now i see that their development has stagnated. The club did nothing to support me or my son. Luckily he has found another club with better managers support and ethics. I enjoy being a dad but i do miss the manager coach bit,
- Fine clubs to easily
- Less fines or more importantly put the fines to good use and push the money back into the teams to help less funded teams
- Power play positives highlighted more. Many managers at u7 - u10 think 'it is not real football' and refuse to do it!
- Increase number of teams and number of players in each team
- None
- League appointed referees. Understand this is hard to administer from a League point of view, but it is hard work to get registered referees for every game)
- i get the issues of transfers and players being ""poached"" but the rule about a player not been able to be de-registered from January to May could cause a child stop playing football which I believe should be the one and only aim of the league
- Let only teams of equal ability play in the same league and help motivate those that are new to the game / team / league by setting a fair and level playing field
- Talk more to coaches before league fixtures and cup matches are finalised and published. I think it would help to create fairer league and cup fixtures.
- As a new manager, I don't know at which stage, if any, we get feedback as a team in terms of how we are scored in relation to respect but any feedback would be most helpful to ensure that we are always meeting the required standards on this.

- The League has in my opinion become too officious, and takes very little account that at club level all officials Managers Coaches & helpers are unpaid volunteers. With this in mind please be mindful that without the volunteers there would be no clubs and therefore no Leagues.
- Better communication systems and older registrars who are more reliable to support children to play football more effectively. In addition to this better channels of communication with the FA and an accountability for players registered within the league when challenges are faced.
- Be more lenient with respect to fines
- Have a League Development Committee that meets every 1 to 3 months. The committee should include officers of the league, FA representation and club representatives. It should be kept relatively small - max 12 people for example - to ensure that the committee doesn't get bogged down.
- Sort leagues out better. Stocksbridge U13 currently in Div E and getting hammered most games, this after losing every game in Div D last season. Played 3 cup games this season, drew 2v2 against a team in Div I (who only had 10 players). Lost the other cup games to teams in Div G. Statistics like this should be used by the league.
- Move County FA
- clearer process for fixture changes
- More club involvement in decision making
- Wouldn't have any double teams for u7-u10
- Make sure they stick to the rules and never change them for some teams
- See above regarding the transition from 7 to 9 a side.
- Please get rid of the A-K system for Under 13s. The Blue/Green streams is a lot fairer.
- Make older teams accept ref appointments
- Fixtures released earlier, perhaps more consultation on them.
- Review results of sides and consider promoting and relegating more than 1 division at a time. Would avoid mismatches and reduce risk of teams folding.
- Start season the sunday after schools return not the sunday before they return. Avoid fixtures during October half term and Easter.
- Improving communication and transparency throughout the League in relation to many footballing matters
- Better education for Clubs, Managers, Coaches, players and Officials. For example, it still amazes me that Managers don't realise that Goal Difference does NOT count in Junior Football. This is despite the Leagues continued message on the Website and Newsletters
- Larger representation on the committee to visit games and feed back.