

## The rest of the 2020-21 season- what to do

Boris made an announcement that outdoor sports could start from the 29 March

The FA said that the season could be extended to mid June and at the moment our Mid Lancashire league are trying to work out what to do. They have asked for the views of all the teams and will decide in the next couple of weeks

They have the option of cancelling the rest of the season, just doing a few cup games or trying to play all the games to complete the season. To complete by early June it is expected that there will be a lot of night games as many teams share with Cricket ( meaning Saturdays aren't available) and with UCLAN closing many teams don't have a pitch

Our 1<sup>st</sup> team have 9 games left and 2<sup>nd</sup> team have 11. Most other teams have a lot more games to play. The first team have mostly away games remaining and these include 2 in Southport and others in Wigan, Morecambe and Liverpool.

Realistically the season wont finish till mid / late June- then the new season starts in mid August

I talked to Jay and Mark Kenyon ( who run the second team) and we are concerned that the COVID virus is still an issue. Certainly Jay and I are not comfortable about "mixing it " again until we have had our jabs.

I would also assume that that players will also have this concern about creating an exposure that is un-necessary ( particularly for away games where car sharing is frequent)

Our suggestion is this

- 1) We decline to complete the current season
- 2) Starting early June ( when many more people are vaccinated and the virus is less of a threat) both teams will start to arrange some evening or Saturday friendly games and start to build towards a good pre season and start to the next season
- 3) By doing this we avoid the still significant current threat and target next season

Please can you give me your views on this suggestion. We will take views into account

Thanks

Doug Birch