

Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees' Society Annual General Meeting

Thursday 27th May 2004

The President Mr. David Harrop chaired the meeting, and the following officers and members were present:

Mr Roy Birchall	Mr Paul Haworth	Mr Frank Mort
Mr Paul Byrne	Mr Gordon Howes	Mr Graham Ogden
Mr Karl Evans	Mr Gary Knowles	Mr Kevin Parker
Mr Gary Finch	Mr Norman Lea	Mr Rory Sales
Mr Gary Halliwell	Mr Ralph Livesey	Mr Don Wilson
Mr Dave Harrop	Mr David Mort	Mr Steven Wood

Apologies for absence were received from the following:

Mr Frank Brown	Mr David Massey	Mr Duncan Tighe
Mr Joe Cambray	Mr David Renshaw	Mr Gill Wilkinson
Mr Ronnie Drake	Mr Robert Smith	

The meeting opened at 8:35 (50 minutes late).

The President welcomed the members to the meeting, and apologised for the administrative inconvenience at the venue (Leigh RMI FC) leading to the late start and venue change, which was beyond the control of officers and members present.

Minutes of the previous AGM held 29th May 2003

No corrections were noted to the minutes of the previous AGM, and they were proposed (by Mr Frank Mort) and seconded (by Mr Graham Ogden) and accepted as a true record.

[Matters arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM held 29th May 2003](#): None

Point of order: Mr Roy Birchall noted a misprint in the letter of invitation to this meeting, where "The Society" was incorrectly referred to as "The Association". The meeting noted and agreed with this point.

Correspondence

None. (The Secretary was not present. No correspondence had been received by any member present in advance of the meeting). [Matters arising](#): None

Point of order: Mr David Mort noted that there was very little correspondence at the recent Executive Committee meeting, thus it was likely that none had been received by the secretary since then. The meeting noted and agreed with this point.

President's Remarks

Key Points:

- The Society has 38 members.
- 2003/4 has been an eventful and difficult year, but generally a successful one for its members.
- Meeting venue had changed from the Courts Hotel (after its difficulties) to Leigh RMI FC.
- Several speakers had been arranged during the year, but for various reasons only 1 attended.
- Eddie Wolstenholme proved to be an excellent speaker and had asked to return.
- Best wishes were offered to all levels of referee, recognised as a difficult but rewarding occupation.
- Karl Evans obtained Football League status this year, joining David Mort (last year)
- Sincere thanks were offered to officials, particularly The Chairman, The Secretary, EC members, and past and present Auditors.

Secretary's Report

None received

Treasurer's Report

Key Points:

The Society has 36 members and 2 life members.

An anomaly of £30 was evident regarding the amount of income from RA Draw tickets still due.

Trophies had been donated to the society by the makers, thus no charge was evident.

Halifax (deposit) balance was healthy at £1475.86, a rise of £346.92 over the year.

The Accounts were proposed (by Mr Norman Lea) and seconded (by Mr Karl Evans) and accepted as a true record.

Auditors' Report

Mr Don Wilson presented the auditors' report, which he said, "As usual represented accounts kept in an extremely good and professional manner". This was reflected in the written auditor's report that included a recommendation to members to accept the accounts.

The Auditor was :

Mr T Wellens
48 Coalville Road
St. Helens, WA11 9TJ

Vote of Thanks

The vote of thanks was given by Mr Roy Birchall. He thanked the present committee and members for all their efforts and attendance during what had been a "difficult" year.

Elections

The Committee and EC members were returned unopposed and without votes being cast, as follows:

President:	Mr David Harrop
Chairman:	Mr Frank Mort
Vice Chairman:	Mr Gill Wilkinson
Secretary:	Mr Duncan Tighe
Treasurer:	Mr David Harrop
Executive Committee:	Mr David Mort Mr Karl Evans Mr David Renshaw Mr Paul Haworth
Auditors:	Mr Don Wilson (and 1 other to be elected during the year)
Training Officers:	Mr Frank Mort Mr Duncan Tighe
Delegates:	None existing, required or volunteered

Alterations to Rule

There were no alterations to Society rules.

Presentation of Society Awards

The Jim Warburton Merit Award Trophy

The trophy was awarded to Paul Byrne for performance and attainment during the season.

The Stuart Hyde (Most Conscientious Referee) Trophy

The trophy was awarded to Gary Knowles.

Special Awards:

Karl Evan was presented with a special commemorative award for attainment of status during the 2003/4 season. He now has status as Football League Assistant Referee, and Football Conference Referee.

Bolton Boys' Federation Cup Final Appearance commemorative awards were presented to :

- Graham Ogden
- Kevin Parker
- Gordon Howes
- Norman Lea
- Gary Halliwell

Points of Order related to awards:

Mr Roy Birchall queried the future award of the Jack Boardman Trophy (Leigh vs Warrington vs Wigan Quiz trophy) and the Roy Birchall (Meritorious) Trophy.

Roy proposed that the trophies be used for an alternative purpose if it was not possible to award them for their traditional purposes.

Mr David Mort said he had spoken to Peter Gooch (Wigan Society) and Ian Siddall (Bolton Society) who were willing to compete. It was agreed to try to contact Warrington Society to see if they would also be interested.

Any Other Business

1. A night-out for referees in Leigh is planned on 19th June, starting at 6:30pm in the "Woo-Ing" Chinese Restaurant. Normal meal price would be £8.95 per head.
A proposal was put to the meeting, for the evening to be subsidised from Society Funds to the sum of £50. This was proposed by Mr Frank Mort, and seconded by Mr Graham Ogden. The proposal was carried unanimously.
2. The Atherton Charity Cup appointments had been made from the society's members this year (by Mr David Mort) Comments had been received from players, coaches and organisers that the competition had been well refereed, and special thanks should go to Mr Paul Byrne who had refereed the Final Tie.
3. A proposal was put to the meeting that a letter should be sent to Craig Mountford, expressing thanks for his past service as Society Auditor. The proposal was agreed to, by the meeting.
4. A proposal was put to the meeting that a letter of apology should be sent to Martin Smith and Dave Renshaw. It was regretted that they had attempted to attend this meeting, but due to a last minute change of venue, they had been unable to find and attend the meeting.

Meeting closed