

Minutes of The Leigh & District Association Football Referees Society'

Annual General Meeting held Thursday 26th May 2005

Mr Harrop in the chair with the following members present:

R Birchall, F Mort, D Tighe, P Haworth, K Evans, I Williams, G Knowles,
G Finch, G Halliwell, R Livesey, A Bennett, N Lea, G Ogden, R Drake,
D Wilson and S Eastwood

Apologies for absence: K Parker

Guests: T Massey (FA Premier League Assistant referee, elite group) and J Bennett

Minutes of the Annual General meeting held May 2004 had been posted to all registered members. [Matters arising](#) - thanks were offered to Paul Haworth who had minuted the meeting on behalf of the Secretary who was on holiday, at the date of the previous meeting.

Correspondence

- Referees Association conference information
- Eccles Referees Association monthly magazine
- Lancashire Referees Association notice of special meeting
- G Wilkinson resignation
- J Yates apology for non attendance

[Matters arising](#): none

President's report

Mr Harrop opened by thanking all colleagues for their continued support for the society, attending both meetings and other functions. He also thanked his fellow Officers for their tireless work usually unseen, but deeply appreciated. He was also delighted to see our guest speaker and thanked him for giving up his time to attend our meeting. He again felt that the society had moved with the times instigating the website and affording all members the CRB clearance and organising the child protection workshop.

Secretary's report

Mr Tighe felt that the society had moved a long way from its beginnings and now provided appropriate support and education for all its members. He hoped to continue teaching and hoped that numbers in the society would continue. In addition the meeting venue had now been settled this was important and he felt that meeting at a football was appropriate for a football referees association body. In closing he thanked all his fellow Officers for all their hard work.

Treasurer's report

Mr Harrop presented the balance sheet to members present detailing both income and expenditure for the previous season, being income £2152.49 and expenditure £1668.84. Mr Harrop detailed various items on both lists. In addition he was reviewing the possibility of moving the close of business from the end of April to the end of December. This would enable ease in organising both collation and audit of accounts, and would avoid the mad rush to organise movement of the books from him to the auditors.

Auditors report

Mr Wilson spoke on behalf Mr Mountford and himself, they being the society's Auditors, he then gave an overview of the accounts as passed to him. He said that as was usual the accounts were impeccably kept by Mr Harrop. There was only one minor anomaly that being with the Referees Association draw tickets, however this was nothing to do with the Treasurer and since the printing of the accounts this had been resolved. He commended Mr Harrop further then proposed the accounts and the proposal was then seconded by R Birchall.

Vote of thanks to retiring Officers

Gary Halliwell offered a vote of thanks to all the Officers who had given their services and support to the society over the last twelve months. This was echoed and then seconded by Graham Ogden.

Election of Society Officers

President: D Harrop

Chairman: F Mort

Vice Chairman: K Evans

Secretary: D Tighe

Treasurer: D Harrop

Executive Committee: P Haworth, G Knowles and D Renshaw (one place vacant)

Auditors: D Wilson and C Mountford.

All were elected by due process under society procedure

Alteration to rules

No alterations to the society rules were offered by members but two rule changes were proposed by the Society Executive Committee

Rule 4 was revised to allow two new positions within the society's Officers / Executive Committee members, The resultant change defined roles as media officer and events officer.

Rule 11 was revised to assist the Referees Association membership.

Some concerns were raised that an ultimate had been arrived at without due process; the secretary rejected this by stating it meant that anyone joining the society Executives was to have duties not just turn up at meetings. In addition the two roles needed to be created to allow the Secretary more time to deal with other society matters. After some lengthy discussion it was agreed by the majority the idea was good and workable and the rule was passed. Some concerns were raised that the members had been steamrolled rather than due process but the President rejected this and closed the particular part of the meeting

Guest Speaker

Mr Massey addressed the meeting reviewing his career and his subsequent progression into the higher echelons of the game. Having spoken for some forty minutes and proved both interesting and informative speaker, a vote of thanks and a presentation was then made by the President.

Society Awards

Three awards were then present by Mr Massey on behalf of the society

The [Jim Warburton award](#): was presented to Gary Finch

The [Stuart Hide award](#): was presented to Paul Haworth

The Roy Birchall and Jack Boardman awards were not presented

Other Awards:

[Referee Of The Year From The Leigh Youth League](#): was presented to Ronnie Drake.

Any Other Business

Mr Ogden asked if we were looking to resurrect the quiz, with no resolution the matter was left open

Paul Haworth asked members present to propose items to be added to the society website

Steve Eastwood asked if the meeting night could be changed, the feeling from the floor was that Thursday was when least football, took place therefore members should have no problems attending the meeting.

Mr Wilson said there should be a concerted effort to banish waffle from meetings.

Mr Birchall again felt it should be noted that not all members had access to the internet and a written copy of the minutes should be made available

[The meeting was closed at 9 09pm](#)