

# Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees' Society

Annual General Meeting held Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2006

Mr Harrop in the chair with the following members present:

F Mort, D Tighe, D Renshaw, G Knowles, P Haworth, R Birchall, R Drake, N D'Arcy, A Bennett, N Smith, M Smith, N Lea, R Livesey, G Halliwell and P Luksas.

Guests: J Bennett and R Luksas.

**Apologies** offered and accepted from:

C Mountford, D Wilson, K Evans, F Brown, R Smith, G Finch, I Williams, K Parker, G Ogden and C Anderton

Minutes of the meeting held Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May had been distributed to all members and copies available at the meeting. The minutes were then proposed as a true record by F Mort and seconded by P Haworth.

## Matters arising:

- Mr Birchall questioned the inclusion of correspondence in the previous minutes regarding the resignation of Mr Wilkinson. He further raised the question as to what Mr Wilkinson had actually resigned from.

In reply Mr Tighe stated that the communication was quite clear. Mr Wilkinson had resigned from the society as a member and Officer, giving the reason that, he wished to spend more time with his wife and family.

- A second issue was raised by Mr Lea regarding the resurrection of the Jack Boardman Quiz and had anything been done to get the quiz on.

In reply Mr Tighe asked what had anyone else done? It wasn't a situation where all promotion of the society needed to be left with the committee; members could volunteer and take on issues. It was agreed and Mr D'Arcy volunteered to review the matter and would report back. Mr Bennett said there were quite a few members of the Lancashire FA referees academy who were members of Wigan society he would contact them and do some of the legwork.

## Correspondence:

- Referees Association eve of final rally
- Yorkshire Cup request for referee to officiate in competition
- Lancashire Football Association allocation of purchasable cup final tickets
- Nominet confirmation of registration domain name for society website
- Lancashire Football Association list of referees promoted to level four
- Referees Association nominations for Officers information on conference
- Referees Association society directory request
- Refereeing today (magazine)

Matters arising: None

### **President's report:**

Mr Harrop gave a report on his overview of the society; he felt the society had moved on from a dark period in its history. There was now a really good spirit within the ranks of our members and this was coming through at meetings and social events. He thank each of his fellow Officers for their sterling efforts to promote the society, the fun evening at Leigh RMI in between Christmas and New Year had been a great night, particular thanks for this was due in non small part to Nigel D'Arcy who had organised the event.

The society website was now proving its worth again supremely well overseen by Paul Haworth. To the society Chairman Mr Mort who kept meetings to an interesting level and stops the boredom of red tape incurring into meetings.

Great to see Karl Evans who despite operating at the highest level still found time for the society, bringing quality high profile guests to speak at society meetings.

Finally thanks to the Secretary who again gave so much of his time and effort without any great cost to the society.

### **Secretary's report:**

Mr Tighe said he could only echo the sentiments of the society President Mr Harrop. He felt that Leigh RMI FC was still the most appropriate place to meet and was proving the most central. To his fellow Officer he again thanked them for all their efforts on behalf of the society. He hoped to continue training and hopefully this would bring more referees into the society.

### **Treasurer's report:**

Mr Harrop gave a review of the society finances as of close of business on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2006. He continued to state that the society finances were in good state he highlighted various items noting their individual insertion in the accounts.

Concerns were raised by the Treasurer at the date of closure of business.

The reason given was that a large amount of business was conducted at during April and May, such as memberships and raffle ticket income. This was of a concern and after due discussion it was agreed that close of business would be 31<sup>st</sup> December in each playing season. Some concerns were raised regarding the rate of interest being currently accrued and would it be worth reviewing this item, however after lengthy discussion it was agreed to leave with the Treasurer to deal with the matter of interest at the building society.

### **Presentation of balance sheet:**

Mr Harrop presented the society balance sheet it was noted that we had various items of stock still available to members, shirts, polo shirts and whistles, yes whistles.

The sheets and books had been passed to the society auditors. The balance sheet was proposed to be accepted by R Birchall and seconded by F Mort, a vote was taken all present voting the balance sheet be accepted and accounts moved to 31<sup>st</sup> December inn each season.

### **Auditors report:**

Both Mr Mountford and Mr Wilson were not present at the meeting however a written report had been submitted and they both concurred that the society accounts were in excellent order

[A vote of thanks](#) was offered to retiring Officers from Mr Halliwell who expressed the membership's gratitude to each of the society's Officers. Their efforts sometimes went unnoticed but not at Leigh society which had become stronger for good leadership.

[This was seconded](#) by Alan Bennett who echoed comments from Mr Halliwell.

## **Election of Officers:**

President:	David Harrop
Chairman:	Frank Mort
Vice Chairman	Karl Evans
Secretary	Duncan Tighe
Treasurer	David Harrop
Executive Committee:	Gary Knowles, Paul Haworth, David Renshaw Gary Halliwell

## **Alterations to Society Rules:**

**Rule 7:** additional words were added to the rule to allow the inclusion of information via the website; the alteration was accepted as published

**Rule 11:** additional word shall was added and the word may was deleted this was approved due to the new situation with the Referees Association and the Lancashire Referees Association

Society membership will be increased to junior members £20.00 and full members £30.00

## **Presentation of awards:**

Jim Warburton Merit Award Trophy	Alan Bennett
Stuart Hide Most Conscientious Referee Trophy	Nigel D'Arcy
Roy Birchall Meritorious Award	(see August 2006 meeting)
Jack Boardman Trophy	not proposed
A special presentation	David Harrop (for twenty years service to the society In his role as Treasurer)
Leigh Youth League referee of the year	Neil Smith

## **Announcements:**

- Mr Tighe informed members present that both Mr Neil Smith and Nigel D'Arcy had been invited to be members of the Lancashire Football Association academy for referees.
- Mr Renshaw announced that the Leigh Amateur League was to close after over a hundred years of local football. He thanked all members on behalf of the league for their input over a great many years.

## **Any Other Business:**

Mr Haworth provided a case scenario which had come to light regarding laws 3 & 12 and the cautioning and dismissal of players.

The item proved highly entertaining and threw up more questions than answers.

**With no other business the meeting was closed at 9.24**