

Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees Society

Meeting held Thursday 10th August 2006

Mr Mort in the chair with the following members present:

D Harrop, D Tighe, G Knowles K Evans, N Lea, R Birchall,
P Haworth, P Luksas, K Parker, D Wilson and R Drake.

Guests:

J Bennett and K Swindell

Apologies accepted from:

F Brown, G Finch, M Smith, N D'Arcy, A Bennett, N Smith,

Minutes of the meeting held 13th April 2006 :

were proposed as a true record by D Wilson and seconded by N Lea.

Matters arising: Mr Birchall noted his name had been omitted from the list of attending members. In reply the Secretary said the records would be amended to show Mr Birchall had indeed been in attendance at the April meeting. It was also agreed that this season we would operate a signing in system where members would need to confirm their attendance at the meeting by signing for their attendance.

It was also noted that the email system would be utilised more this season and members were asked to confirm their email address to the secretary. Continuing the Secretary said he would no longer produce throw away minutes for the meeting but would provide minutes direct to members by either email or directly by the postal system.

Alteration to the Laws of the Game : Mr Tighe reviewed the additions and alterations to the laws of the game. The main issue was the statement from head of referees Neale Barry where a directive has been stated that the wearing of jewellery has been reviewed. The relevant communication states that all jewellery must be removed including a wedding band, however if the plain wedding band cannot be removed then the player can play as long as the ring is taped. It was agreed that the communication from the FA should be copied, then laminated and given to all members who operate on local leagues.

Correspondence

- 1 Smartink re website sponsorship
- 2 Members invite letter to August meeting
- 3 Official Sports catalogue
- 4 Referees Association of England Annual General Meeting minutes and information
- 5 New FA referee candidate examination form
- 6 Communication to Leigh Journal and Reporter request for insert advertising referees course due on 19th August 2006
- 7 Communication to local referees listed in LFA handbook but not society members
- 8 RA first issue of membership (20 MEMBERS)
- 9 Lancashire Referees Association minutes of AGM
- 10 Lancashire FA Annual General Meeting Minutes

- 11 Referees Association annual draw winners list
- 12 Eccles referees monthly newsletter
- 13 Lancashire Referees Association handbook
- 14 Lancashire Referees Association note of vote on benevolent fund death grant increase to £750.00.

Matters Arising: None

Football Partners

Leigh Youth League: Mr Tighe said that the league would operate with twelve teams once again this season. The same format would be in the league programme, the only main alteration was the referee's fee had been altered to £18.00 per game and remained as each team contributing half of the full fee. The league programme would commence on Saturday 9th September 2006.

Bolton Boys & Girls Federation: Similar to the Leigh League games would commence on Sunday 10th September 2006 for the majority of teams but some of the older age groups may start a week earlier. Referees fees had been altered and would be as follows, under 14 £20.00 and under 15, 16 and 18 would be £22.00. The one major change was the fact the fee would now be shared by both teams at all fixtures.

Leigh RMI: obviously the new sports complex was moving at a pace and we need to review this as the project moves on.

Referees Association Lancashire / Referees Association of England:
dealt with during correspondence

Treasurer's report:

Mr Harrop stated the accounts of the society was in good state being as follows TSB £329.09 and the Halifax remained unchanged from the previous meeting at a grand total of £2006.69. Membership already stood at 27 which for the August meeting was excellent to see. We were still awaiting our share of the RA draw money this due to fifteen members selling a total of £422.00 worth of tickets, amassing the society a profit of £211.00. Thanks must be given to those members who raised such a great amount into society funds. In addition a donation of £30.00 had also been made by a society member, that member wishing to remain anonymous.

Training Classes:

Mr Tighe said that the new charge of between £45.00 and £75.00 was now becoming a block to recruiting new referees to a course, and a radical rethink was needed. With this in mind Mr Tighe had asked Mr D'Arcy to instigate an application to awards for all for a grant of £4500.00. This would be to enrol up to thirty new referees on a course, free of charge and the purchase of up to date electronic equipment. Mr Tighe stated over a period of Five seasons in the early nineties money that had been designated and sourced from Lancashire FA for training had gone directly into funds and used for the dinner dance, and not until Brian Jackson rocked the boat had money filtered down.

Society website:

Mr Haworth said that there was plenty of items now on the website but more would be welcomed, especially photographs and items of interest. It was agreed to make minutes available directly of the site in addition LRA / RAE items would be put directly onto the site. Also a sponsor had been found namely Smartink who would have a link on the site in addition to an advert in the handbook.

Child Protection Course / CRB registration:

It was noted that CRB registrations were no longer free and would be charged at the national rate of £12.00. Child protection course money was still available and course for members who did not attend the previous course would be available in late September 2006. Members are reminded no CRB or no Child Protection Course certificate you cannot participate as a match official any member who had not attended the first course would be contacted and invited to the society course.

Points of play:

A discussion took place regarding referees wearing baseball caps as a 'rain protector for those wearing spectacles'. The throw in regarding players failing to retreat the required distance at a throw in, were amongst the items discussed. The situation regarding the world cup refereeing representatives from England was also discussed with various opinions being offered

Guest speakers:

the option to add another society meeting to a particular month was discussed and agreed that this venture would be worthwhile where appropriate. The Secretary would advise members where appropriate, advise at prior monthly meeting and advertise the information on the society website.

Any Other Business:

The meeting was informed that of the untimely deaths of two colleagues Billy Cowell - Warrington Society and Steve Allon - Bolton Society.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 10 02pm