

Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees' Society

Meeting held 9th February 2006 at Leigh RMI FC.

Due to the late arrival of the Chairman and the unavailability of the Vice-Chairman the Society President chaired the meeting with the following members present:

D Tighe, N Smith, A Bennett, P Haworth, G Halliwell, D Renshaw,
D Wilson, R Livesey, K Parker, P Byrne, N Lea and F Mort.

Apologies for absence received from; R Birchall, R Drake, P Didlick, F Brown, K Evans, G Ogden, G Knowles, I Williams and N D'Arcy

Minutes of the previous meeting were circulated then proposed as a true record by D Harrop and seconded by D Renshaw.

Matters arising: P Byrne noted that he was registered as a guest for the previous meeting yet he was a member.

Correspondence

- Eccles RA monthly magazine
- Referees Association magazine
- Lancashire FA notification of level 7 to 6 promotion seminar
- Lancashire FA notification of level 6 to 5/4 seminar
- Lancashire FA School of excellence
- Nigel D'Arcy via e-mail notes on potential cricket match (end of season) information on article in Guardian newspaper re fast track of professional players as referees
- Roy Birchall apologies for absence for February and March meeting (holidays)
- Lancashire FA information on new referee course costings

Matters arising; an interesting and animated discussion took place regarding the benefit or lack of them as to the promotion of professional players as referees. In addition the new proposed costs of between £60.00 and £65.00 for course fees for new referees was discussed, the agreement being that this should be left firmly with the Training Officer.

Football Partners

- Leigh Amateur League: Mr Renshaw thanked those members who officiated and offered further available dates, however he was still referees short on some weeks members were asked to assist. Advertisements had been posted in all local hostelrys and teams were being sourced for the forthcoming season and it was hoped that the league would continue.
- Leigh Youth League: Mr Tighe said that in general games were being covered regularly and no real problems. The policy of utilising the younger referees would continue.
- Bolton Boys & Girls Federation: Mr Tighe said in general most games were being completed without any undue trouble. However a shortage of match officials was still causing concern to member clubs.
- Referees Association: no meeting however Draw Tickets would be available before the next meeting
- Lancashire Referees Association: no meeting

Treasurer's report:

Mr Harrop said the membership remained unchanged at 33 with current bank balances being as follows, the reserve account in the Halifax £1980.13, and the TSB stood at £291.26. The increase in the TSB was due to the donation of £75.00 from the Atherton Charity Cup. A discussion then took place as the costs and the continued idea of the Centenary celebrations, despite ten years hence it was agreed that we should keep the item on notice.

Questions to the Treasurer: none

Training Classes:

Mr Tighe gave a review of three current courses being run at two schools within the area, being two courses at Fred Longworth High School and a third at Westhoughton High School all will be completed by the end of February. It was hoped that a healthy recruitment to the society could be achieved at the end of the courses. It was again discussed the new costs were discussed and agreed that as Mr Tighe was dealing with this and should be left in his capable hands

Child Protection / CRB:

Neil Smith to apply

Society Website:

Mr Haworth said he and the Secretary had looked at new sites and web mania look the most impressive being around £55.00 + vat this for two years, as opposed to £116.00 from angel online. It was agreed to leave the matter with the two Officers mentioned. One item of note there may be a slight alteration in the society web name title. Mr Livesey noted that the internet was an exciting tool and it should be appreciated just how far technology had come in such a short time.

Points of play:

Mr Haworth provide an incident packed half hour show featuring disputed decisions via the wonders of modern technology, being the projector and laptop computer. The items lead to an interesting and uninformed discussion.

With no other business the meeting was closed at 9 33pm