

Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees Society

Meeting held 17th January 2008

Mr Mort in the chair with the following members present:

D Harrop, K Evans, R Birchall, P Haworth, R. Drake, M. Smith, N. D'Arcy, N Lea, D. Sims, N Smith, L. Clarkson, G. Knowles, D. Wilson, R. Thorpe, G. Halliwell, N. Smith & J. Entwistle

Apologies for absence: F Brown, D Tighe, J. Bolton, J. Waterfall and A Bennett

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes were circulated to members present. Amendments were proposed as the date in the 3rd paragraph of page 2 should read 6th Jan 2008, not 2007, and the inclusion of a discussion of the form to hire Leigh East, at the new "Sports Village". With those changes, the minutes were proposed a true record by R. Drake and seconded by D. Sims.

Matters arising: none

Correspondence: Note, Society Secretary was unable to attend the meeting.

1. **Incoming:**
Only a couple of items, of little significance. Held over to next meeting.
2. **Outgoing:**
None.

It was noted, that more correspondence may be raised at the January EC. Minutes may be available at the next members' meeting.

Matters arising: none

Football Partners:

1. **Leigh Youth League:**
The secretary not being present, there was no report available.
It was noted however, that very few games had been played since the last meeting.
2. **Bolton Boys & Girls Federation:**
The secretary not being present, there was no report available.
It was noted however, that very few games had been played since the last meeting.
The BBF is expecting to start a mini soccer league in the summer. This should enable re-start of junior 11 a side football, as the teams progress by age.
3. **Leigh RMI:**
No report
4. **Leigh East:**
No Report, however it was noted that the Society hoped to hold meetings and the referee academy in their new facilities.
5. **Referees Association of England / Lancashire Referees association:**
No meetings, Raffle tickets due soon.

Treasurer's report:

Mr Harrop gave a full review of the society's accounts. Membership now stands at 51, which is excellent. The TSB currently stood at £563.23, and that chequing account from grant 2 now held £1118.22. Of the secondary grant, £2161.86 remains. The Halifax now contains the £500.00 from the Greater Manchester police and £3114.71 of its own funds in the savings account.

Questions to the treasurer

Questions arose about what items were still outstanding to purchase, in order to spend the remaining grant money. It was stated that money remained, mainly due to the Society purchasing items as per the original proposals, but prices being below original estimations. It was still proposed to buy some outstanding items, e.g. "marketing" banners & headsets for mentor communication.

Junior Academy:

The Academy has not yet met, and is awaiting full availability of the Leigh Sports Village accommodation of Leigh East.

As part of preparations, mentors were invited to go to LFA at Leyland on Thursday next (6:45pm) for a learning workshop with other Societies and the LFA trainers.

Training Classes

The next class would be held toward the end of January.

Society website:

Paul Haworth listed the new additions to the website, which included the videos to be shown this evening. Further contributions are always welcome.

Points of play:

As was customary, an interesting and informative discussion took place.

Firstly, Mr D'Arcy provided several written scenarios with potentially various outcomes. Working in groups, members presented opinions on the likely results.

Secondly, using the new grant-aided video editing software, Mr Haworth presented six short clips from TV footage of Premiership matches on the 29th December. These covered Penalty decisions, and discipline situations.

Both methods provided opportunities for lively discussion, particularly on:

- The penalty kick, and encroachment into the penalty area.
- Level of discipline sanction (eg red or yellow cards)
- Positioning, and the referees ability to make the right decision

Any Other Business:

Christmas 5 a side football – A great success, and thanks go to Mr.D'Arcy, the organiser.

Members were invited to submit Society slogans for the marketing banner via the website.

Mr Birchall proposed an item with plaque or engraving to be donated to the referee's room at the new Leigh Sports Village, by the Society. This could be similar to the engraved mirror at the Reebok Stadium from Bolton Society.

Members were reminded that the February meeting would include the Jack Boardman Quiz against young referees from Wigan and Warrington Societies. Mr Birchall queried whether we ought to contact the family of Jack Boardman, in order to see if it would be reasonable to extend an invitation to other Societies to enter the Quiz competition.

With no other business the Chairman thanked those for attending, including a good blend of ages, and the meeting was closed at 9 35pm