

Minutes of The Leigh & District Association Football Referees Society

Meeting held Thursday 27th March 2008

Mr Mort in the chair: with the following Officers and members present A Bennett, C Berry, K Berry, L Clarkson, G Knowles, N Lea, D Renshaw, D Sims, M Smith, N Smith, , D Tighe, J Waterfall & D Wilson.

Guests: none

Apologies accepted from: R Birchall, J Bolton, F Brown, R Drake, K Evans, G Finch, G Halliwell, D Harrop, P Haworth, M Smith & R Thorpe.

Minutes of the meeting: held Thursday 21st February 2008 were circulated to members and had been posted on the society website. The minutes were then proposed as a true record by N Smith and seconded by Danny Sims.

Matters arising: The secretary commented on the great success of the Jack Boardman quiz, and how communications had been received from both Warrington and Wigan societies, offering their appreciation towards the event.

Correspondence: February & March (part)

Received:

1. REFEREE SUPPLIES.COM INFORMATION
2. LANCASHIRE FA MONTHLY MAGAZINE
3. WIGAN MBC APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY CHEST FUNDING DEFERRED
4. APPLICATION FORM LETTER
5. COMMUNITY FOUNDATION MONITORING NEWSLETTER
6. WARRINGTON REFEREES SOCIETY THANK YOU FOR QUIZ
7. WIGAN REFEREES SOCIETY THANK YOU FOR QUIZ
8. ALAN BENNETT ACCADEMY PROPOSAL
9. WESTLEIGH HIGH SCHOOL HIRE OF ASTRO TURF
10. JACKET PURCHASE
11. LEIGH CVS YOUNG CHILDREN WORKSHOP
12. REFEREES ASSOCIATION REQUEST TO VERIFY HANDBOOK AND RULES
13. APPLICATIONS FOR SEASON 2008/2009 AS FOLLOWS:- D Tighe, F Mort, F Brown, M Smith (Atherton), M Smith (Bolton), P Haworth, D Renshaw, D Melia, R Thorpe, D Martin, J Holmes, N Lea, L Clarkson, K Foster, J Hunter, R Hunter, S Brockley, J Waterfall, C Berry, K Berry, D Harrop and J Holmes.
14. Receipt from the media group regarding child protection for ten members

Outgoing: none

Matters arising: none

10 :Lancashire RA noted that a society member had been fined for non-appearance at a disciplinary hearing. The matter had been raised at the recent Lancashire FA referees meeting, where Alan Armstrong had raised concerns at the sudden use of fines against referees. In particular where N D'Arcy had been fined £50.00 - was this fair and just? This would be discussed at the next LRA meeting which was due to be held on Monday next D Tighe to attend.

Football Partners

Leigh RMI: noted that the Hilton Park ground was still operational and looks like would remain so until May 2008, obviously if there was a place at the new ground then it would be looked into and a decision would be taken at an appropriate moment. D Harrop and D Tighe had been invited to attend the recent Leigh Sports village trust meeting and were made most welcome. Some interesting points had been raised and the Secretary and Treasurer had been invited to the next meeting on 2nd May 2008

Leigh Youth League: Danny Sims related his experience at a recent game where he had to abandon the game due to all players deciding to fight rather than play football.

Bolton Boys & Girls Federation: Noted that small-sided football would commence this Sunday at Sharples school. The idea would commence with under 7 and under 8 football and hopefully would progress from there

Referees Association/ Lancashire Referees Association: No meeting

Treasurer's report:

In the absence of Mr Harrop the secretary reviewed the society accounts stating that the society finances were in a really healthy state. The current balance in the TSB was £519.78 being as stated. The Halifax remained at a healthy level of £3953.14 an amount if £250.00 was being held from grant two for membership for season 2008 / 2009 for those members availing themselves of funding. Membership was very healthy at 50, for this Mr Tighe thanked all members who had paid promptly, this had saved the Treasurer and himself the Secretary a great deal of work.

Junior Referee Academy:

Mr Bennett raise the possibility of an academy on a similar line to the Lancashire FA. The idea had come to fruition we would be hiring a playing area at Westleigh High School from Monday 7th April 2008, however the idea would be open to all Leigh junior members and senior members (FITNESS). It was hoped all would meet there under the tuition of the more experienced society members. Each junior member would be supplied outdoor attire and the idea monitored for the future of the society.

Training classes:

A new course would be run at the beginning of April in Oldham this was in conjunction with Lancashire FA and a subsequent course at Tottington High School. However a society course would not be run until August 2008

Referee mentor / Coach scheme:

No report just a thanks to all concerned for their continued efforts

Society Website: Mr Haworth was not present at the meeting.

Any other business:

A discussion took place regarding the taking of penalties and other vibrant issues. The secretary noted that new society merchandise was now available these being as follows polo shirts at a cost of £10.00, 'T' shirts at a cost of £8.00, both available in either blue or black. Rain and padded jackets at £12.00 and £22.00 respectfully, again in either colour. As a special discount the first polo or 'T' shirt would be £6.00. It was also noted that some members had not as of yet paid for their goods.

Atherton Charity Cup; Members were asked to give their support

With no other business the meeting was closed at 9 37pm