

**MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE STROUD AND DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE HELD AT FRAMPTON COMMUNITY CENTRE ON THURSDAY 8 AUGUST 2019**

01/0190 OPENING OF THE MEETING: The Chairman, Mr Bob Warren, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

02/0190 ATTENDEES: Bob Warren, Gary Chapman, Derek Freebury, Jason Harries, Steve Marshall, Mike Smith, Keith Sparrow, Brian Stevens, Glynn Tandy, Jamie Thomas, Colin Ward, Jeff Willerton.

03/0190 APOLOGIES: Mark Cox, Kenny Smith, Mike Wheatley

04/0190 MINUTES:

- The Chairman signed the minutes of the Management Meeting held on 9th May as a true record.

05/0190 MATTERS ARISING:

- The GFA found both Wotton Rovers Res and Abbeymead Rovers Res guilty of causing the abandonment of their Division Five 27-Apr-2019 match. Neither team will therefore be awarded any points, Rule 20.E.(v) refers.
- In this match, Nathan Herbert received a second misconduct charge in the season from the GFA, for playing for Wotton Rovers Res whilst serving an 84 day GFA suspension. It was agreed that the League will now seek to refuse the player's registration for the 2019-20 season through the prescribed GFA mechanism.
- The GFA found Horsley United guilty of causing the abandonment of their Division Three 27-Apr-2019 match as they refused to continue to play. Barnwood Utd, despite having three players sent off in the game, did not technically cause game to be abandoned by the referee, however, in light of the below incident, the League have decided not to be "empowered to award the points" to Barnwood. Neither team will therefore be awarded any points, Rule 20.E.(v) refers.
- In this match, Lee Wakeman received a GFA misconduct charge for an assault on a Horsley Utd player, which caused him to lose consciousness, develop concussion and require emergency hospital treatment. The GFA have suspended Lee Wakeman for five years due to the severity of the incident, and previous assault. This League will seek to refuse the player's registration for life, sine die, through the prescribed GFA mechanism.

06/0190 HANDBOOK CHANGES AND AMENDMENTS:

- A document detailing all the updates since the handbook was printed in early July will accompany the August 14 General Meeting minutes. They will also be added to the website in due course.

07/0190 CORRESPONDENCE:

- Charfield and Stonehouse Town Reserves were offered a place in the GNSL following three vacancies in that League after the Champions of the three District Leagues had already been accepted. Correspondence was received from Tredworth Tigers and Randwick on the matter, who were advised the proper procedure necessary to be considered by the GNSL. Teams who are likely to finish in the top half of Division One must apply directly to the GNSL (by 1<sup>st</sup> March), especially as three teams who have not finished as SDFL Champions have now been promoted in the past two seasons. Teams that don't apply have no real cause to grumble to this League, the GNSL or the GFA.
- Tredworth Tigers have withdrawn their Reserve team from the League. They will be fined as per Rule 11.B.
- First Aid courses promised to clubs were arranged for dates in August. The GFA arranged these back in mid-July, however, due to the General Secretary being away until the very end of July, the notification to clubs was only made in early August. The GFA were asked to reschedule the dates but deemed that this was not possible. The League's concerns or the shortage of time given was realised as the GFA later postponed all the dates. We will advise clubs of the new dates as soon as we are informed by the GFA.
- Samuel Evans' player registration was suspended by the League in November 2018. The suspension lapsed at the end of the 2018-19 season and following a request by the player, the Committee have deemed that the player may register for this season, although he will be under a 12 month probation period, Rule 18.F(iv) applies.

08/0190 TREASURER:

- Just one club failed to pay their June 2019 invoice including 2019-20 fees, this being Alkerton Rangers. Alkerton will be fined as according to Rule 6.I.
- Mike wanted the Committee to confirm his interpretation of Benevolent Fund Claims where a player is injured in a pre-season friendly. It was agreed that each of these cases should be considered by the committee, with the general premise that if a player was registered and had played in the previous season, then that player would likely be re-signing and the period should therefore extend to pre-season.

- A separate discussion will be held regarding the matter of honorarium payments relating to shared responsibilities as the current system has been in place for many years without review. Mike will lead a sub-committee to discuss further in due course.

#### 09/0190 REFEREES SECRETARY:

- The most notable referee retiree ahead of the current season is the League President, Mr Brian Stevens, who, after 56 years of refereeing at local, and at the highest national level, has decided that injuries have called a halt to the thing that he has loved and been so successful at. The entire League will no doubt want to thank Brian for the incredible service that he has given, and to the way that he has helped hundreds of other referees over the years. Brian is already a Life-Member and holds the highest of Officer recognition in this League, being the League President, so marking this decision with some form of honour was always going to be difficult. We have however, decided that the current Referee of the Year award should also be retired and a new one will be purchased for the coming season, to be named the Brian Stevens Cup. Brian will still be active in mentoring and supporting referees and will no doubt continue to support this League as its President.
- A small number of referees have also decided to retire, including Glyn Light and Martyn Parry.
- There are also a few new referees who will be coming onto the League and these should mean that the number of referees will remain a similar figure to last season
- Referee Shane Lewis is currently under GFA suspension and must not be used in any capacity until further notice.
- All clubs, especially those in Divisions Three to Seven should be aware that in September, and early/mid October, there is always a reduced number of referees (mainly due to holidays), which mean that clubs will need to be prepared to officiate fixtures themselves over the period. Things do tend to improve by the end of October, so please bear with Colin during this period.

#### 10/0190 REGISTRATION SECRETARY:

- The registration process has been much quieter than in previous seasons, with registrations almost half of what they were at this stage last season. Clubs who have not begun the process need to do so with immediate effect as there are currently around a third of clubs who have not registered a single player yet, compared with just a single one last season.
- As Uley players are unable to be registered to play for their Reserves AND Thirds, all Uley players submitted will be approved to play for their Firsts for now, and Uley will need to inform Keith at least 48 hours before their first game, which team each player will need to be registered for.

#### 11/0190 RESULTS SECRETARY:

- Sin-Bins cautions need to be recorded on Full-Time. There is a separate tick-box to record these, do not record them as normal cautions.

#### 12/0190 DISCIPLINARY OFFICER:

- The following GFA misconduct charges whilst playing in a Stroud League match at the end of last season are being listed. Any further GFA misconduct charge will result in the League seeking to suspend the player within GFA processes and procedures:
  - Gavin Clark – 9808208-M - 09/02/2019 - E3(e) - Improper Conduct against a Match Official
  - Kaye Thomas – 9876680-M – 27/04/2019 - E3(e) - Improper Conduct against a Match Official

#### 13/0190 GENERAL & FIXTURES SECRETARY:

- Nothing to report

#### 14/0190 LEAGUE CUP:

- The balance of last season's competition, a sum of £1450.57, is available to be donated to a local charity. Clubs are encouraged to nominate, a decision will be made at the September meeting.
- The draw for the Q/F of the Harry Greening Cup, and Rounds 1 & 2 of the Presidents Cup were drawn.

#### 15/0190 CHAIRMAN & GFA REPORT:

- Nothing to add at this stage of the season.

#### 16/0190 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:30pm.

#### 17/0190 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

- The next Management Committee Meeting is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019.