

## **MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE STROUD AND DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE HELD ON THURSDAY 10 MARCH 2022**

OPENING OF THE MEETING: The meeting was held at Kings Stanley Village Hall, 7:15pm start time.

01/0221 ATTENDEES: Bob Warren, Gary Chapman, Brian Cooper, Steve Marshall, Mike Smith, Kenny Smith, Glynn Tandy, Colin Ward, Jeff Willerton.

02/0221 APOLOGIES: Mark Cox, Jason Harries, Keith Sparrow, Brian Stevens, Jamie Thomas, Mike Wheatley.

03/0221 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS: The Management Committee meeting minutes from 10<sup>th</sup> February were agreed upon as a correct record.

04/0221 MATTERS ARISING:

- None

05/0221 CHAIRMAN: Nothing significant to report

06/0221 TREASURER: Nothing significant to report

07/0221 CORRESPONDENCE RELEVANT TO THE MEETING:

- Four teams were charged and found guilty of failing to fulfil a fixture during February: Poulton and Stratton United Reserves (12-Feb), Avonvale United and Brockworth Albion 3rds (19-Feb). All teams will have 3 points deducted from their team totals and be fined as per the Fines Tariff.
- Additional to the above Poulton postponed their fixture on 11-Feb, but this did not allow Gala Wilton the time to cancel their booking at Oxstalls 4G pitch. As a result, Poulton are to pay the cost of the booking. Gala have provided the League with a copy of the invoice, and therefore Poulton will be charged £72 through Club League accounts.
- Uley protested regarding their Div-6 match on 12<sup>th</sup> February, in that Wickwar played an ineligible player, David Parslow. The player was not registered but was listed on the matchday teamsheet as they believed he was registered at the time. However, Wickwar entered an alternative player on the Full-Time listing and only admitted to the offence following Uley's protest. The League Committee unanimously agreed that:
  - a) Wickwar Wanderers Reserves played an ineligible player, although the League accept that the team manager and player were unaware that the player was not registered at the time, and they will be fined £10 as per Rule 18.M.(i)
  - b) Under Rule 21.D, Wickwar will be fined £25, as per the fines tariff, for submitting results information that was incorrect and intended to deceive.
  - c) The match as played is voided, and under Rule 18.M.(iii), the match will be awarded to Uley Reserves.
- Gloster Rovers protested regarding their Div-5 match on 26<sup>th</sup> February, that Gala Wilton 3rds played more than the permitted number of players who did not qualify to play in the match under Rule 18.L. The League Committee unanimously agreed that:
  - a) Gala Wilton played one more than the permitted number of players in the match, although the League accept that this was due to an Admin Error, and the team manager and players were unaware of the transgression at the time of the match. They will be fined £10.
  - b) The match as played is voided, and under Rule 18.M.(iii), the match will be replayed.

- A disturbing series of events were reported following the Alkerton Rangers v Oxstalls United match on 12<sup>th</sup> February. The match was refereed by an Alkerton Club Official, who was subjected to a series of abuse from Oxstalls. The matters have since been forwarded to the GFA and suspensions and misconduct charges raised. The League issued an ultimatum to Oxstalls, and to their credit, they have acted in support of this. Alkerton were also warned as to their future conduct as some of Oxstalls allegations made in relation to the match were corroborated by League President Brian Stevens who was in attendance.
- One of the "culprits" in the match was the player Samuel Evans. The player is now suspended for what is likely to be Oxstalls remaining fixtures. As Mr Evans was previously responsible for incidents that resulted in the League cancelling his registration in January 2019, for twelve months, it was agreed that the League will move to not accept Mr Evans' registration next season.
- A low referee mark and report was received from Wickwar Wanderers which was noted.
- Clubs were informed on 28<sup>th</sup> February, that any matches from this point that are postponed due to a team being unable to field a team, will be awarded as a win to the opposition (3 pts deduction and fine still applies). In exceptional circumstances however, the Management Committee may order the match to still be played.
- A reminder that proposed Alterations to Rules must be received by 31<sup>st</sup> March.

#### 08/0221 REFEREES SECRETARY:

- Rather than getting any better, March looks terrible for Referee numbers. Colin will be prioritising promotion and relegation clashes, plus League Cup matches. This once again may mean that some matches in Divs 1 & 2 may go without an appointed Referee. Early April, despite a lower number of fixtures will see the same situation, but midweek and end of April matches should have a Referee appointed.
- Due to the possible increase in fuel costs, it was agreed to waive the £40 maximum limit that Referees can claim, but Referees will be instructed to claim any amount over £40 directly through the League. Clubs should be aware that they will still only have to pay up to £40 for any match. Any Referees seeking to charge Clubs over £40 should be reported to the League. Costs are likely to rise next season, the GFA will inform us of any new rates.

#### 09/0221 ASSISTANT SECRETARY, including REFEREES SUPPORT OFFICER

- Nothing significant to report

#### 10/0221 REGISTRATION SECRETARY:

- Registrations are closed as of 1<sup>st</sup> March, except for players who become 16 after this date.

#### 11/0221 RESULTS SECRETARY:

- Nothing significant to report

#### 12/0221 DISCIPLINARY OFFICER:

- Nothing significant to report

#### 13/0221 LEAGUE CUP:

- Dates have been set for the three outstanding (2019-20) Finals that could not be played due to lockdowns and other Covid-19 related situations. Details are now on Full-Time.
- For this seasons competitions, we should be down to Semi-Finals by 12<sup>th</sup> March. All of these games will be played at the home of the team drawn first, and match official fees will be shared. Due to the shortages of Referees, we will be asking for volunteers to come forward to act as Assistant Referees for as many of the Semi-Finals as possible. They will be entitled to the same match fee as an appointed Assistant Referee would.

14/0221 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Gary announced that this would be his last season refereeing at all levels, bringing to an end to nearly 40 years service which saw him start, and end eventually end officiating in this League, with some brilliant experiences of higher leagues including the Football League in between. Bob, and the rest of the Committee thanked Gary and are glad that he intends to continue on the admin side of the game now including his current SDFL responsibilities.
- A discussion was held in relation to the County Cups. We have been informed that potential sweeping changes are to occur next season to vastly improve the competition for clubs and leagues. These are urgently necessary, but without the necessary changes, we may offer an alternative competition in conjunction with other District Leagues. Clubs can opt in or out of the County Cups, more details will be provided at the AGM.
- With nothing further to discuss, the meeting ended at 8:40pm

15/0221 DATE OF NEXT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022