

MINUTES OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE STROUD AND DISTRICT FOOTBALL LEAGUE HELD ON THURSDAY 14 APRIL 2022

OPENING OF THE MEETING: The meeting was held at Kings Stanley Village Hall, 7:30pm start time.

01/0222 ATTENDEES: Bob Warren, Brian Cooper, Mark Cox, Jason Harries, Mike Smith, Kenny Smith, Keith Sparrow, Brian Stevens, Glynn Tandy, Colin Ward, Jeff Willerton.

02/0222 APOLOGIES: Gary Chapman, Steve Marshall, Jamie Thomas, Mike Wheatley.

03/0222 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETINGS: The Management Committee meeting minutes from 10th March were agreed upon as a correct record.

04/0222 MATTERS ARISING: None

05/0222 CHAIRMAN: Nothing significant to report

06/0222 TREASURER: Nothing significant to report

07/0222 CORRESPONDENCE RELEVANT TO THE MEETING:

- Ten teams were charged and found guilty of failing to fulfil a fixture during March: Wickwar Wanderers 1sts, North Nibley, Longford Reserves and Stratton United Reserves (05-Mar), AFC Renegades 1sts & Reserves, Avonvale United, North Nibley, Kingshill Sports and Randwick 3rds (19-Mar). All teams will have 3 points deducted from their team totals and be fined as per the Fines Tariff.
- A further six teams will be charged of failing to fulfil a fixture from 26-Mar onwards (so far): Barnwood United Reserves (26-Mar), Kingswood Reserves and Stratton United Reserves (02-Apr), Kingsway Rovers Reserves, Cotswold Rangers and Kingswood Reserves (09-Apr).
- Additional to the above AFC Renegades postponed both of their fixtures on 19-Mar, but failed to inform League Officers prior to the 11am deadline, as per Rule 20.E.iii. As a result, AFC Renegades are to be fined as per the Fines tariff for both teams.
- Kingshill Sports withdrew from the League on 24th March. They had completed at least 75% of their league fixtures, and therefore their results stand, as per Rule 22.D. Walkover wins were awarded to the five teams that Kingshill had not played to that date. Kingshill will be fined as per the Fines Tariff under Rule 11.B.
- Avonvale United withdrew from the League on 25th March. They also had completed at least 75% of their league fixtures, and therefore their results stand, as per Rule 22.D. Walkover wins were awarded to the four teams that Avonvale had not played to that date. Avonvale will be fined as per the Fines Tariff under Rule 11.B.
- Randwick advised that in their Div-5 match on 26th March, Chalford 4ths had played an ineligible player, Fergal O'Kane. The player was GFA suspended at the time. Chalford listed registered player, Liam O'Kane, on their teamsheet and Full-Time listing. It was advised that Liam O'Kane was known to several of the Randwick players, and that he was overseas the time. They also stated that the Chalford players were calling Fergal's name all game. The League would seek to charge Chalford on the matter.
- On 12th March, an injury in the Div-One Quedgeley Reserves v Kingswood match on 40 minutes caused a long stoppage. The player was transported to hospital and is now recovering well. The Referee, Andy Chudleigh, along with both teams agreed to curtail the match to 80 minutes and then played out the second half. The Committee agreed that the result should stand and praised the actions of Andy Chudleigh and both teams in the manner in which they conducted themselves and assisted in the injury situation and the completion of the match.

- It was necessary for the League to complain to the GFA on 30th March regarding a Club's Social Media post which was insulting, offensive and showed a lack of respect to the League and its other Clubs. The GFA agreed that it represented a potential breach of FA guidance regarding the publication of Social Media messages and wrote to the Club concerned. The matter was concluded after the Club involved apologised and had advised that they had taken action against the individual concerned. The League accepted the apology. This is an example that all Clubs need to be aware of in relation to Social Media postings, that Clubs are responsible for their own output. Social Media usage in the League is very good, but please make sure that those responsible for your Club's outputs are aware of matters such as these.
- A list of proposed Alterations to Rules were sent to clubs, any amendments to these proposals must be submitted to the Secretary by 21st April.

08/0222 REFEREES SECRETARY:

- The GFA are reviewing the Referee match fee for the forthcoming season.
- There was a Low referee mark from Randwick on 12-Mar which has been noted.

09/0222 ASSISTANT SECRETARY, including REFEREES SUPPORT OFFICER

- Nothing significant to report

10/0222 REGISTRATION SECRETARY:

- Nothing significant to report

11/0222 RESULTS SECRETARY:

- Nothing significant to report

12/0222 DISCIPLINARY OFFICER:

- Nothing significant to report

13/0222 LEAGUE CUP:

- On 12th March, Dursley Town 3rds beat Minchinhampton Reserves in a Section 'C' Plate match. Dursley listed Joel Ash on the matchday teamsheet, but played Joel Stoneman and Minchinhampton provided evidence to the effect. Dursley admitted to the offence and were duly removed from the Competition, with Minchinhampton Reserves being awarded the tie. Dursley were also advised that Joel Stoneman would not be permitted to play in the rest of the Competition, and was therefore ineligible to play for their Reserve team on 9th April. The League Committee unanimously agreed that:
 - a) Dursley played an ineligible player, and attempted to deceive the league in doing so, and they will be fined £25 as per Rule 18.M.(i)
- Several of the teams who played in the Semi-Finals failed to adhere to the League Cup Rule 18.C. Unfortunately, despite largely being admin oversight errors, those teams that didn't follow the the rules were removed and the other team advanced to the final.
- All the Finals are now set and teams advised of the dates and venues. A huge thank you to Chalford, Gala Wilton, Sharpness, Shortwood United, Stonehouse Town and Tuffley Rovers for hosting the Finals.

14/0222 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- The SDFL Future Strategy minutes were sent to all Clubs on 10th April. This will form the backbone of the League's operations over the next few seasons. Clubs who do not consider that they are able to operate under these conditions should take appropriate steps.
- The proposed changes to Rules were discussed. All were agreed, with the main discussion regarding the proposed increase in the number of substitutes. It was agreed that the use of rolling subs must be retained, as this benefits all teams. In terms of increasing the number

of substitutes from 3 to 5, the initial concern was that it would be more difficult for referees to manage, but on the balance that it may assist individual teams more, it was agreed to support the increase and recommend this to clubs at the AGM.

- Although not a Rule change, the Committee agreed that the interpretation of Rule 2.E.(i) would change next season, in that a postponed fixture due to a team not being able to fulfil it, will not be rearranged, rather, the match will be awarded to the opponents. In addition (as per currently), the defaulting team will also lose three points and be fined. This will avoid a stack of unplayed matches having to be rearranged to be played at the end of the season.
- It has not been possible to update (engrave and repair) League trophies for the past few seasons due to storage issues and the pandemic. Division and Cup trophies will still be presented to teams at this stage, but all need to be returned to the the League by no later than the AGM so that updates can be carried out to all trophies ahead of next season.
- This is the second meeting that we have held at Kings Stanley, and we intend to continue to use the facility going forward. It is therefore likely that the General Meetings will also be held here, including the AGM, which will be brought forward to Monday 23rd May due to Main Hall availabilities. Please note the new date.
- With nothing further to discuss, the meeting ended at 20:40pm.

15/0222 DATE OF NEXT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – 12th May 2022