



GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY OF RUGBY UNION REFEREES MEMBERS MEETING

Minutes of Members Meeting held on 18th August 2009 at 19:30,
Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham.

Present:

An attendance register has been kept.

1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from John Hackett, George Hall, Tim Beddow, Dennis Dowdle, Mark Horwood, Paul Vidgen, Fred Spong, Andy Taylor, Billy Fishwick, Nigel Stephenson, Sam Collins.

2. Minutes:

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record.

3. New members:

The following new members introduced themselves and were welcomed into the society; Hugh Black, Mike Crawford, Huw Jones, Ashley Barnaby, Shaun Bullock & Jason Burton.

4. Committee Introductions:

Standing in for **Chairman John Hackett**, **Adrian Danks** as **Vice Chairman** introduced the new committee members to the society.

Ray Lock is the new **Child Protection Officer**. There are no new regulations to be introduced this season. As he is new to the role he is currently undertaking a review of the details held on each CRB certified member.

Barry Clark, **Discipline Officer**. There are new forms to be completed for this season in the event of dismissing a player from the field. These new forms are available from the society's pages on the RugbyFirst website (<http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/>).

Barry is also responsible for collating the whistler trophy report cards, these are again available on the societies pages on the RugbyFirst website.

Roger Brennan, **Appointments Secretary**. There are still some preseason games available, anyone wanting a fixture please contact Roger, there may well be additional games notified by the clubs if he fills all currently available fixtures. Appointments for September will be distributed by the end of the week along with an updated list of club contacts. New members to please pass on contact details to Roger after immediately after tonight's meeting.

Tim Lawson, **Sunday Junior Appointments**. The majority of the fixtures take place after Christmas although a colts merit table will require referees prior to Christmas. Would all CRB approved referees let Tim and or Rodger now of their availability for Sunday fixtures as a list of available referees will be made available to clubs. If you are approached directly by a club to referee a junior fixture and you are not CRB approved please decline the appointment.



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Les Newcombe, Finance Manager. Subs are now due £10.00, junior and senior citizens £5.00 under 15 years of age free.

Brian Ravenhill, is the new General Secretary. If you have any correspondence for the committee but are not sure which member of the committee please sent it to secretary and he will do his best to distribute it to the correct committee member. Travelling expenses have been maintained at 30p per mile, for those residing outside of the county border 10p per mile until the county border and then 30p once inside.

Debbie Innes, Society Training Coordinator. If Debbie can get a sufficient number of committed referees, she is willing to set up a series of physical training sessions at the University of Gloucestershire, similar to those that run a few years ago. Please contact Debbie if you wish to take part.

Paul Vidgen, Merchandise and Referee Development Officer. New kit should be available for purchase at next months meeting.

Peter Lewis, Adviser & Coach Development Officer.

5. Regrading:

Adrian Danks announced the following regrading; Josh Chapman from 7 to 6, Fergus Kirby 6 up to 5, Tim Chandler 8 to 7, Dan Mobley 8 up to 7, Tim Lawson 9 to 8, Mark Patterson 9 up to 8, Mike Jones 11 to 10, Peter Brunt, Paul Critchard, Ray Lock, Andrew McDonald, & Andrew Sharp all from 12 up to 11, Dennis Dowdle, David Edwards, Macolm Holmes &, Graham Thomas all up from 13 to 12, Stuart Chant, Charlie Gather & Martin Holloway all from probationer up to 13.

6. County Badge:

The Society President, Rodger Brennan, presented the following referees with their county badge, Tim Chandler Dan Mobley, Peter Bunt, and Dick Palmer.

7. Exchange Visits:

Adrian Danks explained the protocol for exchange visits.

All referees going on an exchange visits should travel together, with the referee with the furthest distance to travel to coordinate travel arrangements. The purpose of travelling together is threefold, those travelling get to discuss the games pre-match, sharing ideas, debrief one another post-match and offer potential solutions to any difficulties during the games, and reduce expenses for the society. If for whatever reason you want to travel independently for an exchange game you must contact Adrian Danks in order to attempt to get authorization for additional expenditure, if you fail to get this authorization you will travel at your own expence.

All referees are eligible for exchange visits although the majority are for games at levels 6, 7, & 8 there are a few at level 9, 10, & 11. The appointments available are limited by what is made available by the host society. Overseas exchanges are also on offer; a Dutch exchange is currently being arranged with dates yet to be confirmed, and an exchange to New England USA towards the end of the season. Anyone interested in either of these trips please let Adrian know.

8 Training:

The Societies Training Coordinator, Debbie Innes. A full training programme has been developed for the season with guest speakers attending some months. the



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session covered: Pre and post match preparations, the adopted ELV's and latest iRB directives.

Pre-season goal setting, pre-season preparation, both physical and mental including; Pre-game preparation, a check list of kit that should be in the kitbag. Your personal appearance tracksuit or blazer. Mental preparation, who and how are you going to introduce yourself in the clubhouse. Rehearsal in the car whilst travelling to the club. Post match, if a league game the completion of the result declaration section, completion of the expenses card and hand to the home club, this card is of great assistance to appointment and grading committees if returned by the club, complete the whistler trophy card.

The adoption of the ELV's that will be in effect for this season and the latest iRB directives. As with all PowerPoint presentations and videos to be used during this seasons training, these will be made available for further viewing after the presentation. A video was presented of an interview of former society member and now international referee, Wayne Barns, by Panel Development Manager, Steve Leyshon. Followed by a number of game clips refereed to in the interview. (Both interview and match clips are available to download via the website. <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/>)

The society members who are also members of the elite, national panel, or Southwest group in either a referee, assistant referee or coaching capacity, were invited on to the stage to answer questions from the membership.

Training for referees next month will take place outdoors so please come suitable dressed for a physical session. Coaches and assessors will have a separate session indoors.

8. Any Other Business:

Colin Edmonds requires volunteer assistant examiners at the county exam for those referees seeking to gain their county badge.

9. Date of next meeting

The next members meeting will take place on the second Tuesday of September, 15th September, venue Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham. Probationers and new members 19:00, others 19:30

Distribution: All society members via the RugbyFirst website.