



# GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY OF RUGBY UNION REFEREES MEMBERS MEETING

Minutes of Members Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009 at 19:30,  
Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham.

## Present:

An attendance register has been kept.

## 1. Apologies:

Apologies were received from Dan Holmes, Terry Curtis, Colin Edmonds, Nigel Stephenson Cyril Ravenhill, Chris White, Ed McWalter, Les Newcombe, Mark Patteson, Adrian Stephenson, and Tim Lawson

## 2. Minutes:

**John Hackett, Society Chairman**, asked the members present to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the previous meeting. There were no objections.

## 3. New members:

The following new members introduced themselves and were welcomed into the society; Rico Yeung, Josh Mather.

## 4. Minute Silence:

Following the sad deaths of Jim Kyle, and Ray Arnold a minute silence was held in their memory.

## 5. Appointment:

**Rodger Brennan, Appointments Secretary**. Appointments for the month of October should be out by the end of the week. Vase and cup competitions, due to a change in the regulations for this season clubs had to enter themselves in to the competitions and as such there are fewer games in the competitions this season. If you are available but not appointed to a game in any given week you are put in the reserve pool and are deemed available for appointments. If you become unavailable from the reserve list please let Rodger now as soon as possible and at least on the Wednesday prior to.

## 6. President's Squad:

During his tenure as president, Colin Reeves instigated the President's Squad. This was to honour those referees who are now coming down the grading system from a higher level and for those whose services to the society warranted recognition. **Rodger Brennan, Society President** presented President's Squad ties to new members, Barry Clark, Peter Lewis and Paul Vidgen. Adrian Stephenson and Nigel Stephenson have also become new members of the president's squad but had offered their apologies to the meeting.



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7. County Badge and Exam

**Rodger Brennan, Society President** presented Dan Parrot with his county badge, and then presented Ray Lock and Ray Puttock with new society kit on passing the county exam. Andy MacDonald has also passed the county exam.

8. Discipline

**Barry Clark, Discipline Officer.** So far this season only 2 players had been sent off and Barry commended all referees for using their management skills and keeping their red cards in tier pockets.

9. Whistler Trophy.

**Barry Clark, Whistler Co-ordinator.** A very poor response so far, only three referees have sent in cards. The cards are available on the societies web site, <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/>, they only take a few minutes to complete. If the clubs can take the time to fill in your report cards, more cards available, you should make the time to fill in the whistler cards. As members representative please approach Barry with any concerns with regards to appointments or assessments rather than Rodger Brennan.

10. Exchanges

For any further information on any of the proposed exchanges with either the Dutch, Danish or New England societies, please contact Adrian Danks.

11. Merchandise

The new blue shirts for this season have arrived and are available to purchase after the meeting. The new pink shirts are in transit from the manufactures and should be here for the next meeting. Paul Vidgen thanked the kind sponsorship by Zurich and Mark Sheridan of Sheridan Engineering. If you have any kit requirements, socks, polo shirts, track suits etc, please contact Paul in plenty of time so as he can hopefully arrange availability at the next members meeting.

12. Assessors

Reminder of the coaches, assessors and mentors meeting next week to be held at Cheltenham Civil Service on Tuesday, 22 September 2009, at 7.30pm. **Peter Lewis, Assessing Co-ordinator**, reported that so far 9 society and 3 exchange referees had been watched. Would referees who have been watched by an assessor please complete the assessor feedback forms available on the website <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSoc/Forms.aspx>, this is especially valuable if you feel the assessor to have been particular good or bad. The society now has the equipment to video record games with a referee voice over, and additional listening kits have been obtained for assessors/coaches.

13. Training:

**Debbie Innes, Societies Training Coordinator**, reported that there is now a 'logic tree' available on the societies web site <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/> to explain the procedure for dealing with front row replacements and situations when the 'man off' rule applies. This logic tree was drawn up by the Midlands Society and



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provides a, 'scenario and solution', it is very clear. Debbie also pointed out that the referees department had not been consulted prior to the introduction of the 'man off' rule.

Training then continued with four groups of referees taking part in practical hands on training out doors, whilst coaches, assessors and mentors remained inside with a presentation by Mike Winnell. Mike's PowerPoint will be made available on the societies web site <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/>

14. Any Other Business:

No other business was raised.

15. Date of next meeting

The next members meeting will take place on the third Tuesday of October, 20<sup>th</sup> October, venue Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham. Probationers and new members 19:00, others 19:30

Distribution: All society members via the RugbyFirst website.