



GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY OF RUGBY UNION REFEREES MEMBERS MEETING

Minutes of Members Meeting held on 16th March 2010 at 19:30,
Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham.

Present:

An attendance register has been kept.

1. **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Ray Puttock, Stuart McWalter, Nigel Stephenson, Mike Winnell, Ricco Yeung, Ben Collier, Ashley Barnby, Colin Edmonds and Bob McCrudden

2. **Minutes:**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved by the members.

3. **New members:**

Four new members introduced themselves to the meeting: Richard Bennett, Daniel Powell, Mark George and Kevin Rodgers.

4. **Appointments:**

Rodger Brennan would send out the April appointments by the weekend, and apologised for the lack of games but everyone how wants them should have appointed to two games. The lack of Saturday fixtures is hopefully offset by appointments to the various combination cup competitions.

Would the appointed referee please ensure they get two AR's as a team of three for their game, we owe it to the clubs and the society to look and act professionally.

Appointments to the cup finals are as follows

	Ref	AR No.1	AR No.2
Stroud Senior	Dan Parrott	Brian Ravenhill	George Rooley
Stroud Minor	Nick Palmer	Barry Clark	Charlie Gayther
Cheltenham Senior	Ed McWalter	Dave Meek	Iain Morris
Cheltenham Junior	Brian Ravenhill	Rodger Brennan	Peter Brunt
Forest Senior	Josh Chapman	Mark Sheridan	Chris Thomas
Forest Junior	Tim Chandler	Andy Taylor	Ray Puttock
Forest Minor	Vernon Newport	Peter Holden	George Hall
Gloucester Senior	Paul Vidgen	Ade Stephenson	Mark Patteson
Gloucester Junior	Fred Spong	John Hackett	John Watkins
Gloucester Minor	Ade Danks	Nick Palmer	Ray Lock



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On Sunday 28th March Bob McCrudden has been appointed to referee the Somerset Cup Final at Bridgewater and Albion RFC, he has assistant referees but requires an experience No.4 any volunteers please contact Bob 07929161135.

Tim Lawson requested referees for the last few rounds of the junior cups any additional volunteers would be very welcome. The cup finals will be held on the same day and a similar format will be used to appoint the officials. Working as a team of three covering three games rotating in turn to referee and assist.

5. **Discipline:**

Barry Clark attended the 80th disciplinary case of the season. Whilst this is about normal for this time in the season, there is an increase in the number of cases for referee abuse. Approximately 25% of all cases are for abuse of the referee. The County discipline committee are currently adding an additional 14 days to all proven cases of abuse to try to send the message to players and clubs that it will not be tolerated.

If you arrange to be available by telephone in place of physically attending a disciplinary hearing please ensure that you are actually available at the time of the hearing, it is extremely inconvenient and costly to all those attending if you do not answer the phone.

6. **Child Protection:**

Ray Lock, Safe Guarding Officer reported that the system for approval is changing. It will soon become a legal responsibility of the organisers to ensure the safety and well-being of children and venerable adults. As a society we have tried to be in a reasonable state and most referees appointed to age group games are in the system. By 2015 a new system will be in operation where every individual working/ volunteering in this sector will be ISA registered. This registration number will cover that individual for all work with children and venerable adults from coaching, refereeing, to cubs and scouts etc. It will affect you if you are under 16yoa and referee those over 18yoa, and anyone who referees those under 18yoa.

Ray will prepare a more detailed report and have it placed on the society web site.

7. **Whistler Trophy.**

Barry Clark, Whistler Co-ordinator. Please return all whistler trophy cards as soon as possible. The results need to be collated in time for the dinner and this can not be done if you have not sent in your cards. All games featuring a local club side count, yet despite this some clubs have only had a couple of cards returned by referees. The whistler cards are available on the societies



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RugbyFirst web site, <http://clubs.rfu.com/Clubs/portals/GloucesterDistrictRefereesSociety/>, they only take a few minutes to complete.

8. **Regraddings**

Adrian Danks, announced the following referees have been regraded from levels 7 to 6, Dan Parratt and Dan Mobley.

The dinner is set for April 16th 2010 at Old Richians RFC on a first come first served basis, cost £20.00 for society members £25.00 non-members.

9. **County Badge:**

The Society President, Rodger Brennan, presented the following referees with their county badge, Charlie Gayther, Malcolm Holmes, Stephen Cooper, Chris Thomas, Michael Crawford and Tony Wegrzyn.

10. **Training**

Debbie Innes introduced a presentation on working on a 'team of three' assisted by workshops hosted by experience members of the society.

11. **Close.**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.

13. **Date of next meeting**

The next members meeting will be the AGM taking place on the third Tuesday of May, 18th May, venue Cheltenham Civil Service Club, Cheltenham 19:30.

Distribution: All society members via the RugbyFirst website.