

Minutes of the Meeting of Guildford Referees Society held on Monday 16 April 2007 at Godalming Town Football Club

Chairman Geoffrey Comley opened the meeting at 7.58pm with 28 members present. He welcomed new member Ian Morgan attending his first meeting. Apologies for absence were received from Daniel Stobbart.

The minutes of the March meeting had appeared in the Magazine. It was proposed Roger Farmer and seconded Martin Feast that they be accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

Hon. Secretary's report – there were 13,152 RAE members at the end of March. This was compared with 13,770 the year before ie 4.5% less.

Over the same period the SCRA had 633 members compared with 675 ie 6.2% less. The Society however had 62 as opposed to 61.

The evening with Keith Hackett was seen as a great success and is likely to be repeated.

Hon Treasurer's report – the books had been audited and the full accounts would appear in the May Magazine in readiness for the AGM.

Delegate's report – Brian gave details of the meeting on 26 March, the minutes of which would appear in the May Magazine.

Training Officer's report – the recent course had seen 12 candidates pass with another 3 due to take the exam. Tony believes the good news here is that most of the candidates will register to Referee. Geoff Comley and Michael Argile's attendance and address at the 5 March session had been well received. The next full course will start in October.

Magazine Editor – usual appeal for articles

Supplies Officer – had his usual selection of kit and was pleased to report some sales from the last course.

Match Incidents – Martin Feast talked about a County game in which he had neutral Assistants. The goalkeeper came to punch the ball through some players and ended up doing so outside the penalty area, confirmed by the Assistant. Discussion around the room took in a sending off, to it's not intentional, to a reminder that a caution was correct as a goal scoring opportunity had not been denied.

- The question was asked if Rugby boot studs were allowed. It's all about safety and is covered here by the need for suitable footwear.

- John Thornton asked if we should warn Clubs that a player of their's may be sent off if he was to persist with misconduct. View was that we should not overtly refer to this but simply carry out our duty within the Laws of the Game.
- Colin Henderson asked what we would do if a player, when taking a corner kick scuffed his boot against the ground and made a mess of the corner then reacted by pulling out the corner flag and throwing it down. Caution for unsporting behaviour was the eventual consensus (having persuaded some that it wasn't an act of dissent).

A.O.B. – Steve Ferris asked for RA Draw tickets to be returned to him asap.

The Society Dinner at Shackleford had 14 in attendance and had been an excellent night enjoyed by all.

Vic Rolland reminded everyone of the need to comply with CRB checks and CP workshops otherwise they would not be able to register for the new season.

Brian had just been made aware of the availability of FA Cup Final tickets through County but did not know how many each Society might get. However, a list of six names was drawn in order to progress this once further information was available.

HALF TIME

The second half of the meeting was a presentation by Brian Fish who outlined the responsibilities of Assistant Referees and 4th Officials in important end of season Finals. This was an excellent, concise delivery of all the key points and this was recognised by the Chairman who thanked Brian and this was endorsed by those present.

The Key Draw ticket was won by Mark Chapman who then selected the wrong key.

The meeting closed at 10.08pm.
