

**MINUTES of the MEETING of GUILDFORD REFEREES' SOCIETY
held on MONDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2009 at GODALMING TOWN F.C.**

CHAIRMAN GEOFF COMLEY opened the meeting at 7.54pm with 26 members present. Geoff immediately made reference to the news that one of our Life Presidents, **PETER ADAMS**, had died on Saturday evening 12 September and asked all members to stand in memory and respect for Peter. At the time of the meeting, funeral details were not known.

He then introduced and made welcome **KEITH GAY**, who was Society Secretary during the 1950s before his work took him out of the area to Edinburgh.

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Chapman, Taafe, P.Piens, Smith, Garland, M.Cary and Farmer.

The minutes of the August meeting were printed in the Magazine. They were proposed Steve Ferris and seconded Craig Etherington that they be accepted as a true record.

Matters arising – Mike Stobbart thought he had incorrectly advised the RA Conference date for next year. To confirm, it will be held on Friday 4 June (AGM) and Saturday 5 June (Conference) 2010.

Hon.Secretary's report –.

- Brian reminded the meeting that the FAMOA evening at Sutton United F.C. will be from 7.30pm on Thurs.12 Nov. **DAVID ELLERAY** is Guest Speaker.
- The Disciplinary Road Show will be held at Godalming Town F.C on Thursday 26 November.
- The RA now has 8,844 members as at the beginning of September. This was compared to 12,309 at the end of the last RA season.
- The County 5-a-side Tournament would be held at Haywards Heath on Sunday 10 January 2010.
- Everyone should now have received their copy of August **REFEREEING** magazine which Brian felt was an excellent edition.

Hon.Treasurer's report – membership and monies were as printed in the September Magazine. The £160 cheque from the sale of RA tickets had now gone into the passbook along with £31 transferred from the cheque account to give us £4k in the passbook.

Magazine Editor – asked members to consider articles for the November magazine.

Supplies Officer – Cyril advised that he felt purchasing the Laws of the Game booklet in bulk would not be viable. If anyone did want to commit to copies, then tell Cyril and he would take it from there.

Match Incidents/Problem Corner – Martin Feast made reference to his most recent game where a player had deliberately played the ball back to his goalkeeper with his knee. Martin awarded an in direct free kick and asked what others would have done. There was a mixed reaction but it did have us looking at the LOG for clarification and the definitive word is that you would penalise only if it was kicked.

- Colin Henderson commented on a game he had assessed where two players were injured in the same incident. He asked the players to leave on different sides of the pitch. Almost immediately he could tell one of them to come back on, but the other player had to wait a while as the ball remained in his proximity. This caused some frustration. Colin's advice is to be mindful of this and perhaps allow both players to leave at the same point.
- John Thornton queried how far a player who has been sent off must be sent away from the vicinity of the Field of Play. The view was that it must be as far as is possible, but John reminded the meeting that Youth players under the care of parents probably couldn't (and shouldn't) be removed such a distance.
- Mike Stobbart queried some of the mis-information being delivered by so called 'experts' in the assorted media and wondered whether or not the Football authorities should be taking issue with this?

AOB – David Hutchinson said that one year into the ongoing 'Respect' initiative and there were already improvements against an assortment of measures.

Adrian Freeman commented that at the Referees' Secretaries seminar on 10 September it was noted that Apprentices at the Academies were being taken through the Laws. He felt that it would do some of the Managers no harm to do same.

Brian Slyfield was concerned that at Youth level he was hearing of Referees who were prepared to tolerate 'bad' language and he felt that this was contrary to what Team Managers were telling their players about not using such language. **Half time**

BRIAN FISH led the second half of the meeting. Gary Willard could not be with us and Brian had tried three other possible Guest Speakers but none were available on the night. So, he split us into 5 groups of 5 and asked us to consider match 'PREPARATION.' Each group fed back on several occasions as we built a picture from when we receive the appointment through to 'warm down' after the game which of course is a good start for the next game. One point that did come out was that we shouldn't rely solely on SAT NAV. We should always have an alternative route to the ground in mind. Geoff Comley proposed a vote of thanks which was fully endorsed.

Geoff Comley had the winning ticket in the draw but selected the wrong key. **The meeting closed at 10.03pm.**

Deadline for articles for the November Magazine is Tuesday 27th October.