



# EAST DEVON REFEREES' ASSOCIATION

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Date:20/02/2020

## Minutes of the Committee Meeting of the EDRA held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020

### 1. Present:

Adrian Bond, Shaun Mann, Steve Banks, Dennis Bean, Graham Blackburn, Malcolm Stone, Ashley Horn, Ray Lloyd, Gordon Richards, Graeme Martin, Keith Mann

### 2. Apologies.

Apologies received from: Ian Kennan

### 3. Chairman's Opening Remarks.

Adie welcomed all to the meeting and thanked Ray and Shaun for stepping in to cover the last meeting which seems to have received positive feedback. Chairman expressed his disappointment that Keith Hackett could not attend the meeting especially given the publicity that the branch had given to this and the fact that late notice was given that he could not attend. The committee has raised concerns over asking Keith Hackett to attend a future meeting unless he approaches the branch directly to offer his time. It was discussed that as a branch, we must be clear on the terms of the guest speaker and what travel expenses would be covered for such speakers in the future. Adie also mentioned that Neil Anthony (D&E League General Secretary) contacted him to ask if league officers could attend future meetings especially if a guest speaker is present. Committee confirmed that they would be more than happy for anyone to attend these open meetings. The chairman once again expressed that the secretary position must be discussed in March as a replacement must ideally be found at the AGM ready for next season.

### 4. Minutes of Previous meeting.

- Minutes of January's meeting have been added to the website. It was confirmed by Steve Banks that Whipton & Pinhoe as a club were reported and not just the manager. All other details correct.

### 5. Matters Arising/ Correspondence.

- National Membership have sent email providing update on current work being undertaken:
  - Welfare – national RA are working hard to ensure every branch/area has a Welfare officer to support members who suffer abuse. National RA will refund 50% of course cost should a member successfully complete the course
  - Representation – meetings have been held with police forces to highlight the serious issues facing referees and how there needs to be harsher penalties within the judicial system regarding low sentencing
  - Development weekend (Staverton – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> July 2020) – seminars, workshops, presentation dinner & RA National Quiz Final
- Rule change ahead of National AGM (Sat 4<sup>th</sup> July) – Local RA can choose to pay subscription to County RA (currently no option and have to)
- Board Elections – just 3 nominations for the 3 positions so all elected

## 6. Treasurers Report.

- Membership stands at 38 (including 1 life member)
- Current Account £383.26                      Reserve Account £1,496.25                      Total £1,879.61

## 7. Delegates Reports.

- **Saturday Devon & Exeter League** – Ray Lloyd has raised concerns over behaviour of certain clubs and managers especially if this could be seen as a welfare issues for officials, players or spectators. The league are concerned and do not want this to become an issue as the league have always had a good reputation and have asked Ray to monitor clubs behaviour when he is watching games and advise those who are causing an issue that they will be reported to the league or the county FA if necessary.

- **Sunday League** – No meeting

- **DCRA**

Richard Mason was in attendance and gave the following summary:

- 587 referees registered – 36 Level 1 – Level 4, 194 Level 5, 56 Level 6, 197 Level 7, 75 Trainee, 30 Youth.
- Not sure where the L4 will come from in future as not many at Level 6 or 7 seem to want promotion
- RDO looking at running “standard Training” twice a year for branches. Law amendments and AR Training could be two topics and would be delivered by Registered Trainers and come to branch’s and deliver
- County and RDO are keen for L6 referees to attend the fitness test for L5’s going forward and this will be looked into ahead of next season
- The new National League structure and how it will affect Level 4 referees will be published once more details are known. Western League Premier will remain as step 5 (SWPL is step 6) but both leagues will have L4 officials and not L3 so not sure impact of this yet.

## 8. Training Officer / Mentoring.

Training – Ray was happy with the attendance at the January meeting and felt this session went well and it would be nice to have other guest speakers in the future.

Observations – Steve confirmed that 3 observations are left to be completed for promotion candidates before the end of the season. The core coaching group has been going well for both referees and the coaches. All promotion candidates are currently on track and no concerns around any of these.

## 9. Any Other Business.

AB – AGM date will be confirmed at March meeting once agreed by the committee (21 days notice must be given to members). AB-Also asked if the branch still wish to do a live match as part of a meeting, possibly in April. Graeme Martin will look at some potential dates and SWPL fixtures with Phil Hiscox

GR – walking football course will be run soon with 26 referees already interested in attending. Speak to Richard Mason if interested.

MS – asked Ray Lloyd if he could raise the issue of players trying to wear and tape up jewellery with the league at the next D&E meeting as this has become an increasing issue in recent weeks

**Meeting Closed – 19:40**

**Date of next meeting – Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020**