STOCKTON SUNDAY LEAGUE

**(Founded 1968)**







**President: Mr D Overton Chairman: Mr P Mack Treasurer: Mr K Clark**

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F.A & Durham County F.A Charter Standard League

MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING 19 AUGUST 2020

**Held at Elm Tree Social Club**

Present: P Livingstone (Vice Chairman), , M Sowerby, P Irish, G Hewitson,

D Overton (President), J Lambert, S Gibson, C Jackson, M Smith (Stockton RA) and K D Clark (Secretary)

Apologies: Alan Close, P Mack (Chairman), L Golightly

The Vice Chairman Peter Livingstone opened the meeting at 20:00 and he opened by advising that the Chairman was not available tonight and he would be chairing the meeting welcomed all to the first meeting of the season. He then handed over to the League Secretary who advised that the minutes of the 19 February 2020 had been posted on the website since 27 February 2020 and advised the meeting that these were not available to be signed as the meeting was the last of the previous season due to Covid-19 and there was nothing relevant to the new season.

##### Secretaries Report & Correspondence

**Secretaries Report – Matters Arising**

None

**Charter Standard**

I believe this is suspended at present for new clubs but will advise when Clubs will be able to apply. I will advise new clubs when the suspension is lifted and those Clubs who are outstanding.

**Correspondence**

League Statement – from FA received on a weekly basis.

Various Emails from FA, DFA & NRCFA re COVID-19

Email DFA re Referee fee increase to £30 including travel

Email reference DFA awards (more later)

Email from Cameron Jackson (Portrack) re Covid-19 requirements

Email DFA re Covid-19 Guidance on re-starting outdoor competitive grassroots football (See DFA website for full document)

**Covid-19 Report** – Cameron Jackson

Cameron went through a Covid-19 document he had put together for the league and explained the requirement of what is required and expected from teams with regards to the protocols for dealing with Covid-19 for teams. There then followed question and answer session, the secretary thanked Cameron for putting together the document which all teams received a copy.

**Secretaries Report**

First point tonight is to welcome you all to the meeting after what has been a very trying time with having to hold AGM on line and the Extra Ordinary meeting on line as well, I have to say this was far from ideal at all. Since the AGM the Management Committee have held a number of meeting and hopefully everything is set ready to start.

A number of people have been posting comments on Facebook and on Microsoft Teams that are unacceptable and stirring things up. Complaints about the Council removing the posts as they wanted to play friendlies or train on the pitches. The posts were taken down so that the Council could do remedial work and mark pitches ready for the season starting. Council pitches are not available for friendlies; teams sign the terms and conditions and would/should have read that friendlies are not allowed.

The fixtures have been produced and are on the league website for September 2020, no envelopes tonight to comply with Covid-19 restrictions. Therefore no match sheets have been issued as yet for the coming season and until such times as possible they will not be used, teams will just update the website on completion of their fixture, this will be the only time opponents will be able to check it is correct. Therefore teams are very much on trust for the foreseeable future. Because of the Covid-19 requirements we have to amend the rules so that the HOME team pays the referee instead of the fee being split as agreed by the AGM (this has come out from the FA as a directive) until such time as this may change.

There are a number of things that you need to bear in mind when the games start because of Covid-19 regulations (more on this shortly), however all teams need to make sure they follow the guidelines.

Player suspension is different this season in that you need to make sure the correct details are entered into WGS for the games players will miss, in the past teams have not being doing this and it causes problems for the league in that the suspension remains active until the games are submitted even though the suspension has finished. Cautions have been increased in cost with immediate effect they go up from £10 to £12 per offence. The DFA and NRCFA will not allow the league to input details of fixtures for any suspended player, the Team needs to add this information as soon as the suspension is notified. If you do not have the full fixtures to inform the County FA please get in touch with myself and I will advise.

I am still waiting on a number of teams to advise of their affiliation number this season, until I received the information teams will not be permitted to start their league fixtures.

Most teams have registered their players on WGS (741 to date), I must say a big thank you to those teams who have registered players so far, and closing date for registrations pre-season is Sunday 23 August 2020 in order to play on the 6 September 2020.

To date only three teams (Yarm & Eaglescliffe, Middlesbrough Erimus & Thornaby Nash) have not registered any players as yet, these need to be done by Sunday 23 August 2020 in order to play the first week of fixtures on the 6 September 2020. Plus another three teams (Queen Vic, Yarm Albion & Sir Thomas Brown) have only registered a few players. Minimum requirement is 14 players registered to play first week of the season, if teams have a problem then need to speak to me at the end of the meeting.

I have to add that if you are signing players on a match day then really you need the information prior to match day as you will need to add the player to WGS and then wait for it being added to the website before doing your match return. I would advise that you see a driving licence or birth certificate and verify for GDPR on WGS rather than wait for them accepting on the league website. Again you need to advise Jes Lambert of any match day signings before kick-off so that the player is covered by insurance otherwise this could result in a fine for not complying with the instructions.

The 2020-2021 league rules and a new transfer form have been added to the website. You can also find the GDPR information on the website as well as the League Privacy Notice.

One bit of good news for the league is that once again we have been awarded the Grassroots League of the Year for Durham County so thanks to the Management Committee and teams for their hard work.

**Team of the Month** – Will be continued next season

**Cup Draws**  None at present as league fixtures will take priority for the first half of the season.

**Referees:**  (Jes Lambert / Matthew Smith)

Jes reported that we had lost four referees this season for one reason or another; he had recruited two young referees one 16 and one 17 so need to be careful around them. Referees only allocated for first week on website as Jes waiting on a couple for dates, these will be updated soon. Games to be confirmed no later than 9pm on a Wednesday otherwise if referee advises Jes not had confirmation then he will remove and re-allocate if short.

Once again I will put these notes on the website so you can check out anything you have missed or to use as a reminder.

The Roll Call was taken and all teams were present.

Any Other Business

Date of the next League Meeting will be advised when sorted

The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 20:35

Signed: ………………………………………………….. Date: