

Minutes of a meeting of the CUP COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE held at Guildhall, London EC2P 2EJ on **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**, commencing 7.15pm.

Present: I. L. Wallis (Chairman), A. Brown (North East), K. Wilmot (North East), D. Hooker (Youth), G. Harknett (Youth), L. E. Newham (South East), A. I. Gilbey (North East), G. J. Rodber (South West), D. A. Wolff (Vice President), A. Sanchez (Youth), J. Horne (Cups Officer), M. Burke (Associate Member), J. Middlehurst (LFA Chairman), H. Gilroy (Head of Engagement)

Apologies for absence: G. J. Etchell (Vice President), I. Burke (Youth),

#### **1756. Minutes of the meetings held 19<sup>th</sup> August and 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019**

They were accepted as an accurate record.

#### **1757. Matters Arising**

ILW queried the fact that despite our lengthy discussion, Brentford were still permitted to play in black kit for their Senior Cup match against Beckenham Town.

#### **1758. Safeguarding**

There were no safeguarding issues to discuss.

#### **1759. Chairman's Report**

ILW expressed serious concerns about the London FA website which continues to be barely fit for purpose. It should be the main source of information about our Cup Competitions and cannot be relied upon at all. It is imperative that the office address this issue as a matter of urgency, as it is now one of the principal causes of complaints from Clubs and Leagues.

AIG pointed out that there are two different sets of our Cup Rules appearing on the website. Rule 10 in the Cups section is shown as Rule 11 in the on-link handbook.

#### **1760. Secretary's Report**

In the absence of IB on holiday, a written report (Appendix 1) was distributed to the meeting.

#### **1761. Youth Cups**

The importance of ensuring that the weekend's matches are recorded on the website as quickly as possible was discussed and extra staff are to be allocated in the office on Mondays for this purpose.

In his absence, a vote of thanks was made to Ian Burke for the thorough and extensive work that he has undertaken in sorting out the many problems that have involved this season's Youth Cups.

#### **1762. Adult Cups**

The impression given on the website is that a number of Youth and Adult Cups played extra time in error. JH will check how many as it may just be shown incorrectly on the website.

#### **1763. Senior Cup**

DAW enquired whether we had made further progress with the sponsors. Coventry Scaffolding continue to sponsor the Senior Cup but have still not sent any advert to us which can be shown in match programmes.

The question of regionalising the early rounds to the Senior Cup was discussed. AIG pointed out that Beckenham Town were reluctant to travel to Harrow and he suggested that we need a further discussion on this subject before next season.

#### **1764. Cup Final Venues**

The preferred dates and venues for the Adult Cup finals were agreed as follows:-

Senior Cup (alt. Met Police or Harrow)	21 <sup>st</sup> April	Dulwich Hamlet
Senior Trophy (alt. Hendon)	31 <sup>st</sup> March	Thamesmead
Junior Cup	17 <sup>th</sup> April	Haringey Borough
Veterans	1 <sup>st</sup> April	Beckenham Town
Sunday Challenge (alt. Welling)	19 <sup>th</sup> April	Bromley
Sunday Trophy & Sunday Junior (alt. Wingate)	5 <sup>th</sup> April	Hendon

JH will contact the Clubs and advise if the original bookings are confirmed or not.

#### **1765. Correspondence**

ILW explained that there is an ongoing Club dispute between Cray Valley PM and Greenwich Borough. Greenwich has requested that their Senior Cup tie be played at a neutral venue as some of their Club Officials are banned from The Cray Valley ground. It was felt that this was not an issue in which the Cup Committee should be involved.

The Home Team to decide the venue.

Proposed: G. Rodber                      Seconded: D. Wolff                      (Unanimous)

#### **1766. Any Other Business**

GH expressed concern that the U12 Finals were again scheduled to be played at Fisher using cones instead of pitch markings. JH will ask the Clubs for their views as to whether they prefer a stadium with cones or just a pitch with markings but probably no seating facility.

#### **1767. Date of next Meeting**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January. Venue to be advised.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 9.32pm



## **APPENDIX 1**

### **Youth Cups Report – for Cups Committee meeting 21<sup>st</sup> October 2019**

Firstly, apologies again for not being able to attend this next meeting, my report is as follows.

There have been many problems and complaints from some of the major youth leagues in London. They were having problems obtaining County Cup results, therefore not knowing which teams were going through. This made them unable to know if teams needed a league or cup fixture. It was suggested that we should meet up to find ways to try and fix some of these problems. The results would then be put forward to the Cups Competition. The following points were agreed.

1. Closing date for cup entries must be 31<sup>st</sup> July.
2. The draw should take place within the following 14 days to allow time for possible administration errors.
3. The draw must be published in full, together with all dates of each round, on the LFA website. By doing so this will help both the Leagues and Clubs to know who they are playing next, so can set league fixtures.
4. Results must be with the Office no later than Monday following the weekend games, as per rule 21a, b, c and d. On Monday, games with no results must be investigated to find out if they were unplayed due to the weather. If they are weather related, then the website needs to be updated as postponed, with the new date set for the following weekend. All other unplayed games where there is a dispute, will need to be fully investigated. All relevant paperwork and evidence is then sent to the Secretary of the Cups Committee so that a subcommittee can be set up to adjudicate. This will help the cups competition to flow more smoothly so avoiding hold ups.
5. It was also suggested that on Mondays, if this has not already been done, extra staff should be made available to make sure that all the results are collated correctly.

Ian B