

BIRMINGHAM COUNTY FA - COUNCIL MEETING 6th April

Minutes

1. Apologies for Absence

The attendance list was completed and is attached.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The Chairman sadly announced the passing of Mr Geoff Southall and gave details of Mr Southall's funeral.

2. Minutes of previous meeting 1st December 2017

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true and accurate record

3. Matters arising

The Chairman strongly recommended the EasyFundraising initiative for Clubs and Leagues to use as an income generator. Mr Penn mentioned that he was an avid user and that one Club had already raised £1,500.

4. Chairman & FA Representative M Penn

The Chairman gave an update on FA activity which included the on-going discussions regarding the governance reforms. This included a proposed change to age limits and terms of office and to widen representation.

Mr Penn confirmed that the BCFA had 43 shares which were all now held by the BCFA.

Mr Penn recommended to Council that the BCFA support the proposed reforms and asked for a vote in support. Everyone in attendance voted in favour to support the proposed reforms other than one member who voted against.

Mr Penn thanked everyone who supported the recommendation and he'll vote accordingly as the FA Representative. Mr Penn also highlighted that the BCFA had already gone through some fundamental reforms but there was still a little work to do to conform to the Sport England Governance code which was driving much of the FA's reforms.

Mr Ringland questioned the BCFA as to not having a disability representative. Mr Penn said that places were limited and that there were places for independent Non-Executive Board members who represent football locally.

The Chairman proudly presented Mr Yardley, Mr Fellows and Mr Rouse with their well-deserved FA 50 year Service to Football Awards.

5. BCFA meetings

- Board	January 2017	approved
	March 2017	approved
- Competitions	February 2017	approved
	March 2017	approved
- Referees	December 2016	approved
- Sanctions & Compliance on the night	No meetings convened	distributed
		approved on the night
- Inclusion Advisory Group	No meetings convened	
- Youth Council	January 2017 x2	for information
	February 2017	for information
	March 2017	for information

6. Business update

- Affiliation/Rules D Nixon

Mr Nixon gave an overview of the new 'top notch' affiliation process along with the timeframes and criteria for the discounts. The affiliation is very much driven by correct data.

There is no increase in affiliation again this year. However, it is mandatory for all youth teams to have personal accident insurance for the coming 17/18 season. We are working towards a 'one club' approach to affiliation for the 18/19 season.

- **Referees** R Watson

There were circa 1,400 Referees who registered in the season. To date, there were in excess of 39,000 matches with a 94% coverage (FA KPI: 90%). A big thank you to all the Leagues and Appointing Officers.

- **Discipline** M Duffield

It was noted that there was an increase in cases to do with youth football - on and off the field!

A total of 14,729 reports had already been submitted and one Club had reached the 250 penalty point threshold! The panels will be implementing touchline as well as ground bans as per FA guidance.

- **County Cups** J Monnes

There are 14 finals planned and all help and support from members would be appreciated

- **Safeguarding** S Poole

The staff had done a fabulous job in getting through each phase and in order to make all youth clubs and teams compliant. The visits had gone down well. It is expected that this will be a primary focus going forward and as part of affiliation in future seasons along with mandatory online courses for Committee members, as well as up to date CRC's, emergency aid and safeguarding courses.

7. Finance

- **Auditor** K Shoemake

The BCFA Board had appointed Baldwins as the new auditors. The CEO has been impressed with their depth of knowledge and help.

- **Financial Year** M Penn

Mr Penn stated that the BCFA financial year would change to 1st July until 30th June. The change was long overdue and will put the business in line with the football season and FA grants. Therefore, the next financial year will cover 15 months. The AGM will also be put back to September (date to be confirmed).

8. AOB

- **Cup Final Tickets** Criteria and Process

Mr Penn reiterated the new process and criteria and that the application form will be on the web site until the end of April. There is no guarantee but we will try to accommodate all requests up to an allocation of four per member.

- **Joel Richards match** 27th May 2017

9. Date of next meeting meeting Thursday 29th June 2017 - AGM/Council

Signed _____
Date _____

Print Name _____
Position _____