



**SECRETARY CUPS COMMITTEE**

Michael Burke, 47 St Keverne Road, Mottingham, London SE9 4AQ Tel 020 8851 3846

**MINUTES OF THE  
LONDON FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION  
CUP COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD ON  
MONDAY 13 MAY 2024  
AT  
THE GUILDHALL, LONDON**

Chairman Ian Wallis opened the meeting at 19:00 by welcoming the Chairman of the London Football Association, Mr J Middlehurst, and fellow members of the Cup Competition Committee.

**MEMBERS PRESENT.** I Wallis, K Wilmot, M Burke, L Di Cesare, L Newham, J Sapler and D Wolff.

**LFA OFFICE STAFF.** J Horne.

**APOLOGIES.** J Athill and B Ansher.

**ABSENT.** G Ghag.

The first item on the agenda was the election of officers. D Wolff proposed en bloc - I Wallis, Chairman, K Wilmot, Vice Chairman and M Burke, Secretary. The proposal was seconded by L Newham. Voting unanimous.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING.** The minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES.** K Wilmot reported that he had a conversation with a Muslim related organisation regarding how to bring in greater diversity and representation onto the Cup Competitions Committee. An individual was suggested at the meeting and this will be followed up.

K Wilmot asked if the Cup Committee should have a member representing disability football. The representative could be elected as an associate member. J Middlehurst volunteered to look into this suggestion.



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I Wallis reminded members that AFC Hammersmith were charged with playing a contract player in a Sunday Challenge Cup match. The club accepted the charge but requested a personal hearing to explain mitigating circumstances. They were accepted, so no fine was imposed, but they were expelled from the competition. The club appealed against this decision. The Appeals Committee found that the club had not been given a fair hearing but that the decision to expel the club was upheld. Their appeal fee was returned.

**SAFEGUARDING.** There were no Safeguarding matters to discuss.

**RESUME OF CUP FINALS** I Wallis reported that 35 LFA Cup finals were played this season. On behalf of the Cup Competition Committee, he offered J Horne and his team heartfelt congratulations on the smooth running of all Cup competitions and the excellent running of the cup finals.

Sunday Challenge Cup Final. - SE Dons v Baiteze Squad. This match ended with a pitch invasion by both sets of supporters. To try and clear the pitch for the presentation both teams and match officials were sent to their changing rooms. The presentation finally took place but only the winning team appeared. The losing team appeared not to be interested in collecting their medals and the match officials stayed in their changing room for their own safety. There was much discussion on whether action should be taken against SE Dons owing to their poor sportsmanship. J Middlehurst was at the final and reported that the pitch invasion was by both sets of supporters congratulating their players. There was no sign of any violent intent. There was a proposal that SE Dons should not be allowed into the cup next season, but it found no seconder. J Horne pointed out that if a tie or indeed a final was abandoned through fighting we would not write to the club, so why should we do it in this instance. It was decided that no further action would be taken..

L De Cesare asked why the Sunday Challenge Cup final programme showed players of SE Dons FC with YouTube type nicknames. J Horne informed the meeting that the team sheet handed in had the correct names of all players.

**PUBLICITY** I Wallis pointed out that we employed and paid a professional



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journalist to report on the finals of the Senior Cup, Senior Trophy and Sunday Challenge Cup.. To date no reports are on the LFA website.

The staff member assigned to publicity is Shannon Hyner who has only been in post since February. It was suggested that Shannon attend the next Cup Committee meeting. J Middlehurst suggested that far better will be to have a private meeting with her at Wembley.

I Wallis asked if clubs hosting LFA Cup finals were presented with a trophy honouring the occasion, as agreed. J Horne said no such trophies were handed out.

K Wilmot asked if any officials from the leagues that finalists were playing in were invited to the appropriate cup final. J Horne said they were not.

Some spectators at the Junior Cup played at Hendon FC ground stood in areas clearly marked 'no standing'. It was felt that staff members should act as stewards and move the spectators on.

K Wilmot showed concern that we again used Carshalton Athletic FC ground for one of this season's cup finals bearing in mind they are a Surrey FA club. D Wolff reiterated that we should only be using London FA grounds.

I Wallis discussed the grounds and facilities provided this season for cup finals, namely Charlton Athletic, Bromley, Barking, Wingate & Finchley, Carshalton Athletic, Hendon, AFC Wimbledon, SCT and Dulwich Hamlet. The sharp difference in hire charges was noted for the future.

J Horne received the following correspondence from Joe Hickley of Dulwich Hamlet FC:-

'I hope the London FA were happy with everything Monday night it's always great to host this great competition. I'm also glad that London FA always enjoy the visits to Champion Hill. This in mind I would like to offer our stadium for next season London Senior Cup Final both times in recent years were at short notice, Dulwich Hamlet would like to host this competition from the start and with this in mind I'll be able to do a great deal on our stadium while offering an excellent facility. We have lots of people from London come to our home ties and enjoy our hospitality and with the notice given we could offer similar for the final'.



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K Wilmot informed the meeting that at last season's Senior Cup final played at Haringey Borough FC ground there was no food on offer for the players. For future finals at this ground could we not issue vouchers to the appropriate people.

It was suggested that we are the only Association that hands medals to the runners up and then the match officials. All other cup competitions present the match officials first. We should do the same.

K Wilmot reported that he wrote to all the London professional clubs who do not take part in our Senior Cup inviting them in to next season's competition. Millwall had indicated that they will take part in season 2024/25, but have now declined.

### **CORRESPONDENCE.**

There was no correspondence.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS.** K Wilmot said he and the CEO are working on a new design for Council Member passes which are planned to be issued in July.

I Wallis asked members who had any changes to rules to forward them to him. He will distribute them to be discussed at the next planned meeting. J Horne suggested that if there are say only a couple of changes we could discuss them by emails.

### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that 18 June would be the date for a meeting to debate rule changes.

I Wallis thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 20:45.



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