

Minutes of the SEMLA GCM 7th April 2014

Present:

John Maynard	(JM)	EVP, Disciplinary Chair & Purley
Miles Whittle	(MW)	Treasurer & Bath
Jon Cooper	(JC)	Fixtures Secretary
Peter Mundy	(PM)	Croydon
Simon Peach	(SP)	South Referees Committee Chairman
Amit Biswas	(AB)	Walcountian Blues
Rob Gooch	(RG)	Spencer
Kieran Balmer	(KB)	Secretary & Brighton

1. Apologies for Absence.

Jon Bowles (Croydon)
Trevor Rogers (President & Reading)

2. Acceptance of Minutes from the previous meeting.

Accepted.

3. Matters arising not included in the Agenda.

None

4. President's Report

Trevor Rogers not present. Written report, circulated prior to the meeting, was accepted by those present.

5. Treasurer's Report

As per written report, circulated prior to the meeting.

MW noted that four more teams had paid their SEMLA fee for the season. Of the six remaining, it is believed that four have folded;

Colchester has inadvertently paid twice;

There are several outgoing payments to be made this month, including referee fees for the South trials and a ground hire fee for the Sixes tournament.

PM noted that the County games will also incur a grounds hire fee;

JM asked if there was a means of contacting Colchester and MW confirmed that this was already being dealt with.

Report accepted by those present.

6. Secretary's Report.

KB had nothing to report.

7. Youth Development Committee's Report.

Ray Wood not present. Written report, circulated prior to the meeting, was relayed to those present by JM. Report accepted by those present.

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8. University Liaison Report.

No current officer, so no report. It was agreed that there is a need to receive regular feedback from the University game, and that the current situation may not be sufficient.

9. South Manager Report.

Nik Roberts absent, therefore no report.

KB noted that there were unconfirmed reports of 60 attendees at South trials. It was agreed that if this proved to be accurate, such a positive turnout would suggest that the chosen format was successful. **JM to request confirmation and feedback from Nik Roberts.**

10. Disciplinary and Complaints Panel Report.

JM referred to his written report, circulated prior to the meeting.

There are no disciplinary issues;

There is a complaint to be heard, arising from the Blues v Hitchin fixture on March 22nd. A date for the hearing has yet to be identified but all parties are in communication.

Report was accepted by those present.

11. Referee Secretary Report.

Steve Jarvis currently on sabbatical, so SP reported verbally.

All BUCS semi-finals and finals were officiated by 4-man crews;

South trials were officiated by Rob Collinge and Trevor Rogers.

KB asked if any more had been heard from the MPC with regard to their one-man reffing issue. SP replied that the MPC had gone quiet on this subject, but he felt that it was not an issue that was going to go away. SP suspects that a prohibition will be phased in on a division-by-division basis, year on year.

MW noted that the feedback from the Durham v Leeds BUCS men's final was that the players were very satisfied with the standard of the officiating. PM asked if spectator attendance was good, and MW described it as "bustling".

Report was accepted by those present.

12. Fixture Secretary Report.

Jon Cooper referred to his written report, circulated prior to the meeting.

Byelaw 7(d): JC has received no feedback from any clubs with regard to the draft amendment. The draft amendment will go to the AGM in its current form. **KB to confirm circulation to clubs and invitation for comment.**

National Squad training weekends: proposal will go to AGM as drafted.

Promotion and Relegation: Cardiff and Buckhurst Hill have both declined promotion to the Prem. If the relevant byelaws are observed as written, Purley will be relegated and the Prem will contain only nine teams next season. Is this an opportunity to get the "spare" team every week to provide referees?

60% of all West2 games have been conceded this year. It may be time to look at a different format for this division. PM noted that it is important to gather information to explain the

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reasons behind this unusually high number of unplayed fixtures , and that the ELA might be prevailed upon to provide support to cure any problems faced by the clubs.

Report accepted by those present.

13. RDO Report.

Nik Roberts absent. No report.

14. MPC Liaison Report.

Sam Spurrell absent. No report.

15. Any Other Business.

- a) A short discussion was held and the meeting decided that it was preferable to continue to provide a face-to-face meeting. **SP to confirm availability of the room used for the 2013 meeting.**
- b) JM asked everyone at the meeting to try to identify volunteers within their own clubs who might be open to filling vacant committee positions.
- c) PM confirmed that the County tournament will be held on May 17th at Coldharbour Leisure Centre. The matches will be played on three grass pitches.
- d) PM also noted that Croydon will be using a new all-weather pitch for their home fixtures next season.
- e) JM asked for consideration to be given to allowing Purley to remain in the Prem, in light of Cardiff and Buckhurst Hill declining promotion. The meeting agreed that Purley would have to make a formal request for such a deviation from the byelaws, and that a vote would need to be taken if such a request was made.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting. 7pm, Monday 12th May 2014

END