

# Minutes of the SEMLA GCM Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014

## **Present:**

Trevor Rogers	(TR)	President & Reading
John Maynard	(JM)	EVP, Disciplinary Chair & Purley
Peter Compton	(PC)	EVP & Spencer
Miles Whittle	(MW)	Treasurer & Bath
Peter Mundy	(PM)	EVP & Croydon
Simon Peach	(SP)	South Referees Committee Chairman
Kieran Balmer	(KB)	Secretary & Brighton

## **1. Apologies for Absence.**

Ray Wood (Youth Chair), Danny Buckland (Epsom), Alister Wilson (Maidstone), Jon Bowles (Croydon), Jon Cooper (Fixtures Secretary), David Mason (Buckhurst Hill)

## **2. Acceptance of Minutes from the previous meeting.**

Minutes accepted

## **3. Matters arising not included in the Agenda.**

Noted that there were developments regarding arrangements for SEMLA 6s; topic to be covered in fixtures secretary's report.

## **4. President's Report**

TR present; No Report

## **5. Treasurer's Report**

MW's written report was previously circulated; MW summarised the same verbally.

## **6. Secretary's Report.**

KB present; reported verbally

Noted a small number of transfers had taken place along with one U16's dispensation. Nothing further to report.

## **7. Youth Development Committee's Report.**

Ray Wood absent. TR reported verbally

Noted that there had been a meeting of all youth clubs recently using a game day format – pick up style games.

Junior flags to be held in March/April

Peter Compton liaising with Tracey Woodall re running Southern Youth Academy.

ELA has formed a new Youth committee: Ray Wood, Peter Compton and Tracey Woodall all appointed as committee members.

## **8. University Liaison Report.**

No current officer, so no report.

PM noted need for this position to be filled - suggested the ref or the CBO from the recent London Uni v Croydon game.

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SP is able to identify these individuals from Referee records. TR suggested that it may be Dave Bruce – Dave Slaughter knows Dave Bruce.

TR noted massive Uni growth in the South but also noted that transition of players leaving uni and entering senior game still requires improvement.

JM asked if ELA keeps a database of uni players, TR mentioned ELA data protection rules potentially preventing such information being shared.

KB noted ELA tend to take an over-cautious approach to data protection.

PM suggested using facebook and / or BUCS contacts to improve awareness or approaching Dave Coldwell for assistance.

## **9. South Manager Report.**

Nik Roberts absent.

TR noted Nik Roberts currently liaising with Henning Schmidt at Hillcroft re South team preparations.

## **10. Disciplinary and Complaints Panel Report.**

JM's written report circulated previously. No comments or questions.

## **11. Referee Secretary Report.**

SP reported verbally.

Progress being made means fewer and fewer solo referee games taking place.

Trying to encourage refs to use database to indicate which games they can officiate also now asking panel refs to retrospectively confirm names of home referees.

We need to keep clubs more informed about impending rules changes. For instance, rules regarding new goal crease sizes. PM was unaware of this rule change, asked who is responsible for making people aware. SP noted that as it appears no one else cascades these changes to the clubs, SEMLA committee should take responsibility.

TR noted rules regarding mouthguards are unified field markings both come into force in September 2015. Both rules passed by FIL in Denver earlier in 2014. TR further noted rules re ground pipes on goals, but repeated dispensation for South to date likely to delay full implementation of that particular rule.

MW noted that rule changes can be found in the MPC minutes on ELA website. JM and PM both noted that it is highly unlikely that anybody will scour the MPC minutes on the ELA website.

SP agreed to produce a document summarising recent rule changes.

Bulk purchase referee courses: email to ELA on 7<sup>th</sup> November, suggested SEMLA to fund £15 per candidate alongside ELA discounting course fee by £15. 4 Courses, around London extremities: no formal response from ELA to this proposal as yet, however informal feedback suggests ELA likely to be reluctant to discount the course.

TR suggested that we offer maximum of 2 spaces per club, based on 32 clubs. SP to seek approval for ELA to provide Level 1 qualification at the price of £35 and SEMLA will pay £15 subsidy meaning the fee payable by the candidate would only be £20.

TR pointed out that women's level 1 umpire qualification is now delivered wholly online but no progress has been made in this regard in the men's game. This reflects the MPC's attitude towards social media, which is not up to date. We should start producing our own videos to be posted online explaining the basic rules. We have made this suggestion repeatedly over the last year to Paul Coups and Mark Coups but nothing has happened. General agreement that TR and SP would take this forward.

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**[Peter Compton joined the call]**

## **12. Fixture Secretary Report.**

Jon Cooper not present.

General discussion re East 3 and West 2 cancellations.

PM mentioned arrangements for SEMLA 6's: PM asked if the committee were happy with the £50 entry fee. Nobody was unhappy with this fee.

PM asked if the committee would be happy with a proposal to attempt to increase participation in SEMLA 6's by offering a 'carrot' of a league point to each team for entering. General consensus was positive. Question was raised by PC whether such a proposal could be implemented by the committee without reference to the clubs. TR noted that a byelaw amendment would be required to implement the 'carrot' proposal.

## **13. RDO Report.**

Nik Roberts not present; no report

## **14. MPC Liaison Report.**

No officer, so no report.

General conversation regarding the need to fill this role. TR noted that previous post holders have been demoralised by the MPC's treatment of the South/South representative: this is an obstacle to recruiting a new postholder.

## **15. Any Other Business.**

NA

**16. Date and Time of Next Meeting:** 7pm, Monday 5th January 2015 via conference call

**END**