

**EAST of SCOTLAND SOCCER DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 23rd May 2010**

Committee present: David Smith (Chairman), Roger Oglesby (Temp. General Secretary), Louise Lewis (Treasurer), John Brock, Tom Terrell, Moray Dickson (Match Secretary's).

1. Chair's opening remarks & apologies:

David welcomed everyone to the meeting. A record of attendance was circulated for signature. Apologies received from Mark Munro, Brian Mackrell and Tom Burnett.

2. Previous minutes:

Minutes of 28/02/2010 were circulated along with the agenda. Scott Thomas, Dunedin proposed and Tom Terrell seconded.

3. Treasurers report:

Louise delivered a report of the financial record for the 8 months ending 31.03.2010. A hard copy was also made available to attendees.

The balance of surplus funds carried forward total **£9,722.86p**, However £8,194 is still due to the World of Football, which will leave just over £1000.

Louise said that she was concerned that the association would not be able to fund winter futsal in 2011. She further said that the association membership fees would be different next season, but said that the subject would be addressed by Roger later in the meeting.

4. Match secretary reports:

Under 12 match secretary: Brian not present. Roger said that he had nothing to report.

Under 11 match secretary: Moray said that they had a good season with only 3 incidents of bad behaviour during games reported.

Under 10 match secretary: Tom said that there had been no problems or disputes reported to him. He also commented that he had to make numerous changes to the fixture list after xmas and that the association was going to be stricter with teams missing registration deadlines. A message regarding the changes will be posted on the web-site and coaches e-mailed.

Under 9 match secretary: Roger apologised for the number of fixture amendments in the second half of the season. He had also been inundated with changes, including 8 new teams, resulting in lots of corrections to fixtures. There had been 1 minor incident which had been dealt with.

Roger said that he receives many calls regarding match incidents and said that any complaint needed to be put in writing. They would always seek to have the clubs involved talk and resolve any incident before continuing to the disciplinary process. Incidents involving children are referred to Hampden. 1 complaint against a coach has been processed and is with Hampden.

5. Election of office bearers

Chairman - David Smith re-elected as chairman. Proposed by Paul Orme, North Merchiston, seconded by Heather Docker, Tynecastle.

General Secretary - It was noted that there were 15 persons, including the committee and John Waddell present at the meeting. John Waddell volunteered for the post of general secretary. Proposed by David Smith seconded by Roger Oglesby. A vote was taken and it was carried unanimously in John's favour.

Treasurer - Louise re-elected as treasurer. Proposed by Roger Oglesby, seconded by John Brock.

Match secretary's all volunteered to remain in post. Proposed David Smith. seconded by Tony Catlin.

Minute taker. No volunteer. To be held over. Roger agreed to carry on as webmaster.

6. Winter Futsal for 2011.

Roger reported that futsal had been well supported for the last four years. SFA have subsidised the assoc in the `past and were keen to continue to help out again. However, Futsal is still a major cost to the association.

World of Soccer is extremely expensive and the assoc has to pay the full cost. It is not discounted. It is anticipated that the costs will go up considerably in 2011 and the costs will have to be met by the clubs. John Brock suggested that the assoc' try to negotiate a deal at world of soccer. Tom said that there had been a deal, but it had been revoked when it was taken over by new management. David said that it was a first class facility and they should try to negotiate a deal but if they failed they would have to carry on and pass on the costs to the teams.

This year the astro all-weather pitches had been snowed off. It was acknowledged that this had been a particularly long freakish winter, but there was no guarantee that it wouldn't recur.

Paul Orme said that his team hadn't enjoyed the stop start nature of the matches and would rather play continuously of walls/boards. It was suggested that three teams be allocated 1 pitch instead of moving pitch to pitch. Some thought that 6 games in an hour was too many and suggested fewer longer games. John Brock said that he would feed back to Mark Munro.

Dalkeith, Craigroyston, Forrestines, Lasswade High, Holyrood, St Margaret's college and Broughton High were all suggested as possible venues for the future. Meadowmill had been looked at previously for football 4's.

7. Football fours.

John Brock reported that a number of games had been played by 6y.o. v 8y.o and they had been very one-sided. Young players heavily beaten every week will become demoralised and be lost to the game. John felt that an extra level of 6-7 y.o. and 7-8y.o needed to be introduced to achieve a fairer balance in play. John recommended that there be further discussion on a possible split.

Tom said that there were 29 teams in the Beckham league and asked where they had all come from. He said that some teams were playing 7's when they should still be playing four's. Players should play at there own age group and not be pushed into 7's.

John Waddell said that clubs who have attained the quality mark get cheaper SFA courses and better pitches. He said that they should stick to the SFA player pathway or risk losing the quality mark.

Moray said that there are only 33 quality mark clubs in Edinburgh and the rest can do what they like without any risk.

Edinburgh leisure are working towards better pitches and they will be offered to quality mark clubs first.

8. SFA report including player pathway - Mark Munro

Roger explained that Mark had sent his apologies as he was running in the Edinburgh Marathon.

Roger read out a prepared report.

It was noted that all 7's teams were to use size 4 balls. In the past under 9's had used size 3 and some teams had already purchased size 3 balls.

John Waddell said that he believed under 9's should be playing with a size 3 football and that it was a backward step and that the SFA were wrong. There were also cost implications for teams for training and match balls. It was felt that the association should go back to Mark and voice our concerns and hope that common sense prevails.

John Brock said that the association had signed up to the player pathway but that after a bedding in period it should be open to discussion.

At soccer 7's the pathway allows for size 4 football, no offside although retreating line introduced at under 10's only, pass back and throw in rules applied at under 11-12. Under 9's will adopt kick-ins.

The full SFA report is attached at **Appendix A**.

9. Review of constitution and guidelines.

There is nothing in the constitution as to what constitutes a quorum or any reference to the web-site and what can be put on it. A sub-committee will be formed to look at the constitution and guidelines. They will have to be rewritten to include the player pathway. Anyone interested in joining the sub-committee should speak to Roger at the end of the meeting.

10. www.esda.co.uk, webmaster@essda.co.uk

Roger said that he try's to keep the site as up to date as possible but that occasionally it is not as quick as it might have been. Roger said that he had been reluctant to give out e-mail addresses when asked, however the association application form has been changed to ask for permission to publish e-mail for SFA and association use as they may prove helpful in arranging weekly fixtures. The e-mail addresses would be on the fixture list and not on the web-site.

A lady from the evening news had approached Roger asking for e-mail addresses to allow her to contact coaches as she was writing an article for the paper. Roger said that he had advised her to write to Hampden for permission, rather than just give them out.

11. Applications for 2010-2011 season. www.syfaregistrations.co.uk/club

The plan is to register clubs from January to December. Clubs are to register in August for 18months to January 2012. The association will collect money now to cover two seasons.

Louise said that the association do not take in enough money to cover the costs of football fours or Futsal and that membership costs would need to be looked at. Louise suggested that the assoc' also pursue outside funding such as lottery grants.

The registration fees will be posted on the website.

12. AOCB

Season will run for 16 weeks from 29th August - 12th December and 6th March - 19th June.

If the association can afford the costs winter futsal would be held between 16th January and 20th February.

In the past, applications for membership have been accepted by the association a few weeks before the season start date. This will no longer be possible as fixtures are being published by an outside agency, with advertising to raise extra income.

Closing dates for registration will be 30th June 2010 for 18 months. The association will advertise the date to all clubs. Forms will be on the website or paper copies can be collected here tonight. Roger will change the membership fee from £15 to £20.

Christine Knox asked for the extra player rule to be clarified. She had allowed an opposition coach to put on an extra player at 4 nil up. She had asked for the player to be taken off when the opposition had scored two goals but the other coach had said that the extra player can stay on until the scores are level. The committee agreed that the wording on the web-site was dubious. Although it was right that the player should be taken off, it was suggested that the player be left on to equalise play and both teams would be happy if they both scored goals and the losing team reduced the deficit and were not hammered. It is about developing the players not about winning.

The association require a new secretary. Anyone interested should contact Roger.

Teams are continually asked to complete win/loss return sheet. Some coaches don't do it and these coaches place strong teams in lower divisions to rack up scores and wins.

David said that the people who need to hear it are never here. Tom stated that at under 13's, if a club doesn't send a representative to the meetings, they are fined.

In season 2010-11, under 11 teams can stay with ESSDA or join Tom Wilson's league again, but this will be the last year before the full pathway is introduced.

The Date of Next meeting is 7:30pm on 22nd August 2010 at Jewel miners club.

Appendix A

SFA report including player pathway - Mark Munro