



Amateur Football Combination

National Respect Gold Award League 2012

Spirit of Football



www.amateurfootballcombination.com

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Chairman: John Maskell

Treasurer: Steve Lovejoy

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Minutes of the Rules Revision Committee Meeting of 29th May 2018

6.30 p.m. – 9.45 p.m.

Present Bart O'Toole, Neil Johnstone, Norman MacDonald

Apologies John Maskell (AFA Board meeting)

Martin Armstrong (Professional Commitments)

Ian Andrews (Transport difficulties due to new train timetables)

Robin Gibbs (Recovering from hip operation)

1. The Agenda was to review the rule changes already circulated and approved in principle at previous Executive Committee Meetings, plus:
 - 1.1. Replacement of all the League rules by the FA Standard Code of Rules with retention of existing League Rules where appropriate.
 - 1.2. Additional changes to rule 10 to define automatic withholding of trophies in specified circumstances, subject to the appeal process
 - 1.3. The FA pilot Sin Bins scheme for cautions for dissent
 - 1.4. International Transfer Certificates.
2. John Maskell had undertaken much work reviewing SCOR and preparing an extensive draft of SCOR with substantial amendments based on the current League rules. His draft indicated various areas needing checking. The history and background of how the league rules have come into being was discussed, from the time of the merger of the OBFL, SOL and LFFA about 12 years ago after negotiation between a committee including the Secretaries of both main leagues, to a review during 2015/2016 including a comparison table created by Ian Andrews. After one hour of review it was concluded that there is insufficient time to review the proposals and prepare a full set of revised rules whilst preserving the many detailed changes approved since the merger. This much larger project would be better examined in the coming year after the AGM. Nevertheless, some change was needed direct from SCOR, most notably the introduction of ITCs.
3. Further changes were agreed:
 - 3.1. International Transfer Certificates in rule 8a (ii) based on the wording of that rule in SCOR.
 - 3.2. Automatic withholding of trophies where a team wins its division and a team for the same club playing in the division above gains one point per game or less, subject to appeal under rules 5c-d, 15 and 16.
 - 3.3. Increasing the maximum number of 'no fixture' requests from one to two per season per team – rule 10h; reducing from 28 days to 21 days the notice to be given of such requests.
 - 3.4. Sin Bins – a new experimental rule 10l incorporating FA Guidelines to be issued separately with the AGM papers.

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- 3.5. Minor variations to the rule changes already approved in principle by the Executive Committee.
4. After wide ranging discussion on all matters a conference call was held with Ian Andrews. The proposals met his approval and he explained some of the rule changes he had already proposed.
5. It was agreed that the following documents would be issued for the AGM:
 - 5.1. Final draft of all rule changes – BOT to circulate to committee members and Ian Andrews
 - 5.2. FA Guidance on Sin Bins
 - 5.3. Guidance to clubs on how to apply for ITCs for any players who had played overseas at any time since the age of 10 (however many years ago they played overseas).
 - 5.4. FA pro forma application forms for ITCs.
6. The meeting ended at 9:45 pm.