



# The Referees' Association of England

## Proposed Amendments to the Rules of the Association and Notices of Motion 2008 – Final notification

To  
ABS Secretaries  
cc Board members and CRA Secretaries

The following have been received in accordance with Schedule 5 Part 1 paragraph 2 of the rules of the Association for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2008. No proposed amendments have been received.

For ease of identification

Proposed additions or amendments appear in bold underline italics.

Proposed deletions are ~~struck through~~

### Proposed Amendments to the Rules of the Association

#### **A. Schedule 1 paragraph 2 Subscriptions and Car Mileage Allowance**

**Proposed by the Board**

The existing wording of paragraph 2 is to be amended as follows

- The car mileage allowance under Rule 11(b) shall be ~~25~~ **30** pence per mile.

*Reason:*

*To increase the car mileage allowance to reflect the increased running costs since the last change in the mileage allowance in 1999*

#### **B. Schedule 2 Part 1 Election of members of the Board of Management**

**Proposed by Southport RA**

The existing wording is to be amended as follows

- At each election, ~~one~~ **two** of the three retiring members of the Board shall be ~~a member~~ **members** drawn from one of the three regions or a person co-opted to replace any such member.
- Three candidates shall be elected, including:-
  - ~~one~~ **two** from within the region whose ~~member has~~ **members have** retired who receives the greatest number of votes cast for candidates based within that region
  - one other** ~~two others~~ receiving the greatest number of votes cast.
- If no candidate has been nominated from within the relevant region, the three highest placed candidates shall be elected. After the election, ~~one~~ **two** of those three shall be assigned by the Board to the relevant region for his three-year term of office.

*Reason:*

*When the first elections were held, the result, (although accurate and fair) gave a perception of "bias in representation". There was only one elected member from the East Midlands / North zone. Whilst this was totally within the rules, the perception to the "ordinary member" at grassroots level was somewhat different. This amendment, if successful would spread geographic representation AND retain the essential element of also electing "National" members on merit.*

*It is also worth noting that currently the Board, by election accident, does have a minimum of two members from each zone, but of course may not do so in future.*

#### **C. Schedule 5 Part 1 Notices of motion and proposals to amend the rules at AGMs and the provision of papers for meetings**

**Proposed by the Board**

The existing wording is to be amended as follows

- If the Board considers that debate on any proposal is unnecessary or inappropriate it shall, on or before 1st ~~April~~ **March** advise the relevant ABS, life members or direct members in writing, with reasons. Debate on the proposed Rule Change or Motion will not then take place at the AGM unless the ABS, life members or direct members concerned appeal to the Board on or before ~~45th~~ **1<sup>st</sup>** April and the Board withdraws its preliminary objection, or debate on the proposed Rule Change or Motion is first approved at the AGM in accordance with Standing Orders in Schedule 5 Part 2.

*Reason:*

*To amend the dates*

*by which the Board must advise the proposer that they have an objection to a proposed rule amendment or notice of motion*

*to increase the time allowed, to one month, for the proposer to appeal against an objection*

## **Notices of Motion 2008**

The Board considers that debate on the following 4 notices of motion is unnecessary or inappropriate, and in accordance with schedule 5, part 1, paragraph 4, has advised the nominating society in writing, with reasons.

Eastleigh society has appealed to the Board to withdraw its preliminary objection.

The Board has agreed not to withdraw the objection.

In accordance with Standing orders in Schedule 5 part 2, Eastleigh society will be invited to address the AGM for a maximum of 2 minutes per motion, seeking the approval of delegates to debate each motion.

**1**

**Proposed by Eastleigh Society**

This meeting is concerned that the appointment of County Football Association Referee Development Officers together with their central control of New Referee Courses will be another detrimental blow to the ability of the Referees Association of England to recruit new referees into ABS's and requests the board to lobby The Football Association to allow the RAE free access to the FA CAS Database to enable this Association to carry on its vital work of retaining referees and providing their in service training.

**Reason:**

*The reason for this motion is the removal from ABS Training Officers of the ability to organise new referees courses will result in courses being more centralised and candidates being trained outside of their home ABS area. Vital early contact with these new referees will result in their isolation from the family of referees and the vital in-service training during their first few matches and later in their career. It has been proved through the numbers of active referees who have attended FAMOA events that the FA is unable to undertake the in-service training of football referees on the regular basis that it is needed.*

**2**

**Proposed by Eastleigh Society**

This meeting requests the Board to negotiate the provision of free Criminal Record Bureau checks and free Child Protection Courses for referees, if the Football Association believes that such checks and safeguards are necessary to enable Football Referees to effectively undertake their duties, and looks forward to a £5 reduction in referees registration fees effective from the commencement of season 2009/2010. The meeting also looks to the FA to refund the £5 fee taken from existing referees during this and previous seasons.

**Reason:**

*When the board achieves this motions objective it will put Football Association Referees on a par with Cricket Umpires who have their checks paid for by the ECB, Rugby Referees who have their checks paid by the RFU, and Basketball umpires whose checks are paid for by the Basketball Federation or the Hockey Umpires who require no check at all. Many of our members are required to get further CRB Checks as a result of other hobbies or their employment and all have them paid for by whoever are requesting the check. We can see no reason with the billions of pounds coming into football why referees have been singled out to personally meet these costs that has now been perpetually included in the annual registration fee.*

**3**

**Proposed by Eastleigh Society**

This meeting requests the Board to produce a discussion paper, by the end of this year, on the merits of providing the RA Insurance on a voluntary basis and not compulsory as it is at present, for debate at next year' AGM. Such discussion paper to include details of the number of claims made on our group policy for each of the last 5 years.

**Reason:**

*Some County Football Associations are now providing all referees with insurance at a similar cost to that offered by the Referees Association. Also some members have similar insurance policies by virtue of other sporting or employment activities. We believe that it is superfluous for the RAE to offer this cover to all members. Our Society is also concerned that when claims have been made on the policy they have been deemed to be outside its scope, in particular the cover provided for kit and items in the referees kitbag*

**4**

**Proposed by Eastleigh Society**

This meeting requests the Board to produce a discussion paper, by the end of the year, on the balance held in the Benevolent Fund of the Referees' Association together with proposals for the future operation of that fund, for debate at next year' AGM.

**Reason:**

*It has been recorded in Board minutes that there is an urgent need for a new headquarters building. This Society believes that all Association funds should be used to fund a move to purpose built accommodation*