

Wessex Blues

10th Meeting Minutes

Started 13th June 2013 20:00

Closed 13th June 2013 21:35

Location: Royal British Legion/Ex Servicemen's Club, North Road, Poole, Dorset

1. Welcome and Introduction

Rob thanked everyone for attending the June meeting (15 in attendance).

Apologies from Pete Armstrong, Peter Birbeck, Joanne Sherry, Marc Hayes and Paul Greenwood

Joe Price and Nick Collins became new members

No schedule for this meeting as it was a buffet.

2. News and Updates

None

3. Treasurer Update (Mr. Steve Hayhurst)

Steve H commented on a possible draft of purchasing tickets going forward for the season 2013/2014...his comments which he read out at the meeting are stated below:

The Wessex Blues (the Branch) are a fully affiliated branch of the Official Supporters Club (OSC) of Manchester City Football Club (the Club).

Membership of the Branch is attained by payment of an annual fee or by way of an age concession.

It is open to all Branch members to join the OSC on payment of an annual fee or an age concession. There is no compulsion on any member to join the OSC.

The OSC has a process whereby an affiliated branch can apply for tickets on behalf of its members who are also members of the OSC. This process is open to Branch **and** OSC members who are either season ticket or priority match ticket cardholders.

In effect, ordinary blue members would not be able to apply for tickets through the OSC arrangements. It would therefore seem that ordinary blue members would not be able to join the OSC and there would be little point in it anyway.

Tickets have to be paid for by the Branch at the time of allocation and loyalty points will be applied to the individual member. This will preclude that member from applying for extra tickets via the Club.

The Branch was extremely fortunate last season to source as many tickets as it did for the two Wembley games and this is no guide as to what might happen for this or any other season.

The Committee has learned a lot from the supply of tickets from last season and will formulate a policy for the coming season based on this draft and any comments from the members.

DRAFT

The Branch will do its best to secure tickets for any member (s) that request them.

Tickets will be only be applied for on behalf of members who are fully paid up both with the Branch and the OSC (age concessions included).

It is fully understood that members may apply for tickets in good faith and then circumstances might change that prohibit the attendance at the specific match.

In order to ensure that the basic cost of a ticket is covered, members will be asked to pay a once only £50 deposit in to the branch funds as an indemnity against the cost of the ticket at the start of the new season. The actual match ticket will still need to be paid for. (This clause arises from useful input by Alan Crumley and Martin Ockenden).

The effect of this deposit will mean that Branch funds are not compromised by anyone ordering a ticket and then changing their mind and leaving the Branch to try and sell the ticket on.

It will also mean that anyone changing their minds about a match will not have to pay extra for a ticket that they will not use. However, should this situation arise, the member will be expected to build their deposit back up to £50 before applying for any further tickets.

The payment of a deposit should also avoid the issue of asking for deposits for any key games that are priced higher than normal, i.e. semi finals and finals

Any tickets obtained by the Branch via the OSC should be offered back to the Branch for resale if the member no longer requires them. This is so that the Branch can keep a record of who has what ticket in case any issues arise which might impact directly on the Branch and the supply of future tickets.

Should the situation occur (as it did for the Cup Final aargh) that the Branch are invited to apply for extra tickets, then the Branch will do so on behalf of members who do not hold season or priority cards providing they are fully paid up members of the Branch (not necessarily the OSC). This may require the payment of a deposit against the ticket if the member has not previously paid the suggested £50 deposit.

Tickets obtained via the OSC will be allocated to those members who requested them but where demand exceeds supply then tickets may be allocated on a rota system based on agreed criteria in order that there is some fairness and equality over allocation.

4. General Secretary Update (Dr. Richard Wild)

None, accept relayed apologies as above.

5. Buffet

Thanks to Steve H for organising the buffet which was well received.

6. AOB

Ash suggested we had a barbeque for the next meeting

Phil and Steve Eaton gave their apologies as they will not be present at the next meeting.

7. Next Meeting

Next meeting to be held on the 11th July at 19:45

Minutes taken by Dr. Richard J. Wild – General Secretary, Wessex Blues