

Dundee FC Supporters' Society Limited

Moving Forward Together

(Registered by the FSA under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965 – Reg. 2639 RS)

DFCSS LTD. BOARD MEETING – MINUTES

Thursday 22nd September, 7.20pm, Boardroom, Dens Park Stadium, Dundee

Present: Dave Forbes, Scott Glenday, Maurice Kidd, Fraser MacDonald, Colin Reid, Jacqui Robertson, Graham Smith (by telephone), Neil Matthew

Apologies: Bill Brewster, John Keith, George Harris, Stuart Murphy

A resolution was passed by all directors to hold the meeting despite 7 days' notice not being given.

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meetings

This was again held back in light of the recent workload, but three sets of minutes from July have been circulated for subsequent approval so we can begin posting these online.

2. Matchday Activities

Colin is to clarify to prize draw winners that boardroom hospitality is from 2pm, not 1-1.30 as previously advised. It was again clarified that those who had signed up to the business flag would instead be invited to the boardroom and received one of 23 signed framed tops from last season, rather than receiving corporate membership as previously suggested. There is no corporate member in the Penman Lounge this week.

It was noted there has been no communication to date regarding collection of Junior Dees packs, although this may be planned for Saturday, so some fans may be unaware. Colin is helping to put more packs together tomorrow, and did likewise yesterday with Dave and a couple of the Seniors Club members.

The Daily Record are keen to cover the community work pre-match and at half-time including the tug of war, and the Tele will probably do likewise. Neil Matthew attended this section in John Keith's absence to ensure all plans were understood and agreed, and communicated as required.

Neil is getting more volunteers to help with buckets, and should not sell Gold membership packs this week, so signage should be temporarily removed. Graham expressed disappointment at sales to date.

New bibs will be in place (white for volunteers and pink for half-time participants). 20 of each have been sourced. Neil is to take these back after the game, and to ensure all old "Dee4Life" branded bibs are removed, whether used by our volunteers or others, as now seems to be the case.

A few hundred team lines are to be copied and handed out to encourage bucket donations. Once discussion of matchday activities concluded, Neil left the meeting.

3. Matters Arising / Action Lists

Legends Lounge hospitality has been finalised and Scott has arranged for Allan Laing to promote, sell and run this venture on our behalf. Fraser noted that Bill had advised we need to issue VAT receipts from now on. Colin is to pass all leads on to Allan and advise him to use "bcc" on emails.

Maurice advised that the club shop should have ties in the next few weeks which would result in a donation to us once sold.

Maurice will produce flyers for the comedy event and ask George and Willie Douglas to circulate these to supporters' clubs. He is also investigating resurrecting the Hogmanay event in the lounges at Dens.

The EMG have received four appeals and will respond once all the facts have established including the Royal Mail's official reply, which Fraser is to chase.

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Further updating of the database is to be looked at. Fraser is to follow up on this.

Jacqui advised that a timetable of community involvement is coming along well.

The book launch will take place on 29th October and Jacqui asked everyone to help with this. The printers should receive sign-off by 13th October. Pre-orders could be taken from the Ross County game, and signed copies are to be obtained. Publicity is being sought including various media outlets, possible radio/press competitions. It was agreed to price the book at £12.99. Venues and arrangements for a post-match launch party were discussed, most likely the Penman Lounge, and Maurice is to take care of this.

Jacqui is collating a list of potential DFCTV improvements, which Colin and Fraser should look in terms of priority. Barry will change the front page. Fraser is to arrange for the previously approved equipment to be shipped to David, but it was agreed that using archive footage is too problematic.

It was agreed that bucket posters are sufficient and no pop-ups are needed to promote the Junior Dees / charity collections. Colin confirmed that all JD letters had been posted stamped, as one had apparently arrived with insufficient postage.

Maurice is to circulate a calendar of events to all.

Dave is working on arranging matchday guests through the Former Players' Association. Bob Hynd, Dave and Kenny Ross are keen to help with stadium tours, as is Pat Liney. Bob will finalise the details of these. Fraser suggested that, having missed Open Doors Day, the club should participate next year.

Leaflets promoting the Seniors group will be issued on Saturday, and a first event will take place on 21st October in the Penman Lounge. Dave left the meeting at this point.

4. Memberships

Platinum members are to be advised of their renewal dates by letter. Colin will also ask them if they would prefer a membership year aligned to the season.

Two or perhaps three Platinum members have advised us they will not use their season tickets and would like these to be put to good use. It was agreed to initiate a competition to give away a pair of tickets (or two pairs, if another ticket is sourced) to each home game, eg via Twitter.

5. Community

The Sunday Mail is interested in covering the Dreams4U activity at the Partick game. The Riverside Inn is hosting a Hallowe'en party for kids in the morning. One 15 year old who is autistic will be the mascot, accompanied by Jimmy Etchells whose birthday is that day. He will get a signed top instead of this being handed over to auction.

Graham reported that there were plenty of stories for the website and programme including community, membership draws, hospitality offers, and the Football Academy petition, which should get a separate link. He will check the old media schedule for any stories missed. A link from the official site still needs to be restored.

6. Finance

The audit process is getting underway. We are still awaiting a VAT number despite applying on 4th September, which means we may potentially be late doing a Q1 return, but this won't impact on the accounts. John Knight is checking the VAT situation for zero-rated and exempt categories, and will take advice from our auditors.

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7. Boardroom Feedback

There was a good piece by Stuart, Mark Gallacher and Steve Martin in the Tele, assuring fans there was no split in the boardroom. Coverage will continue with Harry tomorrow, talking about community work already paying dividends. Stuart Regan, the SFA chief executive, praised the work going on in a recent visit, and talked about potential grants available, experience with Leeds Rhinos etc.

Work is going on to bring in funding within the remit of majority Society ownership.

The Society's unemployed initiative has been relaunched and was hailed on STV last night.

New TVs have been installed in the Bobby Cox stand (following new installations in the Cooke and Steel lounges) and are showing Sky Sports News as well as being hooked up to a DVD to allow an advertising loop. Colin is to check how to connect to these, and arrange cables for the lounges.

8. AOCB

There is a meeting of the Dundee Supporters' Away sub-committee and Club members at 10.30am this Saturday.

One of the special edition signed tops from last season raised £180 at a Fife Dark Blues function.

The meeting closed at 10pm.

Date of Next Meeting

The next Society board meeting is scheduled for Saturday 8th October at 11am.