

# **St Helens & District Referees' Society**

(Affiliated to the Referees' Association)

## **RULES**

### **1. Name**

This Association of Referees shall be called THE ST. HELENS AND DISTRICT REFEREES' SOCIETY

### **2. Aims**

The aims of the Society are to protect members' interests and promote camaraderie between members.

To provide sufficient training and advice to enable and encourage members to attain their maximum potential and to afford regular opportunities for this to take place.

### **3. Membership**

Membership shall be confined to past and present Association Football Referees. Junior, Senior, Affiliate, Honoured and Life membership shall be available subject to the approval of the Committee.

### **4. Subscriptions**

The Annual Subscriptions shall be in addition to the appropriate Affiliation Fee and Insurance Premium of the Referees' Association and any levy authorised by the rules of The Society. This combined payment shall be fixed at an AGM or EGM.

Payment of the Annual Subscription becomes due at on 31<sup>st</sup> March and must be paid by 30<sup>th</sup> April. Failure to renew subscriptions by this date will mean that members will not be covered by Referees' Association Insurance.

Junior, Senior, Affiliate and Honoured members shall pay a reduced fee as agreed at an AGM or EGM.

A Junior member being a person under 18 years of age.

A Senior member being a person aged 65 and over.

An Affiliate member – see section 8.

An Honoured member – see section 9.

### **5. Management**

(i) The management of the Society shall be vested in the Committee which shall consist of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and Training Officer and up to five other members to be elected at the AGM.

The President and Vice President to be ex-officio members.

(ii) Any four members to form a quorum.

(iii) The Committee shall have the power to co-opt.

(iv) The Chairperson shall have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.

## **6. Annual General Meeting**

The AGM shall be held in **SEPTEMBER**.

A quorum of the AGM shall be one third of the membership of the Society.

The Chairperson of the Society shall chair the AGM. In the event of the Chairperson standing for election at the AGM the President shall Chair the meeting. In the event of the President / Chairperson being absent the membership shall elect a Chairperson for the meeting.

Nominations for officials of the Society for election at the AGM shall be put in writing to the Secretary by 31<sup>st</sup> August.

In absence of written nominations then nominations will be accepted at the AGM. All persons proposed in this way must either be in attendance or have indicated in writing to the Secretary their willingness to stand.

The following positions shall have a term of office of **one** year: Vice President, Auditor and ordinary committee members.

The following positions shall have a term of office of **two** years: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, Training Officer, Web Master and RA County Area Liaison.

The following positions shall have a term of office of **three** years: President.

Voting shall be by a simple majority by show of hands or ballot, as determined by the Chairperson.

The newly elected Committee members shall take office at the close of the AGM.

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) shall be summoned for a specific purpose at the discretion of the Committee or at the request, in writing to the Secretary, by any member provided that the same is signed by three other members.

## **7. Ordinary Meetings**

Ordinary meetings shall be held on the first Monday in the Months August to May inclusive, unless notified at the previous meeting.

## **8. Affiliated Members**

The Committee shall have power to approve affiliated membership to any person that has already paid fees to the Referees' Association via another Referees' Society for the current period.

Affiliated members shall be required to pay a full members fee minus the cost of Referees' Association membership and Insurance at the time of joining.

Affiliated members are permitted to vote at an EGM or AGM.

## **9. Honoured Members**

The Committee shall have the power to nominate Honoured Members for approval at the AGM. Honoured Membership shall be available to any member that has received a Referees' Association Long and Meritorious Service award as a member of the St Helens Referees' Society.

Honoured Members shall pay any fees in relation to RA Membership or Insurance. Honoured members shall have the option to pay fees in relation to the Society levy.

## **10. Life Members**

The Committee shall have the power to nominate Life Members for approval at the AGM. Life Membership shall be available to any person that has been a member of the St Helens Referees' Society for 40 years.

Life Members shall not be required to pay any fees in relation to RA Membership, Insurance or Society levy.

## **11. Finance and Annual Accounts**

The financial year shall end at the 31<sup>st</sup> August each year.

The Treasurer shall be responsible for the collection of all fees and subscriptions.

Benevolent funds and donations and any other contributions shall be decided by members of the Committee.

All monies for the Society shall be deposited in a Bank or Building Society in the name of the Society. All cheques or withdrawals shall be signed by a minimum of two Committee members.

Each year the annual accounts shall be prepared and shall be examined by an independent person whom the members consider to have sufficient relevant knowledge and experience. This examiner shall be elected by the members of Society to the position of Auditor for a period of one year.

## **12. Alteration of Rules**

Alterations to the Rules of this Society can only be made at the AGM.

Notice of the proposed alterations must be given to the Secretary in writing no later than the end of July. The same to be made known at the August meeting.

Any amendment there-to, to be made in writing within seven days.

Voting shall be as above.

### **13. Dissolution**

If it is considered desirable to close down the Society, a special resolution shall be circulated to all members, giving them not less than 28 days notice of an EGM with a quorum of one third the total membership.

If it is decided by a simple majority of those attending to dissolve the Society all equipment and monies left after settling outstanding debts shall be transferred to one or more local Referees' Societies.

### **14. Other Matters**

The Committee shall have the power to deal with any matter not provided for in these rules.

Rules first amended: 30<sup>th</sup> April 1991

Rules amended: 7<sup>th</sup> September April 2009

Adopted at an Annual General Meeting on: \_\_\_\_\_ 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009 \_\_\_\_\_

Signed on behalf of the Society: \_\_\_\_\_ Stephen Clarke \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson.