

Discipline Committee Minutes for the Meeting held on the 10TH January 2005 at
Brook House FC

D Swan (chair) , E Mee (Discipline Secretary) J Hosmer, I Hahn, D John
All members eligible to vote

Meeting opened at 8 20pm

Case 1

Spelthorne Sports v Bethnal Green United

27th November 2004

Appeal against the decision to award the game to Spelthorne on registration irregularities

The two representatives of Bethnal green were asked to explain the reason for their inability to produce the League ID cards on the date of the above match to which they answered 'due to a mix up the secretary assumed that they were in one of the other cars it then transpired that they had actually mislaid the cards on route'.

The two representatives of Spelthorne were then asked for their version of the events and answered as follows 'we asked BG for their ID cards and were told that the cards were on their way, we again asked at half time and were then told that they had been mislaid. Our cards were offered to BG who refused the opportunity to inspect them.

The committee having discussed thoroughly all the evidence presented including photographs of players from the game taken on a mobile phone at Spelthorne directly after the match. At this point the committee would like to compliment BG on the resourcefulness shown by actually taking these photos; however the rules of this league are very explicit on this point and are quoted below.

The laminated registration cards must be available at all games within the jurisdiction of this competition, and may be requested only by the opposing managers or a League Officer. If the cards are not present the game will be awarded and the defaulting team dealt with under Rule 10 (F) (i) (ii)

The email sent out in October from the General Secretary quite clearly states that from the 16th October all teams must on request by the designated people be able to produce their cards at all games. Bethnal Green having admitted that on this occasion they were not able to comply with this ,have breached the intent of the rule and the committee have no option than to find in favour of Spelthorne Sports and Award the game as per rule 10 (F) (i).

This will also mean the reversal of the initial result so instead of it being a Win to Bethnal Green it will be shown on the website as a home win to Spelthorne and the single goal that Bethnal Green scored will be stricken from their record.

Both Teams have the right of appeal under rule 15, within seven days.

However they would also like to take this opportunity to remind all clubs that the team sheet has a declaration printed on it that they should not sign without seeing the cards unless they are prepared to play the game without the benefit of Rule 8 (B) (ii) regardless of the result.

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D Swan (chair) , E Mee (Discipline Secretary) J Hosmer, I Hahn, D John
All members eligible to vote with the exception of E Mee
E Mee there for information and minute taking only

FC Deportivo Reserves v Spelthorne Reserves 6th November 2004

Appeal against a Discipline Decision to award the match to Spelthorne on grounds of registration irregularities.

Background information supplied by E Mee by a brief synopsis of the emails that he had received regarding this game from both parties involved

The representative from F C Deportivo was asked on which grounds he was appealing and stated that he had offered the cards to Spelthorne but also informed them that he was one registration card short as he had not received it from the league by that date.

The representatives from Spelthorne were asked if this was so and replied that yes they were offered them but never saw them they also confirmed that they were informed that FC Deportivo had one card missing.

Both teams were asked to leave the room

The committee with no hard evidence from either side, other than the answers given decided to overturn the original decision on the grounds that there was insufficient proof, in their opinion, to award the game to Spelthorne and felt that it would be unfair to penalise a team without being absolutely certain of any infringement of the rules.

The only hard evidence was FC Deportivo's admittance that they played a player without a registration card present for him for this the committee also decided that they would be fined under rule8(B) (iv)

Both teams were then recalled separately and told of the committee's decision. They were also informed that they had the right of appeal under rule 16 for Deportivo and rule15 for Spelthorne.

Spelthorne on hearing the decision advised that they wished to appeal but would like time in which to do so, as their Secretary was at that time in hospital and they were not sure when he would be available.

The Committee agreed to allow an extension of any reasonable time.

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All members eligible to vote

Amis BK v Spelthorne Sports

8th January 2005

The committee asked to adjudicate on this game as no id cards were available, only an 'A4' sheet in black and white of the players photo cards.

The Spelthorne representative who was present for the game informed the committee that when he asked the Amis Secretary for his cards, after already being handed the A4 sheet, he was informed that 'we don't carry them they are left at home we always use this sheet'.

This was also confirmed in an email sent by Amis to both the General Secretary and the Discipline Secretary.

On this occasion with clear supporting evidence the committee had no option but to reverse the result and award the game to Spelthorne, as this was a cup game it would mean no necessity to deduct points

or goals from Amis, however the committee decided that on such a flagrant breach of the rules that they would be fined under rule 8(B) (ii) and also Rule 10F (i) and warned unto their future conduct.

Both clubs have the right of appeal under rule 15

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All members eligible to vote

Bridge Rovers asked to attend to answer various complaints laid before the Committee, regarding the behaviour of both their supporters and various members of their squad.
These complaints having been made by two member clubs and a referee.

The information at hand was read out to the two representatives of Bridge Rovers and they were then asked for their comments regarding the charges against them, to which they replied 'we have become aware of a certain disruptive element within our club and intend to deal with this with the help of the league'. They then proceeded to name 4 players that they felt were the main causes of the problems they are having and the league have now placed all 4 on a rule 17 (withdrawn their registrations).
To the charge of causing the abandonment of the game against Brunel they concurred that it was the action of one of their players that caused this and the decision of the committee regarding this will be detailed later.

The actions of their supporters and the incident regarding the dismissal of one of their players during the Brunel game is currently waiting to be heard at London FA , as this is the case the discipline committee have deferred any punishment regarding these two incidents until the outcome of this commission is forthcoming.

Bridge Rovers were then asked to leave the room so the committee could deliberate,

After lengthy discussions the Committee came to the agreement that the two representatives seem to have become aware of the internal problems that they were having and seemed to be adequately dealing with them. However this still did not excuse the fact that by their actions in the cases reported they had brought the league into disrepute and had behaved in a manner not conducive to their further participation in a league of this level.

It was decided that upon positive proof of their intentions to 'clean up their act' it would not be the decision of this committee to recommend to the member clubs that their continuance within this league would be questioned at the AGM.

The committee will continue to watch very closely the attitude and behaviour of this club from now until the end of the season.

As to the immediate punishment the committee decision is as follows:-

- 1 For causing the abandonment of a game.
Because this happened in the 87th minute FA rules state that the result has to stand however our own rules allow us to penalise teams that cause this so the point gained in this match will be stricken from their playing record and the club will be fined £150 00 held in abeyance as to their future conduct.

Bridge Rovers were invited back in and informed of the committees decisions to which their reply was 'thank you for listening and for the help you are willing to give us'

The chairman stressed very pointedly that it was now up to them to prove their change of attitude.

Bridge rovers were then informed of their right of appeal under League rule 15.

Games referred to discipline

8th January 2005

North Greenford United v South Acton,
Failure to field by North Greenford game awarded to South Acton

18th December 2004

Bridge Rovers v Brentham.

Brentham asked for game to be postponed due to a sudden bereavement within the club.
Decision to reschedule.

Amis Bk v South Acton

Amis failed to contact the referee on time and when they tried to get hold of him on the Friday evening they couldn't, so they contacted the referee's secretary who due to the limited amount of time could not get another official for the game.

The committee have decided to award the game to South Acton on the basis that rule 10D has been breached and to further charge Amis with any out of pocket expenses for South Acton.

Amis fined under Rules 10d & 10F(i) also the hire of mini bus for South Acton.

11th December 2004

Istanbulspor v Stockley AFC

Istanbulspor failed to contact referee.

The committee have decided to award the game to Stockley on the basis that rules 10D has been breached.

Istanbulspor to be fined under rules 10d & 10F(i)

Harefield Wednesday v Hayes Ram United

Hayes Ram failure to field game awarded to Harefield Wednesday

Hayes Ram United fined under rule 10F(i)

30th October 2004

Eastside v Stockley AFC

Game not played due to league appointed Referee not attending .
Committee decision to have match rescheduled.

Brunel University v Signcraft

Report from registration secretary regarding an irregularity on the team sheet after looking at the reports regarding this matter the committee's decision is that there is no case to answer and the original score stands.

16th October 2004

Young Stars v PAYP Connexions

Game to be rescheduled

2nd October 2004

Brunel university v The Wilberforce Wanderers

Report that Brunel had played two ineligible players in this game was discussed by the Committee and after receiving the report from the Registration Secretary duly decided that there was no case to answer and that the score in this match should stand.

All above teams have the right of appeal under Rule 15

Brunel University Reserves v Hounslow wanderers Reserves and Crown and Manor v Mauritius deferred to the next meeting awaiting reports.

Meeting closed at 10 45pm