

Hull City Southern Supporters Annual General Meeting

Date: 15 July 2010

Venue: Spread Eagle, Woodstock Street, London

In attendance:

Adrian Hoggarth, Rich Gardham, Malcolm Bower, Mike Lawton, Paul Ashbridge, Dan Heap, Andy Clark, Tony Page, James Lockwood, Ed Bacon, Chris Douglas.

Apologies:

Mike Scott, Chris Swales, Harvey Fletcher, Mike Dees, Martin Batchelor, Steve Lee, Andy Ellis, Sandra Ellis, Nick Cliffe, Rob Spamer, Peter Helsby, Martin Scudamore

Agenda

1 Chairman's Report (Adrian Hoggarth)

Last year we consulted on and have now formally adopted a new constitution. Thanks to Ian Thomson for drafting this, and for the input of members on its content. It is published on the website.

We had a successful Meet the Chairman evening with Adam Pearson, arranged through Danny Pratt, and an equally successful and well received Mark Herman film screening. We will try to arrange a meeting prior to a southern game during the season, possibly Palace in December.

Nick Cliffe has donated some City programmes from his late father's collection, and the Chairman offered his thanks to Nick for this donation. These were produced at the meeting and provoked considerable interest among attendees. Paul Ashbridge volunteered to catalogue the programmes and the plan is to hold a charity auction of the programmes and some City shirts held by Chris Swales, for a charity to be decided but likely to be the charity supported by Nick on a recent fundraising or Matt Duke's cancer charity. The Chairman will organise this, probably on an evening when we have a City game on TV. We will also contact City to see if they can throw in some other memorabilia.

Player of the Season vote winner - Stephen Hunt. As the player has now left the club, the consensus was not to attempt a presentation of the trophy but to get the engraving up to date during the course of this season. The trophy is currently with the club.

Sponsorship – The Chairman will look into renewing our sponsorship of City players. We used to do this but in the Duffen era it became too expensive.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Adrian Hoggarth

2 Membership Secretary's Report (Chris Swales)

Members: James Lockwood reported that we had around 265 members last year. Chris Swales was absent and has regrettably decided to step down next season. James volunteered to take on the role given that the roles of membership secretary and treasurer are closely linked given the automated membership form and Paypal payment system provides James with all relevant information.

James will draft a "welcome" email to be sent to each new member, giving them details of HCSS and inviting them to join HCSS Announce in order to receive updates and ticket information.

Elected to post for 2010/11: James Lockwood

3 Treasurer's Report (James Lockwood)

HCSS Account Balance: £1,669.11

Membership fee: The meeting voted to keep the membership fee at £6 for adults and £3 for children.

The biggest expenses were the cost of producing the Travel Guide and Tigers Eye (including the Mark Herman DVD), and paying for food at HCSS screenings.

Elected to post for 2010/11: James Lockwood

4 Ticket Organiser's Report (Rich Gardham)

Last season was a very busy season for the HCSS ticket operation, and Rich thanked the team that works so hard to get the tickets to HCSS members.

Of the team in place now, Martin Batchelor takes charge of the dealings with the ticket office and the distribution of tickets. His patience, as well as his credit card, are often stretched to various extremities, and without his patience and dedication we'd have been unable to offer as many of the services we do.

Oliver Gardham is the man behind the stats that enable us to distribute the tickets in as fair a way as possible. Rich said he can't pretend to understand the technology he uses on the ballots for oversubscribed games and the data collection for all games, but the fact that he dedicates so much time to these things has enabled us to apportion our ticket allocation in as fair a way as anyone could wish to expect.

Mike Scott is the man behind the web and payment stuff, as well as fulfilling other duties. HCSS would be lost without the tireless work of many of its members, but Mike stands chief among them. Without him orders would still be being written on the backs of beer mats and payments for tickets would be utter chaos.

Rich also thanked HCSS members, former HCSS members and 'friends of HCSS' who give us the option of taking Away Direct tickets that they can't use. Because of this, we have managed to get more HCSS members into games than would otherwise have been possible.

Going forward, Rich is hoping that the ticketing side of things will not be as time-intensive as the past few years have been, at least initially. For the Premiership seasons, every game was all-ticket, and therefore required HCSS to distribute tickets for every game. As there will be fewer all-ticket games next season, and demand will probably be lower, Rich proposed that ordering through the HCSS is only available for all-ticket home games. This was agreed.

With regard to away games, Rich was open to suggestions as to what we do. The options are we offer HCSS distribution for all away games, or only all-ticket away games. The main factor to take into account is our allocation from the club, should we get close to the Premiership again. We have a very good relationship with the club and Rich was confident that, at least under the present regime, they are unlikely to cut off our 20-ticket-per-game supply, but at the same time it wouldn't do any harm for them to have a record of our level of support. It was agreed that the ticket service would be operated for all away games initially.

Rich was happy to continue his role as the ticket coordinator for the coming season and thanked the HCSS members who are almost entirely a pleasure to deal with, and who have very kindly expressed their gratitude for the job that we do. Oliver Gardham will assist Rich.

Martin Batchelor had also reported to the Chairman that he was also happy to continue with his role and responsibilities for ordering and distributing tickets and collecting payments. Dan Heap will assist Martin.

Through HCSS Announce Andy Clark will promote away game travel arrangements and attendance at away games to attract members to going to games they might otherwise not go to.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Rich Gardham and Martin Batchelor

5 Travel Organiser's Report (Paul Ashbridge)

Paul reported that he had promoted travel company bargains and tried to arrange group travel throughout the season. Group travel had not been successful owing to lack of numbers – most people had tended to make their own travel arrangements.

It was agreed that we would try to organise group travel for games, starting with Norwich on 25 September. We will contact the club about our ticket allocation and then promote group travel to members.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Paul Ashbridge

6 Marketing Report (Paul Barkworth)

Paul was not present. It was reported that we had printed cards and posters last season to attract new members.

For next season, the Spread Eagle will be the HCSS pub of choice for TV screenings. We will promote these to members on HCSS Announce and other web forums. We would also attempt to promote HCSS in away match programmes.

Tony Page volunteered to coordinate marketing activities and was duly elected.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Tony Page

7 Tigers Eye Editor's Report (Andy Clark)

Clarky produced two Tigers Eyes last season and proposed to produce the same this season. He would be looking for contributors and a number of article ideas were floated at the meeting. Members had appreciated the Mark Herman DVD (and the committee thanked Paul Robinson for his considerable time and effort in producing the DVDs) and it was hoped that this type of addition to Tigers Eye would become a regular feature.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Andy Clark

8 Sports and Social Secretary's Report (Iain Armitage)

Iain was not in attendance but the meeting discussed the success of the HCSS football and pool teams.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Iain Armitage

9 Website and Travel Guide Report (Mike Scott)

Mike reported (via email) that he was happy to keep the Travel Guide role going and has already put the Travel Guide together for next season.

Mike is also happy to keep the web site role going if there are no other volunteers, but as a result of other commitments won't always be able to update every week. He will

be able to keep it functioning but if anyone fancies having a crack at it then he is happy to hand over the role. One important point to note is that the role is not something to take on lightly as there is a lot to do to keep it up to date, especially for ticket order forms.

There were no volunteers to assist Mike with the website but Andy Coates would be approached and an email sent out asking for volunteers.

Elected to post for 2010/11: Mike Scott

10 AOB

Future HCSS evenings – owing to the success of the Mark Herman screening the meeting discussed similar evenings next season. It was noted that Omar Sharif has declared himself a City fan. Rich Gardham will look into arranging an 80s night with ex-players from the 80s.