

RULE CHANGES

A number of new rules, and changes to existing rules, were agreed at our recent AGM. A revised copy of these rules will be issued to members when they renew their membership for the 2009/2010 season. A summary of the revisions are as follows:

- Child memberships can only be accepted in the event that an associated family member, or guardian, has subscribed as an Adult member of the branch
- Rule changes can now be considered during the season at a Special General Meeting at the request of a member if so desired), which means there is no longer a requirement to wait until an AGM for the adoption of new or modified rules
- Ranking point calculations for new members will exclude matches attended prior to joining the branch. This will ensure that new members will not surpass existing members upon joining the club. Ranking points may also be awarded for supporting branch activities
- To be eligible for election to the Committee, all nominees needs to have attended a minimum of 2/3 branch meetings during the previous season
- The executive committee will have additional roles of Financial Administrator and Membership Secretary. An additional Assistant Treasurer has also been created
- A disciplinary section has been introduced to provide the Executive with the authority to deal with members who have violated club rules

AGM 2008/2009

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NEXT BRANCH MEETING

Our next meeting will be held at 8pm in the Ramada Hotel on Wednesday, 17th June 2009. This meeting has been arranged to coincide with the release of the Premier League fixtures and the agenda will include the selection of games that will be official trips during the new season.

MEMBERSHIP FEES – SEASON 2009/2010

At our AGM, it was agreed to leave membership renewal fees for the new season at £30 (Adults) and £5 (Children). A joining fee of £5 will apply in all cases where a new member wishes to join the branch (i.e. those that were not members during the 2008/2009 season). This includes those that were members in seasons prior to 2008/2009.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

All memberships are now due for renewal and existing members can expect to receive their renewal form by post by 12th June. A branch meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 17th June 2009** (Ramada Hotel) and renewal forms can be returned on this night.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE: 2009/2010

POSITION	NAME	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL ADDRESS
CHAIRPERSON	JOHN DOHERTY	(087) 8206009	john@mjdoherty.com
VICE CHAIRPERSON	CONOR CARLIN	(086) 6489992	conorcarlin@02.ie
SECRETARY	KEVIN NEELY	(086) 8551559	kneely@eircom.net
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	DAVID MOEN	(087) 6195441	davidmoen@hotmail.com
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY	CLARE NEELY	(086) 4034797	cneely_m@yahoo.com
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATOR	MICK McGARRY	(087) 2319757	mickmcgarry@eircom.net
TREASURER	MICKEY CROSSAN	(086) 8311703	mickeycrossan@eircom.net
ASSISTANT TREASURERS	DAVID MCILWAINE	(087) 6740017	dmcilwaine02@eircom.net
	CHRIS DULLAGHAN	(085) 7500250	
COMMITTEE MEMBERS	GARETH STRAIN	(085) 1424001	
	JOHN BONNER	(086) 1547688	jbonner1@eircom.net

OUTSTANDING PAYMENTS

Our Financial Report for the 2008/2009 season revealed that almost **£3,760** was owed to the branch from current members. There are 24 members that have received tickets during the year and have yet to provide the payment for some or all of those received. Payment reminders have been sent and several members have chosen to ignore these. The committee can no longer afford to tolerate this and a motion was passed to introduce Disciplinary proceedings within the club constitution, which means the committee have the power to take whatever action necessary.

FINANCIAL REPORT 2008/2009

The Treasurer present his annual report to the members at our recent AGM and informed those present that the club are now in a much better financial position than they were 12 months ago. He reported a sterling balance of £390 DR and €4,590 CR in the Euro account. The attributed the overdrawn sterling balance to the fact that so much money was owed to the branch and expressed his frustration at the refusal of several members to respond to our requests for payment. He also raised the excessive charges that relate to the First Trust Sterling account, which totalled £377 for the 12 months. There was a turnover of almost £43,000 during the season, which includes £4,303 that members have lodged with the club.

PTS WAITING LIST

Any fan card holders that wish to join the Priority Ticket Scheme (PTS) waiting list are advised to do so ASAP. Each season, a number of places become available on this scheme and they are offered to those on the waiting list. This activity normally happens in July after existing PTS members have had their opportunity to renew their membership. The PTS scheme is limited to 10,000 members and they have access to 5,000 tickets for each home league game. These tickets go on sale before the other sales (i.e. post, telephone, online, general, e-season, etc.) and our members that are in this scheme have always acquired these whenever they needed them. For further information, please check: <http://www.liverpoolfc.tv/ptsonline/index.htm>

WE WANT YOUR IDEAS!

A common oversight amongst that many members perceive is that of the branch being nothing only than a ticket outlet. This perception is one that the OLSC do not take kindly to and do not like to see branches developing into "mini Ticket Offices". The committee are currently devising possible events and activities as part of an initiative to re-create the culture that we are a club and not just an outlet to provide those that join the branch with access to match tickets. To ensure that events arranged actually appeal to members, the committee would appreciate feedback from members on what they would like to see in place. A discussion will be on the agenda for our next meeting.

APPLICATION FORMS – 2009/2010

Membership Renewal Forms will be circulated to all current members before our next meeting and these can be returned at any branch meeting. Where possible please use the **Membership Renewal Form** that was issued to you. In the event that this becomes mislaid, please let us know and we can arrange a reprint. Alternatively, simply download the [Membership Application Form](#) from our website and return it to any branch meeting, marking it as being a RENEWAL. Our intention is for Membership Application Forms to be used by new applicants with all current members requested to return a Membership Renewal Form. Match Ticket and Official Trip Application forms will be available for download during w/c 22nd June.

FAN CARDS – SHOULD I GET ONE? DO I NEED ONE??

This is a question is one that we are being asked more frequently and the advice we generally give is that you would probably benefit from possessing your own fan card if you attend matches on a regular basis and/or wish to attend the latter stages of cup competitions. We currently have a record of over 80 fan cards which is more than sufficient to meet the needs of the branch for all of our applications.

Members that hold fan cards will automatically have their fan card number submitted each time they request a ticket through the branch, that way the credit will automatically be recorded on their fan card. Those that requests tickets that do not have fan cards will just one of the tickets allocated to another fan card. Fan cards are only available as part of the OLSC membership package that members have the option of subscribing to. For further details, please visit: <http://www.liverpoolfc.tv/membership/>

DISTRIBUTION LISTS FOR TEXTS & EMAILS EXPIRE 31st JULY 2009

The existing list that we maintain for circulation information via text and/or email will expire at the end of July. From 1st August, a new list will be deployed where those that have joined the branch will receive these.

Confusion has risen in the past when people have queried why they no longer receive texts from the branch and the common reason for this is that their membership has expired. These are only circulated to CURRENT members and all existing members are encouraged to renew before 31st July to ensure they still continue to receive the latest information via text and email.

BRANCH TRIP TO LIVERPOOL v TOTTENHAM

This proved to be a very successful trip for our club members who travelled over to Liverpool for the last game of the season V Spurs. Everyone was in good spirits leaving Letterkenny last Saturday despite the usual increment weather. However, after we landed at John Lennon airport we could easily have renamed the Airports motto from "Above Us Only Sky" to "Above us only Sun". We all felt really sorry for the people we left behind!

Situated in the excellent Marriot city centre hotel for the weekend everyone had a central point in which to explore their surroundings' and most elected to either take in a meal or indeed venture to the many watering holes in the city, after all, the weather was making the vast majority of the travelling party quite thirsty.

Match day arrived and after eating our fill at breakfast to prepare for the long day ahead, most opted to head to the LFC shops at Williamson Square or the much larger store situated at the new Liverpool One (Everton 0) shopping precinct. No doubt the weekend budgets and indeed credit cards were maximised last Sunday morning, as it's near impossible to leave one of these stores without purchasing something or other.

With it being early afternoon it was time to head out to Anfield Road to sample the atmosphere. Taxi's, buses and trains, all were used as everyone went out that extra bit early to soak up the atmosphere for one last game this season, after all there was only 83 LONG DAYS to go until the 2009-2010 season kicked off, but who was counting!

We were spread around the famous old ground with half of us in the Spion Kop while the other half were situated in the sun drenched Anfield Road end. It was a special day of course as one of the clubs great stalwarts and former captain Sami Hyypia was playing his last game for the club. The mosaic on the KOP was extra special and proved to be a fitting tribute to the great Finnish centre-half who joined the famous Redmen in 1999.

The game might have had the typical end of season pace at times but that didn't stop the youngest supporters on the trip from singing their hearts out and then getting what they came to see, a TORRES goal right in front of them. Well done Joe Shankey-Smith, Stephen, David and Anna Carr, the next generation of LFC Donegal Supporters are going to do us proud. They even got to see ex red Robbie Keane get into the act when he scored after Liverpool had gone two up. After Youssi made the game safe, the moment the whole ground was waiting for happened when Rafa made the change and Sami came on for his last moments in the red jersey and he very nearly scored as well to cap the day off in fine style. It was not to be and when the final whistle went the great man was in tears, he wasn't the only one of course as it was a very emotional moment for everyone in the ground and a great privilege to be just a part of it.

Another great trip over and after one more night on the tiles for some it was time to make the journey back to Letterkenny. Everyone thought it was a great weekend and the plaudits must go once more to the organising committee for ensuring the trip went so smoothly and hassle free. Mind you it would have been nice if they could have sorted the weather out when we arrived back home to Letterkenny on Monday!

BRANCH TRIPS 2009/2010

A decision on which games should be selected for official trips will be on the agenda for our next meeting (Wednesday 17th June, Ramada Hotel, Letterkenny). **We would recommend that all those interested in travelling to game(s) next season attend this meeting so that they are aware of which games have been selected.** Those travelling independently to games will be advised to avoid those selected for branch trips