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BLACKBURN REFEREES ASSOCIATIONS TRAINING NIGHT
HELD AT THE BLACKBURN LIBRARY ON THURSDAY 24th NOVEMBER 2011

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.30pm and welcomed Joe Brothwood, Life Member to the meeting.

There were no new Members.

TRAINING TOPIC 1

Bill Markham gave a training topic on **ABUSE**. He said that Referees need to recognise abuse, there had been 140 games down Pleasington and up to now he was not aware of any sendings off. He said I walk round the pitches and I hear abuse going on, so Referees either do not recognise it or are ignoring it. He asked some of the Referees what was **ABUSE**. Some of the answers involved dissent and kicking the ball away, Bill said that this was not abuse and others said it was challenging your authority by word or action. Being offensive to you or others involved in the game including players, managers, spectators and club officials, was one response from the floor and with the word Ref on the end of the sentence means you know it was aimed at you, ignoring it can cause fights. **MM** said that you must not turn a deaf ear to dissent or abuse, otherwise it will escalate. Bill said that you will have to earn respect, remember abuse does not happen right away, it will start with dissent and if you do not deal with it and get hold of it early, then players will think they can get away with anything and abuse will follow. Stop the comments early. Do not leave it until the last 10 minutes, if we do it only gets louder. Players remember Referees and past matches you have covered, your reputation goes before you, there are some Referees who will not put up with any dissent. **WM** said he did not want to see Referees with their head in their hands after a game at Pleasington because things had got out of hand. He said that the officials of the league had their hands tied and could not take action against players or teams if reports were not being sent in to the L.F.A., some are getting away scott free, we want them out of the game, do your job, send them off and when you send in your report write the actual words that were said. This also applies to officials of teams, but if it is spectators, then speak to managers and get their assistance and put the onus on them to quieten the spectators, if they do not you have powers to stop games until you are happy with the outcome. **MM** said that you should show courage in the face of intimidation, apply the laws, you are not doing any favours to other Referees if you do not do your job properly, you are putting money in your pocket so do the job right. **WM** said that a manager told him that a Referee had taken too much abuse in his match, he did not appear up to the job and he was allowing too much. He finished with a round up of what had been discussed and received a much deserved applause for his presentation.

BLACKBURN COMBINATION

DO said that the league was trialling new match cards, the Referees must fill in all details, clubs are expecting this and he wished to thank the Referees who had helped him out so far.

BLACKBURN SUNDAY LEAGUE

No report.

100 club draw 1st Prize M. Hoole
2nd Prize D. Woodhouse
3rd Prize M. Thompson

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

JL asked if it could be possible for Training nights to start at 7.00pm and finish at 9.00pm which would be more suitable for the younger element when they have to be up for school the next morning.

DH asked for the proposal to be put to the vote and it was accepted unanimously, this to start from the December meeting.

QUIZ NIGHT

Due to the late cancellation of our speaker for this month, it was decided to bring forward our annual quiz night. The quiz was presented and arranged by Joe Brothwood. The winning team was:

THE CHAIRMANS SELECT + GOOGLE who received their cash prizes. The team coming last was:

THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE VERY BAD, THE TERRIBLE, AND THE UGLY. No abuse there as I was the ugly.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

Attendance: 30

Apologies: 12