

MINUTES OF THE GRFC COMMITTEE, August 1958- July 1959

D10800 /Box 6/ Item 3

12 August 1958 :

- Programme Advertisements: reported that Messrs Morlands (manufacturer of matches) and Gloucester Hippodrome had declined to renew their advertisements.
- Waterloo RFC: request for a match with Gloucester on Monday Sept 6th 1960, the season after the impending season, agreed.

9 September 1958:

- Club: extension until midnight to be requested on the occasion of the visit of the Milan team.

23 September 1958:

- Chairs and Tables: Dr Arnold Alcock (President) presented new chairs and tables to commemorate his 35 years as President. A brass plaque commemorating this event had been fixed to the table.
- Away Expenses: the President raised the necessity for economy. Proposed by J. A'Bear, seconded by E.Day, that the maximum amount to be taken on Away matches by the Committee should be £5, but this amount not to be spent unless absolutely necessary.

7 October 1958:

- Devon Tour: Letters received from the Continental and Duke of Cornwall to the effect that they were unable to provide accommodation for our party for the Devon tour in 1959. Gen Sec stated that he was taking matter up with Trust Houses London.

21 October 1958:

- Club Room: Gen Sec queried why so many players and officials would not stay very long in our Club Room after home matches. Various opinions were expressed.

4 November 1958:

- Installation of Floodlights: quotation received from Mitchells for this work. Gen Sec requested that further quotation be obtained.

2 December 1958:

- Floodlights: Gen Sec presented estimates from Smith and Lamerton (sic) and Mitchells, matter to be deferred to Finance Committee.
- Club Ties: It was agreed that consideration be given to the registration of a special tie to be used by Players and Committee.

16 December 1958:

- Club Ties: Gen Sec reported that Mr S. Davies of Worcester St was submitting designs for a registered Club Tie.
- United Badges: agreed that Mr S.Davies be appointed to supply badges.

13 January 1959:

- County Match: Chairman reported that Dorset and Wilts were demanding that county matches against them be played on a Saturday, so nothing could be done.

- Condition of Ground: Mr A Hudson stressed necessity for more attention to be paid to the ground, especially with regard to divots being replaced, and the ground rolled as soon as possible with a light roller. Advantage must be taken as soon as possible when ground has dried out sufficiently.
- Directorship of Ground: Proposed that Revd Mervyn Hughes be nominated to Directorship of Ground. Seconded by A.T.Voyce.
- Colts Side: Mr Voyce asked that the running of a Colts side be given consideration with a possible view to next season.

3 February 1959:

- Ground : In view of recent freeze-up it was proposed that enquiries would be made re Oil Burners and Polythene Sheets to protect ground in future. Chairman called for volunteers to help if necessary on Thursdays and Fridays.
- Glos Colts: G.W. Sibery reported that North Gloucestershire Combination (NGC) were very interested in a Colts XV and would cooperate. Dr Alcock stated that M.J. Ball would be an ideal choice, if he agreed.
- United Team: F.Day mentioned difficulty in finding a United team on County Match days and stated that the Club must have the help of North Gloucestershire Combination (NGC). NGC has been asked to provide a central contact person to help advise re players available and clubs not playing etc.

7 March 1959:

- County Match: Mr J.M.Millington congratulated the Club on the efforts of its players the previous Saturday in the County match v Durham.

21 April 1959:

- Letter from Bath RFC: Re the Televising of Rugby Internationals, it was agreed that this has an adverse effect on gates, but cannot agree that televising of all games is detrimental.

2 June 1959:

- Captaincy: Mr C. Thomas thanked the players for their support, but said that he would prefer not to be considered for the coming season.
- Captains: Peter Ford was elected Captain for the 1959-60 Season after a Ballot. Captain for United side: L. King elected unanimously.
- Training: The Chairman Revd Mervyn Hughes stated that the following points should be noted re last season:
 - (a) poor season
 - (b) lack of speed behind scrum
 - (c) good football generally produced by opponents
 - (d) gates affected by standard of play
 - (e) financial position serious
 - (f) some expenses of last year read out
 - (g) ways of saving outlined
 - (h) players invited to make suggestions re economics
 - (i) future of the Club depends on the quality of the football.

- President: The President made reference to the great rugby stronghold of Gloucester and appealed to players to do all they can to strengthen the Club records and results.

- Suggestions: the following suggestions were made:

- (a) Cards, stating players are selected, should show correct time for train and/or pick up.
- (b) Tear off half of Card for returning to Club.
- (c) Players should get together every month.
- (d) Can United matches be cancelled on days of County Matches?

6 July 1959 (Club AGM at Wheatstone Hall):

- Lord Bledisloe: The President requested that members stand in silence as a mark of respect to the late Lord Bledisloe, late President of Lydney RFC.

- The general report was submitted by Revd H.M. Hughes. It included a tribute to G.Hastings who has now retired from first class (rugby) football. It was noted there was intense "patriotism" among local clubs, and that unless their players were selected to play in our First side, we were in danger of losing them.

- Supporters' Club: it was stated that there was a wonderful opportunity for a new Supporters' Club.

14 July 1959 (General Committee AGM):

- Seats in stands to be numbered and reserved: no action.

- Organised training to be arranged by Captain: agreed.

- Social Club to pay rent: decided against.

- Supporters' Club: to be mentioned in a notice in Programmes.

- Chairman: Revd H.M. Hughes elected unanimously as Chairman, with a tribute to work done by him in the past.

- Selection Sub-Committee: the following were elected: J. A'Bear, G.E.Dance, R.B.Brett, S.H. Davies, A.Duncalf.

- Kitchen: agreed that the kitchen be decorated immediately. Estimates to be obtained and consultation to be made with Mr Roberts.

- Clock: Painting of Clock: matter delegated to Hon Sec.

- Twickenham Jubilee Match: to be left to Hon Sec.

- Vice-Captain: not yet chosen.

- Telephone: the question of removing telephone to outside the players' quarters to be discussed at next meeting.

- Cricket: Captain reported that the team had been kept together out of season as a cricket side. Agreed that the cost of two cricket bats should be paid by Club.