

To all affiliate and individual members

April 2008-04-09

Dear Fellow Members,

I am writing to inform you about two important conferences which are coming up and a re-launch of our Midlands Division.

1. Special Conference on the Constitution – 18 May, 2pm at Wolverhampton Wanderers FC

The existing FSF constitution was, effectively, a “scissors and paste” job drawn from the existing constitutions of the founding organisations, the FSA and the National Federation.

After six years it has become clear that it is need of re-writing to bring it up to date, remove duplications, introduce some clarity in certain areas, and make some changes which the National Council feel will be beneficial. Those changes do not include any changes to the basic “building blocks” – the rights of members; the structure of divisions (which was decided by the 2007 conference) or the voting weighting as between individual members and affiliates.

We prefer not to discuss this at the Annual Conference for two reasons: -

- (a) We do not know how long the discussion will take and would prefer the Annual Conference to be focused on football issues.
- (b) Some of the changes if approved (e.g. to membership renewal dates) could usefully be introduced before the Annual Conference.

We are therefore convening a special conference to discuss the proposed re-drafted constitution at 2pm on Sunday 18 May at Molineux. I hope you can attend. We realise that this is the day after the Northern Division AGM and is therefore not the ideal date for Northern colleagues, but, for various reasons, it was the only suitable date we could find. It also has the benefit there is no football on that day.

The proposed re-drafted constitution has been placed on our website www.fsf.org.uk together with a document prepared by the Secretary summarising the changes. If you would like a hard copy of either or both of these documents, please write to FSF c/o 1 Ashmore Terrace, Stockton Road, Sunderland, SR2 7DE or ring us on 08702-777777 or email Elaine.greenhall@fsf.org.uk.

You will, of course, be able to propose amendments to the proposed constitution if you so wish, but it would be helpful to the running of the meeting to have notification of these in advance.

2. FSF Annual Conference – Emirates Stadium, 5 July
Football Supporters International Conference – Emirates Stadium, 6 July

I enclose a booking form for the above conferences. Our annual AGM and Conference is to be held on Saturday 5 July with the traditional dinner on the previous evening. Then, on Sunday 6 July we have the first ever International Fans Conference. It will make for an interesting and exciting weekend, which I hope you can attend. I am sure you will agree that there are many key issues in football, both domestic and international, on which we need to determine policy and discuss campaigns.

In addition to the packages offered for the conference hotel, the Euston Hilton, we can also assist you to find other cheaper accommodation options.

We are also trying, for the first time, a scheme of “matching” FSF members in London who would be willing to offer accommodation to a fellow fan (either an FSF member and/or an international visitor) with those who would like to take up such an offer. If you are in either of these categories, please get in touch by ringing 08702 777777 or emailing conference@fsf.org.uk

3. Midlands Division re-launch Sunday 1 June, 1.30pm Nuneaton Borough FC

If you live in the Midlands, we invite you to, and encourage you to attend, the above re-launch of the Midland Division. We are also looking for members who might be willing to play an active role in getting the Division up and running again as an active, campaigning group.

We look forward to seeing you at the above events.

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm Clarke
FSF Chair