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04 November 2001

Ref: Toddy's v Low Fell

This letter has been sent to the following recipients:

Mr. Jack Brown
Mr. Brian Taylor
Mr. Alan Young
Mrs. Debbie Scott
Mr. John Topping

It is also viewable on the web site www.toddys.co.uk

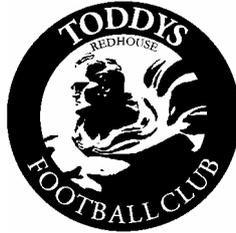
To whom it may concern.

The following is an account of the events that took place prior to what should have been the league match between Low Fell and Toddy's F.C 3rd November 2001. The game was to have been played at Kibblesworth, which is the home ground of Low Fell.

It had been decided between both parties that if possible, the game should be brought forward in order that all concerned would be able to get back for the live Sky game between Leicester and Sunderland.

We (Toddy's) arrived at the Kibblesworth venue at approximately 9.45am. I (Tarnjit Sangha) was the last to arrive of the convoy of 7 cars. As I got out of the car, I observed the following: around 9 Low Fell players milling around the football pitch which was approx 120 yards away from the car park and changing room facilities. Low Fell manager Debbie Scott standing next to who subsequently turned out to be the replacement referee Kevin Dunwoody (the actual appointed official was unable to attend). A group of Toddy's supporters of whom 2 were drinking standing in the car park. My team were already in the changing rooms awaiting my arrival.

As soon as Debbie saw me, she came over and told me Mr Dunwoody was abandoning the game. I assumed the decision had been made due to the pitch being unplayable. The decision had been made on the basis that 2 lads who had travelled with my team and arrived on their own in a group of four were drinking. I immediately apologised and went into the changing rooms to explain to my co manager William Harper of what was occurring. I then went over to the two lads and told them not to leave the car park and venture over to the pitch side, to which they agreed. As far as I was concerned, the matter had now been dealt with. To my team's amazement, and mine it had not. Mr Dunwoody had decided it was too risky to play the game, and that if he did, according to him DFA rules stipulated, he was in danger of never refereeing again. His exact words were "I am not allowed to referee this game if there is any alcohol within the vicinity of the football ground, it doesn't matter who the two concerned are with, they could be anyone". I would like to add at this point for the record, Debbie Scott concurred with everything Mr Dunwoody said, and was happy to see the game abandoned. Mr Dunwoody based this decision entirely upon a letter he claimed he received from Durham F.A (which is strange since Mrs Scott told me in a later conversation that he was affiliated



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with NFA) that very morning stating that this was a completely valid decision, and he was only complying with the set down rules. It was clear that this game was not going to be played. Before things got really heated I along with William Harper got our team changed and decided to leave.

What you have read is a brief over view of what occurred. What you are now about to hear is what happened following the incident.

As soon as we left the Kibblesworth ground, we decided we might as well take in another game. It was agreed that we would watch the match between Federal Mogul and Roseberry Leisure in the John Lockey Memorial Cup. The game was being played at the Community North Complex at Downhill. As I got there, I noted around eight of the Toddy's supporters who had obviously decided to watch the same game, standing on the touchline, each with a can of Carling Black Label in their hands. I observed the Referee on the pitch which was Tony Dodds, I observed Brian Taylor the manager of Roseberry Leisure on the other side of the pitch, and I then observed Mr Ridley manager of Federal Mogul come over to the Lads and ask them to step back off the touchline which they did. Nothing more was said or done and the game went on as normal, with eight or more lads calmly drinking away just 3 feet away from the pitch. I always carry a Digital Camera with me for the purposes of our Toddy's website. I took three shots of this incident. Please explain to me the following –

Question 1

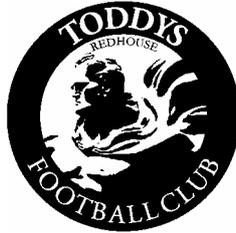
My team had its game abandoned just 45 minutes prior to the Federal Mogul v Roseberry Leisure match for a couple of lads drinking in a car park which is situated at least 100 yards away from the football pitch. Even after I promised these people would not enter the playing area. Why then did Brian Taylor of Roseberry Leisure not implement this very rule that according to Debbie Scott was verified by George Broadbent at the last league meeting? In the game between his team and Federal Mogul. Why have Federal Mogul not been brought into disrepute?

Question 2

I have spoken to 7 referees on the phone since the incident, including Mr Ian Gunn. Each and everyone of them has told me they know nothing about any letter that has been sent out to them or any other official regarding any DFA ruling on Alcohol drinking near a football pitch. All the referees I spoke to said the action Mr Dunwoody took was the first of its kind in their entire experience as referees. They all concurred that as long as the drinkers did not enter the field of play, they were entirely happy with the situation. I demand that Debbie Scott provide this 'so called' letter that Mr Dunwoody went to such pains to use in abandoning our game. If it is required I can vouch that 3 of the referees will back me up in writing or in person regarding this matter. I say to you that Mr Dunwoody lied about this letter, a letter that he vehemently claimed he had, and used this letter to call the game off. I will expect to see a full referees report on the incident.

Question 3

Debbie Scott said to me that the league has set a rule stating that any alcohol seen in the vicinity of a team ground constitutes complete legality in a referee abandoning a game. I would like to know when this particular rule was set and why have I not got such a rule in writing before me?



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This letter has been sent to all members of the Dunsford Business Supplies League committee, plus John Topping of DFA, and I will also be sending a similar letter to Lancaster Gate to see if what happened was correct. I expect each and every one of the questions I have asked to be answered. As far as I am concerned, the Committee has set a precedent that they have absolutely no chance of maintaining. I find it incredible that a referee can abandon a game before either side has even been kitted up, never mind entered the field of play. I find it even more incredible that an individual such as Debbie Scott who is on the committee can stand there and say this rule is correct and the referee is within his rights. How do the committee feel my team must feel when within 45 minutes of our game being abandoned, an incident involving Roseberry Leisure and Federal Mogul of exactly a similar nature, which also had a Committee member present can go completely unnoticed. Are the Committee running a 'double standards' policy? I would like it to be noted that I shall be bringing a charge of disrepute upon Federal Mogul, which shall be sent in writing to the league secretary. I feel it is now necessary for me to have a Toddy's representative present at all future games involving teams in the Dunsford Business Supplies League to see if there are other 'incidents' going 'unnoticed'.

You may have felt this letter to have been of a confrontational nature, and I apologise if you feel I am being rather aggressive in the nature of my correspondence. In my entire 16 years of playing, running and sponsoring football, I have never felt so badly dealt with by a committee who seem to be setting rules without any thought of how to implement them. What is stopping me from entering a field of play every week with a can of beer in my hand. According to the committee, if I do this, the match official will have to abandon the game without giving the home team secretary any chance of resolving the situation. Do you realise how ridiculous that sounds. Yet this is what happened to my team against Low Fell, with the full backing of the committee.

I expect an answer from the committee to what they intend to do about this entire sorry affair as soon as possible so as I can then decide to what I shall do.

Regards,

Tarnjit Sangha
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