

Association of Tartan Army Clubs (ATAC)



**Tuesday 7th March 3pm,
Hampden Park**

Meeting with SFA

In attendance

Alison Jack
Angela Forbes
Michelle Ridley
Colin Banks

Hamish Husband Westa / ATAC Spokesman
Tam Ferry Easta
Frida Mathews
Darren KTA
Simon Johnstone ETA
Tam Coyle Westa

Apologies

Kevin Donnelly LA, John Kaylor PTA Derek Kirkwood

Agenda

The meeting opened with an introduction to Michelle a valued member of the STC staff.

- ❖ Update on previous meeting action items;

There was no update on the crush reported after the Belarus game.

Response from David Findlay re Belarus post match -

Spoke to Willie who informed me that the police are aware of there had been a difficulty after the Belarus match. He advised that this had been picked up in police debrief report and that they would factor arrangements in to, hopefully, ensure that it doesn't happen again. However, as always the police reserve the right to alter arrangements because of specific police operations that may, of necessity, require to be put in place (remembering that life goes on out-with football matches and the specific operation was likely to have nothing to do with the match itself).

The ongoing issue re standing at internationals was discussed. ATAC confirmed that they had briefed their members on the ramifications of non compliance. The SFA confirmed that UEFA and police instructions were mandatory with a reduction in the capacity for future internationals a real threat. Various methods were discussed including leaflets on seats. This remains a serious issue.

- ❖ Membership fees for SSC

The ATAC representatives came prepared with many questions pertaining to the new Supporters Club membership fees levied by the SFA put by their members. Alison outlined goods and services offered including all the communication reference the home and away games. The sporrans travel guides, the CD enclosed with the new pack, the key rings amongst many other benefits. Alison on behalf of the Supporters Club staff thanked

Scotland Forever

Association of Tartan Army Clubs (ATAC)



us for our questions and assured us that they are open to any suggestions and offered the chance for Tartan Army members to help out behind the scenes before future internationals. Many members had expressed fears that not all revenue raised by the membership fees was being spent on the members and we were assured that our fears of a drop in service levels due to occasional funding problems were unfounded. There are 13,000 members at present including 1500 new members plus 1200 kids.

There was general agreement that the Scotland Supporters Club is the best in the world and probably without precedent.

❖ Season Tickets for EC2008 Qualifiers

Angela reported the uptake for the trial season ticket issue was only 900 and created an admin headache for the staff to accommodate the requests of fans. With the introduction of the new ticketing system it is not yet clear whether it will be reintroduced. More info to follow. **STILL ONGOING (AJ)**

Angela also appreciated the extraordinary demand for seats in the North stand and assured us that the system remains first come first served.

❖ 2008 Fixtures meeting in Paris

At the time of the meeting the likelihood was of a computer draw courtesy of UEFA and the Ukrainians. Colin revealed the massive headache involved in accommodating all the countries involved.

❖ Swiss Match

- Catering re the Swiss game – update to follow.
- Trains - ‘
- Online booking system. There was an admission that more work needs to be done. There was also a discussion on the difficulties
- involved in renewals. More info to follow.

This is my email message to the General Manager of Sodexho (caterer at the stadium)

Stephen,

We had a meeting with the Association of Tartan Army Clubs today and just wondered if you could comment on one of their points from the Swiss match.

Members in the North Stand trying to buy food at 8.30pm were advised that pies etc had sold out at this point.

Can you comment please ?

Thanks

Scotland Forever

Association of Tartan Army Clubs (ATAC)



Thanks for the note Alison,

Pies had not sold out for this game we had waste of over 72 boxes. I do know from the manager in the north stand on the night that there were times during the game that there was no steak pies ready in the kiosk only scotch due to more people buying steak but this was only for short periods of time.

Hope this helps.

Kind regards,

Stephen

❖ Friendlies

No firm update on the Kirin Cup as the agreement is not signed sealed and delivered. SFA confirmed that the April date for internationals is no longer on the calendar.

❖ Home Internationals

Response from David Findlay

The IFA would be interested in a match - but as always, and particularly nowadays, with the larger qualifying groups, the opportunity for a home international type series is difficult. So, the short answer is unlikely for any "series" type of event.

There are no current discussions or any planned between the associations.

❖ The Gathering – Aviemore 29th June – 3rd July 2006

All present were excited at the prospect of the Tartan Army gathering and the SFA staff eagerly await their invites.

❖ A – O – B.

Clubs to provide meeting dates for Derek Kirkwood re attendance and introduction.

❖ Date of next meeting.

TBA