

# EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Wednesday 10 May 2023  
**Time:** 6.00 – 8.00pm  
**Location:** Online (via Zoom)

**Attendees:**

Jazz Bal (JB)  
 Dave Kelly (DK)  
 Julie Clarke (JC)  
 Julie Makin (JM)  
 Richie Gillham (RG)  
 Keith Done (KD)  
 Ken Sweeney (KS)  
 Tony Whittaker (TW)

**Position/Role:**

Chair – Fan elected  
 Vice Chair – Fan elected  
 Secretary – Fan elected  
 Member – Everton Women Supporters' Club (EWSC)  
 Member – Everton Heritage Society (EHS)  
 Member – Everton Disabled Supporter Association (EDSA)  
 Member – Everton Supporters' Club Committee (SCC)  
 Member – Fan elected

**Apologies for absence:**

Tony Sampson Member – Everton Fans' Forum (EFF)  
 Helge Grunnevag (HG) Member – International Supporters' Club Network (ISCN)

Item:	Discussion:	Action
1	<b>Chair's introduction</b> The Chair welcomed the group and thanked them for agreeing to a schedule change, as the previously arranged meeting clashed with an FSA meeting.	
2	<b>Minutes of the last meeting</b> April minutes were proposed as accurate by KS and seconded by TW	
3	<b>Declarations of AOB</b> JB to raise one matter	
4	<b>Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting</b> <u>Report on boundaries between FAB and ISCN</u> HG had been due to report on international group discussions on boundaries between the FAB and international groups but had offered late apologies to JB for not being able to attend the meeting and had not had time to offer a written report. Ongoing.  <u>Everton Favourite Player APP not featuring women's team players</u> JM said that this will be incorporated into the app ahead of the 2023/24 season. Ongoing.	HG

	<p><u>Proposed trial of club supporting away travel to women's games</u> JM said she had still heard nothing from the club. Ongoing.</p> <p><u>Proposed budget for FAB expenses</u> JC has distributed an amended draft. To be discussed in item 10. Closed</p> <p><u>NSNOW Campaign meeting</u> DK attended and spoke on behalf of both the Shareholders' Association (EFCSA) and for FAB. JB will share the link to download the audio file. Ongoing</p> <p><u>Communications sub-committee meeting</u> TS had arranged a meeting on 24 Apr to discuss a formal response from member organisations. Closed</p> <p><u>FAB Terms of Reference review</u> Terms were agreed and completed 12 April. Closed</p> <p><u>FAB attendance at FSA</u> The FSA will hold their AGM on 24 July 2023; JB will be representing the FAB. Ongoing.</p> <p><u>FAB Chair Letter to CEO</u> JB received a response on 13 April and shared it with the FAB on 24 April. Closed.</p> <p><u>FAB Recruitment for new term</u> The recruitment plan and schedule has been shared with the Club. Closed.</p> <p><u>Hillsborough anniversary week</u> JB informed the FAB that he had raised this with EFC, but the Club's plan was for one fan wreath to be laid on behalf of EFC and LFC fanbases. DK laid a wreath on behalf of Evertonians. Closed.</p> <p><u>Timeframe for responses from the Club to FAB communications</u> JB has taken up the issue, raised by RG, with the Club, who have asked for details of what was not responded to in time. RG said that there are a number of times when the club haven't got back and it was a common occurrence and said standard acknowledgment emails did not amount to a response and to assert this amounted to a lack of common courtesy. JC said, in answer to the question of items not responded to; there are numerous examples of the Club not responding to matters raised about the Women's game, despite assurances and that we bring up the same matters at every meeting. She said, given the FAB's transparency in sharing this information with the fan base, it is a poor reflection on the club, which is constantly referred to on social media and asked that the matter be brought up at the season's final FAB/Club meeting on 31 May. Ongoing</p>	<p>JB</p> <p>JB</p> <p>RG/JC</p>
5	<p><b>Chair's Update</b> JB updated the FAB about the FSA's Premier League (PL) network meeting held on 9 May 23:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent FSA activity focussed on the recent survey of over 9000 fans and planning for the AGM.</li> <li>• Fan Engagement Standard and the Fan-Led Review. The consultation period for the white paper had closed.</li> <li>• Broadcasting and fixture scheduling focussed on missing announcement deadlines and 'double-changes'.</li> <li>• Fan behaviour around tragedy chanting and pitch encroachments.</li> <li>• VAR.</li> <li>• National Council Elections.</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, JB was invited to attend the FSA's structured dialogue with the PL on 18 May to discuss FABs, which he accepted.</p>	<p>JB</p>

	<p>Finally, JB informed FAB members that he was intending to raise a motion at the FSA AGM about organisational membership categories.</p>	<p><b>JB</b></p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>Reserved Group Updates</b></p> <p><b>EDSA:</b> KD reported EDSA had a committee meeting on 19 March, when proposals for marketing EDSA themed merchandise were discussed. EDSA have been able to obtain an increase in away match accessible places from a number of clubs following extensive work convincing those clubs that the places would all be sold. The first royalties from the "In my heart and in my soul" funeral hearse company have been received.</p> <p><b>EFF:</b> JB gave the EFF update as TS was unable to join the meeting. The EFF had been consulted and fully approved the recent FAB statement. Also, the EFF had met with EFC to discuss timing on the Bramley-Moore Dock survey about the use of new technology, which is expected to launch by the end of May. The EFF will also be facilitating focus groups during the Summer and recruitment timelines have been discussed (*likely to be once the FAB recruitment has ended).</p> <p><b>SCC:</b> KS reported that the SCC is now a full Associate Member of the FSA. The SCC had asked, alongside the Fans' Forum, about discounted travel for fans to the re-scheduled Brighton game but had received no response. Feedback from SCC members on the open letter published by the FAB on necessary improvements to the board structure and Club position was very positive. The letter was thought to be well constructed and synchronised with the fan base. Questions were asked about when new membership was going to be available and how much it was going to be. The SCC thinks that available tickets for general sale should first go to those with full membership and the same should be the case for the purchase of season tickets, as they become available. Members who have attended all games should be given priority for tickets to attend the last game of the season. TW noted that Brighton council had laid on free buses and trains from the railway station to the BHA ground.</p> <p><b>EWSC:</b> JM reported that they had been delighted with the FAB open letter and thought it was well-constructed. The EWSC have contributed to the 'Karen Carney Major Review of Women's Football'. There are some positive moves within the women's game and they were happy to have played a part. Over 30 women's supporter groups were involved.</p> <p><b>ISCN:</b> No report</p> <p><b>EHS:</b> RG reported that the group had agreed to a vote of no confidence in the Club Chairman and that they had received responses from all over the world. The EHS is canvassing for and affiliate programme for overseas members and details of groups in Cork, Omagh, Bridgetown, Trinidad and Auckland have been passed to the Club. Affiliate memberships run independently, but the Club supports graduate schemes to encourage footballing networks around the world. Cork has been running since 1958 and the EHS are trying to help build affiliations. The EHS are also currently engaged with the Club communications teams to start up a podcast and hope to report further on that very soon.</p>	
<p><b>7</b></p>	<p><b>Elected member updates</b></p> <p><b>DK:</b> No report</p> <p><b>TW:</b> Reported that feedback amongst his fellow supporters on the FAB's open letter was very well-received and well-timed.</p> <p><b>JC:</b> Reported that she had been in contact with Lord Faulkner, the Labour peer, who had offered to support our canvassing for IREF legislation at the APPG Fan Led Review meeting in November. She asked that, as the Bill goes through parliament and is amended, he and his colleagues closely review the obligations of the Clubs and specifically the arrangements they sign up to in the various</p>	

	Fan Advisory Board memoranda. Items agreed, such as meetings (including number of meetings each season, agendas, Directors committed to attending and notices of postponement or cancellation) should be a minimum standard of expectation and that there should be penalties for Clubs failing to meet such obligations.	
8	<p><b>Sub Committee Updates</b></p> <p><u>Communications:</u> JB reported that there had been a meeting on 24 April to outline a response to the Club Chairman's open letter, culminating with a FAB statement being agreed and published on 28 April. A further communications sub-committee meeting will be arranged to discuss surveys and regular open sessions.</p> <p><u>Fan attendance at board meetings:</u> There was no further update due to uncertainty about future investment/ shape of the Board of Directors.</p> <p><u>Recruitment Sub-committee:</u> JB reported that the committee had met and agreed to a timetable for recruitment in time for the new season:</p> <p>22 May to 4 June: Recruitment application window. 5 June to 14 June: Eligibility and FSA membership review for validation. 15 June: Shortlisting of candidates. 19 June to 30 June: Open fans' vote. 11 July First meeting of the new FAB.</p> <p>Represented groups need to identify their FAB representative for the 2023-24 season by 30 June and declare who it will be; JB will email all organisations' chairs to inform them of the requirement.</p> <p><b>Women's game Sub-committee:</b> JC mentioned the problems she had trying to enquire about tickets for the women's away game at Chelsea. She was given two different dates (one of which was different from the one published on the website) and staff were unable to say whether the game had been postponed due to the Coronation weekend holiday. She was then sent the wrong tickets. JM said that women's away game tickets are only sold by the home club and that she believes this is the responsibility of the WSL, rather than the Clubs. JC said she had to become a member of Chelsea Football Club, in order to buy a ticket, which she had no choice about. JM said that she has been forced to become a member of several different clubs and that the practice (which is very unpopular amongst those who travel regularly to women's games) was being addressed through the FSA Women's Football Network and that they hoped for a change next season. JC also felt the lack of communication or responses to the FAB's requests for more help with travel to the women's games (in line with other Clubs' practices) appeared to show that the Club are not giving the same credence to the women's game as they do to the men's game.</p>	<p>TS</p> <p>JB</p>
9	<p><b>FAB Ring-fenced Budget Proposal</b></p> <p>JC had distributed an amended draft of the ring-fenced budget proposal, as requested by the Club, adding more details to expected or anticipated costs, including venue hire and travel expenses. There followed a discussion about whether FAB members (existing or joining in the future) should be expected to meet all their own costs, including meetings with the club, or travelling to conferences and other meetings, regardless of distance travelled. DK said that no FAB member should be out of pocket as a result of contributing towards the work of the FAB and that the Club should share their own staff travel policy, so that the FAB could adopt it. JC will re-draft the proposal and present it prior to the FAB/Club meeting on the 31 May.</p>	JC
10	<b>AOB</b>	

	<p>Objectives and agenda items are to be submitted to the Club by 24 May, so JB asked FAB members to provide their requested items by 23 May at the latest.</p> <p>DK asked whether the Chair could request copies of any presentations or written reports that are to be discussed at FAB meetings, in advance of the meetings taking place. JC asked the Chair whether he could make enquiries about what other FABs do and whether they receive documents in advance.</p> <p>TW asked for up-to-date management accounts. JB asked TW to lay out exactly what he would like to see and it will be added to the FAB-proposed agenda items. DK said he would like to see hard copy of the accounts shown at the FAB/Club meeting on 31 March.</p>	<p><b>JB</b></p> <p><b>JB</b></p> <p><b>TW</b></p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Date of next meetings:</b>  FAB meeting – Wednesday 14 June 2023 at 6pm (Virtual)  FAB/Club meeting – Tuesday 31 May 2023 at 5pm (Hybrid)</p>	