



Chelsea Supporters Trust – Newsletter – May 2014

Welcome to the final newsletter of a very long, and equally interesting, season. Although no trophies were won, it is likely most supporters would have taken third in the league and Champions League semi-finalists at the start of the season. From a Chelsea Supporters Trust perspective it is the first year we have been fully operational, with an elected board in place and a clear set of mandates from last year's members' survey. At the AGM in August (see below) the board will give a full report to members on what the CST has been up to.

Safe Standing Roadshow

Thank you to everyone who attended the Safe Standing Roadshow before the Sunderland home game. Several hundred supporters took time out pre-match to engage with Jon Darch of the Safe Standing Campaign and to see, and try out, rail seating. More information of the Roadshow can be found [here](#).



Safe Standing Survey

Thank you to everyone who completed the survey. The results are now being finalised and we expect to be able to send them to members by early next week.

Ticket Exchange Proposal

Earlier this month, CFCTickets and the Chelsea Supporters Trust submitted to Chelsea FC a proposal for an official, minimum cost ticket exchange that would take the place of the unpopular Viagogo service currently in operation. More details can be found [here](#). Co-opting George Gray of CFCTickets, who has clear expertise and experience in this area, onto the CST board has been extremely helpful. From our perspective it makes sense to work with Subject Matter Experts like George on relevant specific issues going forward and we would like to thank him for his energy and commitment in taking the proposal to conclusion.

CST Annual General Meeting

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on the weekend of 16th / 17th August, the first weekend of the Premier League season, on whichever day Chelsea are not playing. The venue will be in the Fulham Broadway area. Details will be sent to members once the fixture list is out in late June. This AGM will also kick off the annual

elections for CST board members and details on this, including how to stand, will be sent out to voting members well before the AGM.

We would actively encourage members to think about standing for the CST board, and anyone wishing to learn more should contact CST Secretary Paul Jeffrey at secretary@chelseasupporterstrust.com or any board member.

Problems Experienced by Chelsea Supporters in Madrid

A number of Chelsea supporters (including CST board members) witnessed incidents at the Vicente Calderon stadium last month where the behaviour of police and stewards was unacceptable and deeply concerning. We invited [feedback](#) from those who experienced or witnessed such incidents, and passed them to relevant club officials, who are discussing the matter with UEFA. We will keep members informed of developments.

Chelsea Membership – Issue for Overseas Members

A number of overseas supporters' clubs and Chelsea Supporters Trust affiliates have contacted us expressing major concerns regarding changes to the way Chelsea FC overseas membership operates for 2014/15. For this current season there was a tier of club membership at £30 that included access to tickets and Chelsea TV online. That is no longer available for 2014/15 and there are worries about the implications in terms of attractiveness for overseas supporters and hence the number of overseas fans likely to become / remain club members.

We have raised the issue with the club, who tell us they have been working on revamping the offerings to supporters and plan to make an announcement soon. We will keep you informed.

CST Membership Renewals

We have been sending out renewal emails to our voting members. Annual membership is only £5 and includes a free CST pin badge and obviously we hope that many of you will choose to do this. When you renew you can opt for an annual subscription, which makes renewing in the future more convenient. More details of this option are in the renewal notice.

Virtual General Meeting held on Wednesday 28th May 2014

We held a Virtual General Meeting (VGM) on Wednesday evening – which can be downloaded [here](#) - hosted by the Chelsea Fancast, giving CST members in the UK and worldwide a chance to listen to updates on CST initiatives and ask questions. Our view is that the technology worked well, and we have received some positive feedback so on that basis would consider doing the same at some point in the future, as part of our commitment to four members meetings a year.



If you listened in, we would welcome further feedback at membership@chelseasupporterstrust.com.

Members who were unable to listen live can listen to the podcast [here](#) or via iTunes [here](#).

Further Reading

- As mentioned in the VGM, attend July's Supporters Summit at Wembley by signing up at <http://www.supporterssummit.co.uk>
- Supporters Direct statement: [Time to Reclaim our Game](#)
- "The FA's report proves that money and power are the [fundamental problem](#) with English football".
- The season's best quotes, sackings and bust-ups in The Guardian's [Said & Done awards](#).
- The Shed End Atmosphere [campaign](#) continues to gather momentum!
- An [account](#) of the abuse suffered by disabled Chelsea supporters during PSG quarter-final in April (with update on UEFA response).
- Chelsea give non-league Aldershot their Stamford Bridge pitch [\[video\]](#)
- And finally, please considering [donating](#) to Chelsea supporters Gary Wilson and his daughter Kirstie who are raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support.

It just remains to wish you all an enjoyable summer, with a chance to recharge the batteries and replenish the bank account. It will be hopefully capped off with a "Lampard takes the free kick in the last minute of the World Cup final. It curves in, Cahill leaps above the static Brazil defence and he scores! 2-1. England have won the World Cup" type moment. We can but dream....

If you have comments or questions on any of the above information, or any other CST activity, please let us know: enquiries@chelseasupporterstrust.com

We'll be back early next season with the latest news from the Chelsea Supporters Trust – making your voice heard.



'Making Your Voice Heard'

Chelsea Supporters Trust

Email: enquiries@chelseasupporterstrust.com

Twitter: [@ChelseaSTrust](#)

Facebook: [Chelsea Supporters Trust](#)

Website: www.chelseasupporterstrust.com