



NEWSLETTER

FSOA Spring AGM 2018 Conference & Exhibition: The countdown is on!

The FSOA is delighted to announce the special guest speaker for the upcoming Spring Conference & Exhibition - cricket legend, Geoff Miller OBE.

A former England test stalwart, the first National Selector of the ECB and most recently President of Derbyshire County Cricket Club, Mr Miller is a hugely respected figure in the world of cricket.

He has also established himself as a highly entertaining after-dinner speaker with tales from his time playing with the likes of Sir Ian Botham and his vast knowledge of the game putting him in high demand as a guest speaker up and down the country.

Guests will also be entertained by award-winning comedian Rod Woodward, a winner of BBC's comedy competition 'Funny Business' who has toured with comedy heavyweights Paddy McGuinness and Russell Brand and appeared at the London Palladium before the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the Royal Variety Performance.

The upcoming AGM Spring Conference & Exhibition will be held at Stratford Manor Hotel, in Stratford-upon-Avon, on March 20th and 21st.

Preparations are well under way for the event, with a number of speakers confirmed and almost all exhibitor spaces filled.

As well as giving organisations in the events, safety and security industries the chance to showcase their products and services whilst networking with experts, it will also feature a packed programme of talks, Q&A sessions and interactive activities focusing on a range of topical issues such as national terrorism threats and crowd control.

Among the speakers already lined up are Dr Aoife Hunt, a mathematician and specialist in pedestrian and evacuation modelling and Claire Worley, from the Counter Terrorism Unit. FSOA partner, ID Resilience, will be carrying out an interactive tabletop exercise with guests, which is titled 'Blackout'.

The evening event, featuring Mr Miller OBE and Mr Woodward, will once again be compered by Andy Ashworth.

John Newsham, FSOA Business Development Manager, said: "We are delighted to announce our special guest speaker, Mr Geoff Miller OBE, and award-winning comedian Rod Woodward.

"Mr Miller is a hugely respected figure in cricket and has built up a fantastic reputation as a hugely entertaining and engaging after-dinner speaker who is in much demand across the UK.

"Preparations are going really well for the conference & exhibition and we look forward to welcoming everyone for what promises to be another informative and enjoyable event."

Booking forms are available from the FSOA website, www.fsoa.org.uk, under the 'corporate' section and then 'corporate events' tab.



We would like to say a huge thank you to main sponsors, Showsec, & associate sponsors, Dallmeier, for their ongoing support of the FSOA



Conference Agenda

TUESDAY, MARCH 20TH

15:00	Hotel reception/room registration
19:00	Meet in lounge bar
19:30	Curry/Fish & Chips
20:00-22:00	Quiz in Leamington Suite

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21ST

09:00	Registration and exhibition. Time to visit and engage with exhibitors and supporters of the event
10:00	Conference introduction by John Newsham
10:10	Chairman's welcome: Sharon Cicco
10:20	Finance report: Peter Houghton
10:25	Election of officers: Dave Shepherd
10:40	Dallmeier: Steve Hodges
10:45	Showsec: Alan Wallace
10:50	Discussion for the future of the association, update of stewards training development & Amendment in the constitution: Mark Miles/Sharon Cicco/John Newsham
11:15	Morning break for refreshments and Exhibition visit
11:30	CTU Threat of Terrorism update: Claire Worley
11:45	SGSA Green Guide Update & Case Studies: Sue Storey & John Perkins
12:15	Case studies in crowd modelling: Aoife Hunt
13:00	Lunch and Exhibition
13:45	Table top exercise "Blackout": ID Resilience
15:30	Refreshments and Exhibition
16:00	Safety Officer Experience: Mark Miles (WBA V Chelsea May 17 th 2016/17) / Sharon Cicco (Arsenal v Cologne)
16:30	Open Discussion chaired by Mark Miles (Panel includes John Newsham, FSOA; Alan Wallace, Showsec; Robert Eastwood, Football League; Claire Worley, CTU; Steve Hodges, Dallmeier; Sue Storey/John Perkins, SGSA; Dr Aoife Hunt; Ian Kerr/ Grant Russell, ID Resilience; Mark Searle, Footanstep)
17:00	Conference round-up and summary by FSOA chair with introduction to the evening's proceedings
19:00 for 19:30	Aperitifs in the bar prior to the evening dinner, followed by an evening, hosted by Andy Ashworth, with guest speaker Geoff Miller OBE & comedian Rod Woodward

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR PLACE?



Spring Conference & Exhibition 2018

March 20th & 21st 2018

STRATFORD MANOR HOTEL | STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
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TALK TO HIGH-PROFILE EXPERTS IN FOOTBALL SAFETY AND THE EVENTS INDUSTRY * NETWORK AND EXPAND YOUR CLIENT BASE * SHOWCASE YOUR COMPANY'S PRODUCTS & SERVICES * LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF BECOMING A CORPORATE MEMBER OF THE FSOA * LISTEN TO GUEST SPEAKERS * FREE ONE-DAY DELEGATE PASS FOR ALL SAFETY OFFICERS IN LEAGUE ONE & BELOW WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE FSOA

A soccer ball with text listing guest speakers. The text is written in a white, sans-serif font on a dark background.

GUEST SPEAKERS:
CLAIRE WORLEY: TERRORISM UPDATE
DR AOIFE HUNT: CROWD MODELLING
ID RESILLIENCE: 'BLACKOUT' TABLETOP EXERCISE
SGSA INSPECTORS: GREEN GUIDE

with special guests: cricket legend Geoff Miller OBE
& award-winning comedian Rod Woodward

T: 01254 841771 / E: info@fsoa.org.uk / www.fsoa.org.uk

Stewards funded for Exeter's FA Cup clash



The FSOA funded extra stewards for Exeter City FC's FA Cup clash with West Bromwich Albion through its partnership with crowd management specialist, Showsec.

The partnership between the FSOA and Showsec has made a significant contribution to the enhancement of public safety at sports stadiums across the UK, including providing lower league clubs with extra operational support when needed.

Thirteen extra stewards were provided for the FA Cup clash between League Two Exeter City FC and Premier League club, West Bromwich Albion, on January 6th.



Kevin Instance, Safety Officer at Exeter, said: "We are currently going through a ground redevelopment and only have two sides of the ground open to the public, with a 30% reduction in capacity.

"This situation has caused us some challenges in terms of crowd movement and access, whilst our parking has been greatly reduced also.

"We were drawn against West Brom in a home FA Cup 4th round tie on Saturday, January 6th, which would be the first time that the reduced capacity of 5,750 would be reached. We also had to accommodate the BBC team with their outside broadcast units and TV gantries. This all put extra pressure on our diminished footprint.

"We normally provide club-employed stewards and a contracted security company, with extra security and stewards booked for this game. I then got a very welcome phone call in the period between Christmas and New Year from the FSOA offering me up to 10 stewards from Showsec - for free! I tried hard to look for the catch and couldn't find one.

"I was put in contact with the regional Showsec Manager, Martin Lewis, who couldn't have been more helpful. He confirmed training levels for the staff he was providing and even asked if it would be ok if he sent a few more than the agreed 10.

"Arrangements were made and 13 Showsec stewards, including a supervisor, arrived at the ground 20 minutes earlier than had been agreed. They were given a ground orientation, briefing and deployed on segregation, protecting TV gantries and our emergency vehicle access gate.

"They were smart, well presented and engaged very well with fans. They mixed well with our resident stewards and were a credit to their company. I would highly recommend them to other clubs if the offer is made,"

John Newsham, FSOA Business Development and Membership Manager, said: "Our agreement with Showsec means we are able to help lower league clubs by providing operational support on occasions when they may be faced with a big match that presents challenges in terms of crowd control. We were delighted to be able to fund extra stewards for this FA Cup tie to support Exeter City FC."

**Pictures below show the redevelopment of Exeter's ground, courtesy of Exeter City FC and Showsec stewards in action at a football match*



Fan handed 'indefinite ban' for altercation with footballer

A West Ham supporter who verbally abused West Bromwich Albion midfielder Jake Livermore has been handed an 'indefinite ban'.

England international Livermore climbed into the stands to confront a fan who was sitting alongside the away team's dug-out after being substituted in the second half of West Brom's 2-1 loss on January 2.

It has been alleged that Livermore was provoked by a remark related to the death of his infant son, Jake Junior, in 2014.

A West Ham statement read: "West Ham United have issued an indefinite ban to the supporter involved in a verbal altercation with West Bromwich Albion's Jake Livermore.

"After a full investigation conducted by the club, which included statements from supporters in close proximity of the incident and evidence from Jake Livermore and West Bromwich Albion officials, the individual was found to have violated a number of London Stadium ground regulations and will be unable to attend home or away matches with immediate effect.

"Inciting or abusive behaviour will not be tolerated at London Stadium."

The Football Association asked both clubs for their observations on the incident and was understood to be happy with West Ham's handling of the case.

West Brom offered their support to the player and released a statement soon after the incident which read: "The club would like to think that all right-minded football supporters could understand this reaction which did not result in any physical exchanges before Jake was led away to our dressing room.

"Jake is an outstanding young individual who has the total support of everyone at the club and he has made it clear he considers this statement to be an end to an unhappy incident.

"Albion were very appreciative of the swift response by the officials of West Ham in dealing with this matter and are more than happy to leave any further action they deem appropriate in their hands."

Livermore, 28, will face no disciplinary action from the FA but has been sent a reminder about the dangers of reacting in this manner.



Kuwait City stadium barrier collapse injures 40 football fans

Dozens of football fans were injured after a glass barrier collapsed during celebrations following a match held at a stadium in Kuwait.

The incident occurred when Omani fans rushed to greet their team after their win in the 23rd Arabian Gulf Cup final.

"The barrier went down due to pressure caused by waves of moving fans," state news agency Kuna reported.

Oman beat the United Arab Emirates (UAE) 5-4 in a penalty shootout at the Jaber al-Ahmad stadium.

About 40 people sustained "minor injuries" in the incident earlier this month, with some fans taken to hospital after being hurt while rushing to celebrate with players following their championship victory, the Kuwait FA wrote on Twitter. Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Jaber al-Mubarak al-Sabah visited injured fans in hospital, with images of his visit posted on social media by the Kuwait FA.

Fan receives three-year football banning order for igniting smoke canister at Merseyside derby

A man has received a football banning order after igniting a smoke canister during the Merseyside derby at Anfield in December.

Patrick Devlin, of Moss Lane, in Litherland, appeared at Sefton Magistrates Court on Tuesday, January 2nd. The 28-year-old was arrested on suspicion of possessing a flare on Sunday, December 10th, for igniting a smoke canister in the away end of the ground.

Devlin was also fined £300 plus costs and now has a criminal record.

Superintendent Simon Irving, the match commander, said: "This was a dangerous incident which could have had serious consequences at an otherwise trouble-free event.

"Devlin now will have a criminal record and the consequences of this in the future could be significant.

"The quick response of Liverpool Football Club stewards meant that he was quickly identified and arrested. We recognise that the majority of supporters are well behaved. However, there are a small minority who continue to put themselves and others in danger by lighting such items inside a stadium.

"We will always work with clubs to identify those people and put them before the courts, as on this occasion.

"We will continue to work closely with all of our local clubs to make matches safe and enjoyable occasions for everyone, and ensure that we look to prosecute anyone who endangers fellow spectators in this or any way."

League Two clash stopped after drone spotted flying above ground

The League Two clash between Yeovil and Crawley was stopped after a drone was seen above Huish Park. The players were taken off the pitch in the 80th minute as play was halted for 11 minutes.

The encounter resumed and Crawley ran out 2-1 winners.

Security staff at the stadium made sure that Huish Park and the surrounding area was safe before the game resumed. Nobody is reported to have been injured and the drone quickly disappeared.

Guest Blog:



Safeguarding is crucial - and it can be simple

The story of one well known football club providing security passes for construction workers only to find them being used on match days and even allowing access to changing rooms is, at best cheeky, at worst, a frightening security breach. As you well know, the safety of everyone, but particularly youth players, employees and support staff is vital. Getting it wrong is not an option.

Safeguarding for children is a big issue and responsibilities need to be taken seriously. But by following some simple processes you can manage safeguarding within your club or event without huge cost implications. But then, what value do we put on knowing we have done our best to protect and look after our youth players?

The most important factor for safeguarding children within our care is knowing who the adults in attendance are. This accountability is an essential first step. There will be different categories of attendees – coaches, physios, event staff, support staff such as caterers, parents, perhaps press, and other guests.

Attendees should know who to turn to if they have questions or need help and who has had extra levels of vetting such as Criminal Records Bureau checks. It is unlikely that all those members of staff or attendees require complete access across the event or club ground.

Access needs to be controlled so you can know that only the necessary adults have access to certain areas, and so that you know where the adults in attendance are at all times. Do you have a management system in place? If not, then you need one. It does not need to be incredibly complex but it does need to be there to protect not only your youth players and staff but also the integrity and reputation of your club or event.

If your ground has different areas it isn't always necessary for everyone to have access to all areas. Restricting access and having different levels of freedom within the event are important tools for safeguarding. Traceability is key.

It's easier than you might think to section off events and areas. You can set up different tiers of access, limit some locations, have extra checks at specified points, limit times or operate certain opening hours. Turnstiles, access gates with RFID enabled passes, all add to the protection and physical security at an event or within your ground.

For example, not all adult attendees will need access to behind the scenes areas, possibly changing areas. Adults who are supervising their child behind the scenes might only need that access during certain times and not access at any other point during the event. Having a software system to be able to manage this is key.

Rather than controlling this access being extra work it is important to see it as an essential safeguarding activity that will increase trust in your event and help it run more smoothly, as well as protect children.

Parents and guardians will want to know an event or training ground for children is well organised and secure, and that as many safeguarding protections are in place as possible. Should you ever need to produce information for the police in order to avoid an emergency or, sadly, deal with the aftermath of one, your club or event should be able to instantly supply data of all people accessing an area at a given time. It is something we all dread, both as professionals and as parents, but a 'head in the sand' mentality will help no-one.

Checking credentials and validation needs dedicated time both before the event, perhaps during the sign up process, and when checking in. You need procedures on how to deal with security breaches that everyone involved in the event is aware of. Security accreditation needs to be traceable and work seamlessly, with full training provided to staff on machines and the technology as well as backup systems and technical support.

With the right technology, suppliers and manufacturers providing support and advice you can have a safe child oriented event.

SecuraSeal has been working in accreditation and security, providing security laminate protection films and other services, for 35 years. We are proud to have been the number one supplier of laminate films and security papers for Olympic and Commonwealth Games including Rio 2016, London 2012 and Special Olympics 2013 and 2016. Our most recent major events were Ashgabat 2016, Baku 2016 and the English Cricket Champions Trophy.

At SecuraSeal we specialise in Security Event Accreditation and materials for event protection passes. We are already working with other football clubs to provide this service, from consumables and passes to work alongside their current systems, to **complete accreditation systems including software, hardware and consumables.**

If you already have a system in place, we can help with the right security materials to ensure that **tracking and traceability** of the movement of individuals, particularly those working with youth players, within your club is accurate, effective and cost effective.

If you have any concerns about your current youth protection security arrangements, please do feel free to give me a call direct for a chat. I would be more than happy to help.

For information call Will Duggins on 07718 582825



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WARRINGTON WOLVES SIGN NEW SECURITY CONTRACT WITH SHOWSEC

Showsec has signed a new two-year contract with Warrington Wolves to provide security services for all upcoming home games.

The crowd management and event security specialist has already worked at The Halliwell Jones Stadium since 2009 and has been the Wolves' primary security supplier for much of that time. However, this is the first time a permanent contract has been in place.

"We have a very strong working relationship with Marc Weall, the new Stadium Manager, and Ken Lewis, the new Stadium Safety Officer, both of whom started in the last season," said Stephen Roberts, Operations Executive for Showsec, who has served as Head of Security at the stadium for the past two seasons.

"We also have a regular supervisor team, so everyone has been able to work really well together and build up this great partnership."

Marc Weall, Stadium Manager for the venue, added: "It's a real comfort to know on a busy, hectic match day that all our security needs are confirmed and in place.

"It takes a lot of pressure off knowing Warrington Wolves are in safe and professional hands, even with the heavy demands of a stadium not only on match days, but the weeks leading up to each game. It's a partnership that grows in strength game on game, through extended dialogue and very well-placed KPI's."

The new contract is a result of Showsec's relationship with the club developing over recent years. Having originally only supplied staff for car parks and fire doors on the site, Showsec's role has significantly expanded to include the main reception, shop, hospitality, turnstiles, stands and CCTV operation.

Approximately 70-80 staff are required for each home game, with an average of around 15 games each year, plus any cup games. The Halliwell Jones Stadium has a maximum capacity of 15,200.

The two-year contract also comes with a potential one-year extension if both parties are happy to continue with the partnership.

NEWS FOR MEMBERS

The FSOA is delighted to welcome our new Corporate Partner, UK Kiosks



Upcoming regional meetings:

WM regional meeting - Stoke City FC,
January 25th. 10:30am

NW regional meeting - Etihad Stadium,
February 26th. 12pm lunch for a 1pm start

For more information about the FSOA,
to learn more about the benefits of
being a member, to book your place at our
Spring Conference & Exhibition or to enquire
about advertising in this newsletter for as little
as £50 per month (+VAT)
visit www.fsoa.org.uk, email
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