

CHAMPIONSHIP NETWORK – ELECTION STATEMENTS 2020

ROGER ELLIS – SKY BLUE TRUST (COVENTRY CITY)

I have supported Coventry City since the 1960s. I became involved with the Sky Blue Trust eight years ago, when the Club owners' manoeuvres over the Ricoh Arena and pending Administration threatened the Club's existence. I joined the Trust Board in 2013 and then became Secretary. This brought me into contact with the EFL, Coventry Council, possible purchasers of the Club, and the Administrator as well as Club management. Scandalously, the Club was removed to Northampton and, after a brief return, is now exiled in Birmingham.

This brought home to me the huge community value of a football club and the immense damage that bad owners can cause. I was elected to Supporters' Direct's England and Wales Football Council. I attended Structured Dialogue meetings with the EFL. In 2017 I was asked to lead a joint SD/FSF project, developing proposals for the reform of the regulation of football clubs. I was the main author of those and presented them to the FA Board in 2018. They are now FSA Policy, at the heart of our Sustain the Game campaign, have been adopted by the FA and welcomed by the National League, the Northern Premier League, the Isthmian League and others.

I was elected to the National Council and Board of FSA upon formation in 2018. I am leading on football reform issues. We look-forward to, and are preparing for, the Government's promised "Fan-led Review." That must prevent some of the wild and greedy ideas coming from remote, billionaire owners and put fans at the heart of a sustainable future for football, responding both to the immediate threats of Covid and the underlying instability caused by poor ownership and regulatory practices by the Football Authorities.

ROGER TITFORD – STAR (READING)

The Championship is such an unusual division and in recent years has spanned clubs as different as Newcastle and Yeovil or Aston Villa and Wycombe. There's no other division that has 46 games in the regular season and stops for international breaks or has the financial disparities created by parachute payments. And yet it's unpredictable and interesting.

The Championship is a vital hinge in our domestic game connecting the top to the rest and allowing a flow up and down. Both Leeds and Leicester have left the division from both exits in recent times. I believe it has to stay that way and not become PL2 otherwise the big clubs will get bigger but football as a whole will become smaller. I see this role as not just representing the Championship clubs but the division itself which is poorly supported by the media and TV income.



I support Reading. We've been in the Championship 16 of the last 19 seasons so I know its pressures and possibilities well. I've represented Championship clubs in structured dialogue meetings with the EFL on an ad hoc basis since 2017 so I do represent an element of continuity when all three current divisional representatives are standing down.

I've been involved in representing Reading supporters since 1996 with spells as chair of the supporters' club, chair of the working party to form the trust and deputy chair of the trust. In 2019 I was proud, on behalf of the trust and RFC, to receive the FSA national award for club / supporter engagement.

My professional background has been in communications, advertising, market research and I'm now doing a small amount of publishing, writing for When Saturday Comes and saving football heritage. I'd welcome your support for this important position.

PAUL CORKREY - CARDIFF CITY SUPPORTERS CLUB

I would like to represent Championship fans through this network on the FSA National council. I have been an FSA/FSF member since 2002 and have been elected to the National council in the past and co opting on many times in my position on FSA Cymru (Wales).

I have vast experience of the Championship following my team Cardiff City, we have been a Championship side for 17 seasons albeit interrupted by two years in the Premier league. My main interests involve policing, stewarding, disabled fans 'access, safe standing, away fans issues, fan dialogue with owner or persons of influence at the club and fair pricing for supporters at the stadium, including season tickets.

I would like to learn from the network of good or best practice that is taking place at their clubs and pass on any that occurs in Cardiff, hopefully it can be best practice at all clubs eventually.

I am currently chair of the Cardiff City disabled supporters Association and on the board of FSE (Football supporters Europe) and have a passion for international football, I also represent FSA Cymru as the co opted member on the current FSA NC (if I was to be elected to the FSA Championship group we would co opt a new FSA Cymru member to represent them)

I love football although this virus as made things difficult for all of us and very much expect to be involved at my club in discussions about getting fans safely back into stadiums, a process I have already began with our club stadium manager and sharing best practice here is essential if we are to get back in anytime soon. I hope you accept my application and your vote.