

ASSOCIATE MEMBER TIER – ELECTION STATEMENTS 2020

GLENN ASTON – WOLVES FANS' PARLIAMENT

Wolves home and away season ticket holder and love all things football. Board member of Wolves GoaldenGate Lottery, raising funds for the Academy and local charities. National List Assistant Referee from 1996-2004. Member of the Wolves Fans' Parliament and am their FSA Premier League Network representative. Currently self-employed Finance Director allowing control of my diary, allocating time appropriately to all of my commitments.

Firm believer that fans are the lifeblood of football and that WE have to be involved at all levels of the National Game across all genres and this has never been more important than it is today with the extreme financial perils and uncertainty facing clubs throughout the UK; the very poor opportunism attempted by 'The Big 6' was oh so wrong on so many levels!

There are many challenges to be negotiated especially, the safe return of fans, PPV, 'The Big Picture', European Super League and VAR to name just a few and it's vital that the FSA has a strong recognised collective voice/input. Firmly believe that I can, if successful, be a significant contributor going forward as throughout my life I've been an achiever who leads by example but is also not afraid to seek help and advice and, in fact, actively encourages it.

The proposed FSA 'Fan-led review into football club ownership and management' is something I strongly believe in because we all just don't know what awaits 'around the corner'. We all love our respective clubs but without competition and the possibility of a 'what if', what would be the point? We're all in this together and a good strong FSA, which I want to be a part of, is the way forward! We have to protect OUR game and cannot let mega-rich oligarchs just ride roughshod over our history and future.

DAVID MICHAEL – MY OLD MAN SAID (ASTON VILLA)

These are unprecedented times for football supporters in light of the fresh challenges that Covid-19 now poses in terms of fans maintaining a foothold in the game. It's for this reason I would relish a chance to continue on the National Council as an associate representative.

The importance of the voice of football supporters in the game and club-fan communication was core to me forming My Old Man Said (MOMS), almost a decade ago.

During this time, I've enjoyed a wide spectrum of experiences - from getting Villa Park recognised as an Asset of Community Value, representing Villa's controversial ultra group to the club, to getting free sanitary products into the ladies toilets at the ground.

Whether it be helping individual fans overturning wrongful banning orders or challenging



previous club owners, common sense, a robust nature and 'can do' nature to the continuous challenges and resistance along the way, has helped. As we all know, it's never easy.

I'm a founder member of the Aston Villa Fan Consultation Group (FCG), which I've actively improved the diversity of along the way and helped empower others to have their voices heard within the club. Also, I serve on the West Midlands Police Football Unit Independent Advisory Group (IAG), which was the first of its kind in the country.

It's been a pleasure to work with the FSA over the years, whether it be serving on EFL and Premier League Network groups, working on campaigns such as Twenty's Plenty and Safe Standing, or indeed the past couple of years serving on the National Council.

While 20 years of publishing and journalism, plus a legal background, helps, my main asset for the National Council is simply being a football supporter, who wants to help safeguard the traditions and values that we all love the game for.

THOMAS CONCANNON – WOR HYEM 1892 (NEWCASTLE UNITED)

The year 2020 has thrown many curveballs into our lives, normally we have football as our escape but even our beloved game has decided to challenge the resolve of football supporters across the pyramid.

I don't need to run through the many issues we have faced as football fans in the last six months or so, but one thing is clear that the proposed fan-led review into football is needed urgently, and we all have a part to play to ensure its success.

I am applying for the Associate Member vacancy on the FSA's National Council. I come here as a Newcastle United fan and member of the group Wor Hyem 1892. I am also a board member on the Newcastle United Supporters Trust. I am incredibly passionate about striving for change in football, from matters such as structured dialogue improvement with our clubs and improving our match day experience. As a 29-year-old fan, I feel I can bring a younger demographic to the table. With lots left to learn, I am incredibly passionate about fan activism and under no illusion about the role I'd be required to play, working closely with you all in a united effort on FSA policies and campaigns that benefit our clubs, our supporters and our communities.

For the last six years I have worked with the Football Supporters' Association on their Fans' Embassy project which provides a support service to England fans for international fixtures, working closely with the FA. This has given me valuable experience of working to help fans across the country, putting rivalries aside to support our national side. This has also enabled me to develop good relationships with the fantastic people that work within the FSA.

Thank you for taking the time to read my statement.