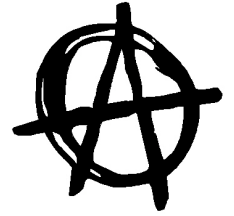




WILDCAT!



Local newsletter of Liverpool Solidarity Federation | July 2010

FOOTBALL FOR THE FANS NOT THE FAT CATS

- Direct action • Boycotts • Anti-fascism
- Solidarity • Grassroots control



Sunday July 4th has been declared 'LFC Independence Day' by the Spirit of Shankly supporters' union. Fans will descend on St George's Hall to discuss the future of the campaign to take control of the club away from present owners George Gillett and Tom Hicks.

The meeting comes soon after Liverpool FC announced a rise in the price of season tickets of 7 per cent. Just as working-class people are paying the price for an economic mess created by bankers, bosses and politicians, it is ordinary Liverpool fans who are bailing out owners and executives of Liverpool FC.

One thing is clear, simply transferring ownership of the club from one group of multi-millionaires to another is not enough. Football clubs will never truly belong to their fans as long as they are owned by entrepreneurs whose main priority is generating profit for themselves.

Football is a central feature of working-class culture and community life. Gradually we are seeing the game being killed by corporate parasites who see fans as revenue sources to be exploited.

Grassroots clubs such as AFC Liverpool and FC United have shown that models of grassroots fan-ownership can be successful on a small scale. There's no time like the present to prove that

democratic, rank-and-file ownership can work on a large scale at Premier League club too.

Liverpool Solidarity Federation is a working-class anarcho-syndicalist organisation. As such we advocate:

- » A campaign of direct action against LFC's current owners.
- » Building support for genuinely democratic, accessible community/supporter ownership of all football clubs.
- » A boycott of match-day tickets and merchandise.

Understandably, long-time match goers are unlikely to give up their season tickets due to the huge waiting list for applications.

- » Fill the coffers of organisations such as the Hillsborough Justice Campaign, rather than the pockets of LFC's owners.

- » Keep it 'unofficial' - reject the self-interested involvement of politicians and bureaucrats.

- » Rank-and-file solidarity action with fans of other clubs - for a non-sectarian coalition against the corporate destruction of football.

- » Working-class opposition to neo-fascism and all forms of discrimination - firm opposition to the BNP and the English Defence League.

- » Support for grassroots football clubs such as AFC Liverpool.

The struggle goes on... ★Y.N.W.A★

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