

RCS/WB/RCD

30 July 2007

Mr Brad Adams
Asia Director
Human Rights Watch
350 Fifth Avenue, 34th Floor
New York, NY 10118-3299
USA



Dear Mr Adams

Thank you for your letter of 30 July. I would like to reassure you that the Premier League takes its responsibilities surrounding the governance of its clubs very seriously and we are aware of the issues you raise.

It may help if I set out the legal and regulatory framework within which we operate. In the first place we accept the primacy of UK and European law. This determines who may, and who may not, legally reside in the UK, own and acquire assets and engage in commercial and other activities. There are also significant protections in place to prevent money-laundering. These are all measures introduced and policed by the statutory authorities and, in the case of money laundering, by the banks and financial institutions which carry out the transactions. Over and above those laws, we have our own Fit and Proper Persons Test. This goes beyond the legal requirements placed on companies operating in the UK but we see it as crucially important that the League and our clubs show sound corporate governance with additional rules specific to football's own needs.

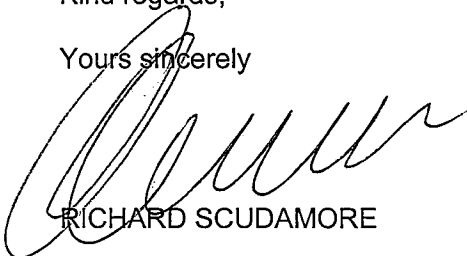
I enclose the relevant section from within our rules and the schedule of offences that it refers to. You will see that it seeks to ensure that anyone convicted of any of the offences listed therein will not be permitted to become a director, or a shadow director, of a club.

The issues that you raise are of course extremely important, so much so that they fall to the UK Government, the statutory authorities and the European Union to consider and decide upon. We would presume that you have presented any evidence that you believe is relevant to those authorities so that they can take them into account and act accordingly. Should you have presented your evidence to the authorities we would be interested to know how they responded to you.

You can be assured that we will always operate within the law and will always take into account any evidence as verified by the appropriate legal process.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely



RICHARD SCUDAMORE

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