

ANNUAL CONFERENCE MOTIONS 2008

Change of Rules

1-RULE 5.7 "BENEFITS"-558 Branch

On line 1 change "52" to "26".

2-Rule 5.13-Silver Badge Award-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agrees to a change of Rule 5.13-Silver Badge Award-after completion of 20 years continuous service, a silver badge will be presented. "Silver" to be removed from front of badge. Badges are no longer "Silver" and this is misleading our members.

3-Rule 5-14- 40 Years' Continuous Service-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agrees that Rule 5.14 40 years continuous membership needs updating. The Grant of £100 needs increasing.

4-Rule 20.2- President-Nominations-No 6 Regional Council.

We propose that due to a sharp decline in membership Conference examine the feasibility of a lay National President when possible.

5-Rule 22.1-Annual Conference-No 6 Regional Council

We propose the Conference re-visit the feasibility of holding a Bi-Annual Conference.

6- Rule 21.2- Auditing Accounts- Branch 215

That this conference agrees to add at the end of the paragraph – "That the BFAWU elect two auditors plus substitutes every two years by Annual Conference Delegates. Each quarter, before each EC meeting they shall carefully examine all the accounts relating to income and expenditure of the Bakers Food & Allied Workers Union. The auditors shall prepare a report for the EC. The Auditors shall receive expenses as per rule 22.5 and shall be paid £10 each quarter.

7- Rule 22.2 Nomination and Election of Delegates for Annual Conference-Branch 215

That this conference agrees to delete to word March and add "December"

8- Rule 22.2-Nominations and Election of Delegates for Annual Conference-Northumberland & Durham/Scotland District Boards

That this conference agrees that ULRs are given the same rights and recognition at Annual Conference as Branch Secretaries and Shop Stewards and be able to bring learning issues to the floor at conference as this is now a major part of union policy and places made available for ULRs to attend conference.

9- Rule 22.4(b)-Duration of Conference- No 3 Regional Council

Insert "in the event of any such member being elected delegates for the second year, then he/she branch shall be entitled to an extra delegate to Annual Conference."

10- Rule 22.5 Rate of Payment for Delegates-Branch 215

That this conference agrees to add after the last paragraph "£5.00 fee will not be payable where food is supplied by the BFAWU.

11- Rule 22.12-Resolutions to Annual Conference -No 7 Region Council

Conference, given the important and vital role played by BFAWU Union learning rep's the National Union Learner's Committee should in their own right be permitted to put forward resolutions to Annual Conference.

12-Rule 22.13-Power of Conference-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agrees that EC members should be nominated by their Districts and elected at their Regional Councils. This would not be taking away the democratic process of conference but would ensure that those elected had the full support of those they represent.

13-Rule 22.19—Nominations for Executive Council-No 2 Regional Board

Line 4 after contributions add, 'and must be working within the industry'.

14-Rule 22.20- Delegates to Trade Union Congress and Labour Party Conference-Northumberland & Durham/Scotland District Boards

That this conference agrees that Regions have the right to support any delegate from whichever political party they stand for providing that party treats all equal regarding race religion sex or disability and last but not least trade unionism.

15-Rule 22.20-Delegates to Trade Union Congress and Labour Party Conference-Northumberland & Durham/Scotland District Boards

That this conference agrees to disaffiliate itself from the TUC.

16- Rule 22.20 Delegates to Trades Union Congress and Labour Party-Branch 215

That this conference agrees to add after the last paragraph " That the Bakers Food & Allied Workers Union send only delegates to the Labour Party Conference – **NO VISITORS**. This conference should support the P.M.G.B proposal to limit the funding and make debate on issues that concern our people priority. This conference asks the PM to make the L.P. Conference a part of that debate. We would then be able to send our full delegation, and it would be money well spent.

17-RULE 27.17 "BENEFITS"-Branch 558

At the end of line 2 add "on request of the new member."

18-New Rule – All minutes from the EC, FGPC and the Regional Officers meetings-Branch 215

That this conference agrees " All minutes from the EC, FGPC and the Regional Officers meetings shall be provided on a quarterly basis and should be available at Regional Council/Regional Board meetings.

General Motions

19-Election Leader/Deputy Leader of the Labour Party-Executive Council

That this conference notes the change in Labour Party Rules In relation to the method of counting votes of affiliated organisations to the Party, such as Trades Unions, in the ballots for the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Labour Party. Conference therefore agrees that the current BFAWU practice of annual 'elections' for these positions is now redundant and should be discontinued except for years in which there is an actual election for any of these positions.

20-Future of the Union-No 2 Regional Council

Conference notes that membership continues to be in decline. Conference are also concerned the affect this has on the future of the union and the union finances. Conference is of the opinion that this needs urgent attention by the Executive Council. Previous attempts at reversing the decline of membership has resulted in at best slowing this decline down. Conference insists that the union must remain independent and the Executive Council must face up to the challenges this presents and act in the best interest of the union, however hard and difficult this will be.

21-Food Workers Charter-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agrees that we introduce a food workers charter.

22-Branch Meetings-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that the union should review the role of Branch meetings with regard to improving attendance.

23-Union Learning Fund -No 7 Regional Council

Conference agrees that Trade Union Learning is a matter which should be reported on at all Regional Councils, Regional Boards and District Boards by a nominated ULR.

24-Learner Reps Training-No 2 Regional Council

Conference notes the union's excellent in house training for shop stewards and health and safety reps. Conference further notes the success of the union learning fund projects and the introduction in recent years of the Union Learner Representatives to the trade union movement. Conference therefore requests that the Executive Council consider providing the same standard of in house training for all union learner representatives.

25—Bradford factor-Absence Procedures-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree to put pressure on our respective companies to cease the use of the Bradford factor in attendance disciplinaries. It is an oppressive system that allows company managers to run roughshod over our members. The fact that there are so many interpretations of this system also makes it highly subjective.

26-Agency Workers-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that the union urges branches as a matter of urgency to reduce the role of agencies within our industry by seeking agreements that will lead to more sustainable employment and maintain terms and conditions of exiting employees.

27-Temporary Workers -No 7 Regional Council

That the practice of engaging temporary workers for 13 weeks and then reinstating them for another 13 weeks ongoing, should be outlawed and we called on conference to agree that the BFAWU delegates to the TUC and Labour Party Conference's take this motion to the said conferences.

28-Industrial Action Ballots-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that our Executive Council lobby this Government to reverse the law concerning postal votes for balloting on strike action.

29-Recognition Agreements -No7 Regional Council

Conference agrees that the BFAWU strongly lobby the Government of the day for a change as to who should vote in Union Recognition Ballots, at present anyone in the bargaining unit is entitled to vote. The change that is needed is only those with more than one years service with the company should have a vote.

30-Trade Union Rights-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that it is high time that the trade union movement demanded that the rights taken away by the Thatcher Government were if not entirely at least partially given back to the trade union movement, so as to create a fairer environment for all working class's.

31-BFAWU Political Fund-Branch 558

The BFAWU affiliate to and supports the Labour Party, as such conference agrees to remind Regional Boards when allocating political fund moneys / support in the furtherance of political gain they should ensure that those moneys / support go to candidates or organisations that support Labour Party policies and supported the retention of clause 4.

32-Union Abbreviation and Jargon-West Yorkshire District Board

That this conference agrees that when abbreviation or jargon is used in any documentation notes or minutes where ever possible a separate appendix is to be attached out lining what these abbreviations mean. This to include all documentations etc from the TUC and Labour Parties.

33-LOCAL TUC's RESOLUTIONS & DELEGATES TO ANNUAL TUC 558 Branch

As the BFAWU support & encourage branches to affiliate to their local TUC's conference agrees to support the campaign to reinstate the right of Local TUC's to send resolutions & delegates to the Annual TUC Congress, and if passed ask the EC to consider this as one of the BFAWU resolutions to TUC 2008

34-Final Salary Pension Schemes-West Yorkshire District Board

That at Bradford we would like the Union and the TUC to fully support any Union action against Companies that try to finish any final salary Pension Schemes and also to put pressure on the Government to do the same, for new or existing employees at all Companies.

35- Pensions - No 7 Regional Council

Conference, Given that we will have to work longer before retiring, it would appear that there has been no notable outrage to this. The trade union movement appear to accept that it is right that those working in the public services should be treated more favourably than those in the private sector. To this end we would ask that the BFAWU become more outspoken in word and deed on this matter in order to raise awareness as a means to readdress what is an obvious discrimanorty act by the present Government and the Trade Union Movement.

36-Smoking Ban-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree to reassess the impact of the smoking ban in public places especially in Public Houses. Since the law was passed it has closed a numerous number of Pubs and Clubs. It has also had an effect on socializing and community spirit. It should be at the Tenants discretion as it is their livelihood that is at risk.

37-Extra Bank Holiday-Executive Council

That this conference agrees to lobby the government for another bank holiday to commemorate Workers Memorial Day on the nearest Monday to 28 April.
Moved-J Fox Seconded P McCarthy

38-Food Labelling- No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that whilst this union strive to help people fair trade, we would like the Government to enforce a clear labelling structure so customers go buy with full confidence and large fines for larger stores who fail to manage how their product is made

39-European Union-Branch 215

That this conference agrees that the European Union and the Euro was the great success story of the 20th century. 51 years of prosperity, peace and democracy. Gordon Brown's 5 point plan for Britain joining the Euro is a sham. Britain should have joined from the start.

40-Lisbon Social Charter-No 6 Regional Council

Conference deplored the action of the British Government in opting out of the Social Charter of the Lisbon Treaty.

41-UK Manufacturing-West Yorkshire District Board

That conference and the BFAWU put pressure on the Government to subsidise and help to bring back manufacturing of any type to this Country so that we are not too reliant on the service industry for a base for the economy. This would in turn take us away from the massive debt problems which the Country is experiencing at the moment.

42-UK Manufacturing Grants-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree the Government encourage business to keep manufacturing in the UK and that we have a clear understanding in when and how it becomes a Grant area.

43-Sunday Opening- No 7 Regional Council

Conference agrees that the cessation of the retail trade on Sundays would help reduce carbon emissions and in the long term would be beneficial in reaching statutory requirements, as well as improving family lifestyles.

44-Redundancy Payments-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree as our industry is again suffering from closures and redundancies that we should now be in line with other EU country's on redundancy payments. Whilst this country is still one of the easiest places to make workers redundant employers will continue to disregard employees service and loyalty and throw people on the scrapheap at little or no cost.

45- English Pensioners- Manchester Branch

That this conference agrees that the time is long overdue to bring English pensioners into line with the rest of the UK. Free transport on trains and ferries would be a starting point.

46-Nursing Homes-Preston District Branch

That this conference supports the elderly who wish to remain in their own homes and calls on the government to give the financial assistance to those who need care instead of lining the pockets of those who run nursing homes

47-Care for the Elderly-Branch 555

That this Conference calls upon the Government to introduce a fair system in its care for the elderly.

48-Free Public Transport for the over 60's and Disabled-West Yorkshire District Board

That this conference agrees upon proof that if you are over 60 or disabled you can travel free across all counties in the British Isles on Public Transport and only need to show proof of being over 60 or being disabled at the start of your journey.

49-TV Licence-Manchester Branch

That this Conference agree to get the Government to agree to give free TV licences to all pensioners from 60 upwards.

50-Post Office Closures-Branch 555

That this Conference calls upon the Government to halt its post office closure programme.

51-Affordable Housing-Manchester Branch

That this Conference agrees that affordable housing should equate to the National Minimum Wage. Currently in the area I live one bedroom apartments are around £100,000 but on current wages you can raise a mortgage for £60,000. How can you expect anyone to go onto the housing ladder?

52-Sport -No 7 Regional Council

Conference agrees to instruct the NEC to take this motion to the Labour Party Conference, that competitive sports are re-introduced into the National Curriculum.

53-Education-Branch 215

Education, Education, Education! Remember the 1997 slogan "Things can only get better". Have they? That this conference agrees THEY HAVEN'T! Changing names and destroying Comprehensive education by replacing it with academies and PFI. Education doesn't begin with Academy. The first and most important part of a Child's education begins at home. This should then be supported by a strong, well-resourced pre-school, infant and primary education which allows children to consolidate their learning and develop skills necessary to continue their learning at secondary school and beyond. Conference agrees that university charges should be abolished.

54-Education-No 7 Regional Council

That the government of the day introduces legislation which makes it mandatory for company's to invest in education and welfare on behalf of their employees regardless of age ,sex ,colour, nationality or creed. This would have the effect of putting the GREAT back into the nation, so producing rewards and benefits for both employees and companies for years to come.

55- Protection for Vulnerable people-Northumberland & Durham/Scotland District Boards..

That this conference calls for the government to stand by and stand up for some of the most vulnerable people in society who can not get credit or loans and pay their utility bills in advance through the pay card system. This system is designed to put money into these companies bank accounts in advance and increase their profits and stock market viability

56-Gun/Knife Crime- No 1 Regional Council

That this conference agrees that the use of weapons by young people has now reached an unacceptable level, and is now destroying our communities. In London alone during 2007 some 27 people lost their lives as a result of gun or knife crime. Many other young people in other parts of the country also lost their lives due to the use of such weapons.

We call upon conference to support this resolution and instruct the Executive Council to make arrangements to meet with the relevant Secretary of State to express our concerns and request that the Government of the day take action to ensure this unacceptable situation does not continue.

57-National Health Service-Branch 215

That this conference agree that the health service and contributions to be taken out of the treasury and placed under the health secretary with a committee of MP's, senior health parishes, and Family doctors running the health service. The government to contribute for children, unemployed and pensions.

58-Phone Charges-NHS Hospital-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that the pricing of telephone policies in hospitals by patients' bedsides is deplorable.. The NHS trusts are robbing the most vulnerable-those that are sick and scared of next day operations etc.. Fifty pence a minute is outrageous-but some patients have no option if they are bed bound-and mobile phones cannot be used around some wards. This is just another way of the NHS ripping off people.

59-NHS dentistry-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree the Government looks into the shortage of NHS dentists as most of them are going private and the public are finding it hard to meet the cost going to the Dentist for treatment.

60-Disability Discrimination Act-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree to lobby the Government with regards to a clearer understanding of the Disability Discrimination Act, a larger scope for automatic disability and enforce employers to make reasonable adjustments.

61-Government-Branch 215

That this conference agrees that when a government is elected to parliament, it serves the full 4 year term with MP's having a greater say. Conference also agrees to abolish the House of Lords and replace it with an elected body.

62-Government scrutiny of Utility Companies-Northumberland & Durham/Scotland District Boards

That this conference calls upon the government watchdog committees to scrutinise and keep a much closer eye on utility's companies who supply us the public with our gas electric phone water. Do we really know how much we are paying for these services?

63-Greedy MP's-Branch 215

That this conference agrees to deplore greedy MP's for voting themselves confidentiality on their activities outside of parliament, so any money earned wouldn't have to be registered. Then to use their constituents business as their excuse. That is double deplorable, and they want ID cards for the rest of us.

64-Detention Limit to 42 days-Branch 215

That this conference agrees that detention after 28 is unacceptable without a Court Order.

65-Cycling Lanes-No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that the Government should provide more cycling lanes and ensure that these are used responsibly. Any cyclist caught riding on the pavement should be encouraged to use the cycling lane.

66-Pedestrian Walk Ways-Branch 215

That this conference agrees to make South Marine Drive in Bridlington, more pedestrian friendly. If this motion is carried, the EC should send this motion to the local authority.

67-Green Issues- No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree that the Government provides assistance to everybody in order to push "green issues". We are constantly hearing about carbon footprints etc.-and how we all have a responsibility to "do our bit". The Government should extend their warm from imitative programme to everyone- not just those people on benefits.

68-Legalisation of Brothels- No 4 Regional Council

That this conference agree the Government look at legalising brothels in the UK. There is a need for some places in today's modern society. It could assist in educating "safe sex", deter perverts and rapists-as they now have somewhere to go to satisfy their needs and put some money back into the coffers.