

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2010/2011*



THE
**REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION**



April 2011

COUNCIL 2010 - 2011

PRESIDENT

Terry Wilson 25, Brookside Crescent, Cuffley, Hertfordshire, EN6 4QW 01707 889585
E-Mail - president@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

CHAIRMAN

Tom White 82, Graeme Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 3UT 020 8366 4703
E-Mail - chairman@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Vince Yeudall 2, Churston Gardens, New Southgate, London, N11 2NL 020 8245 5695
E-Mail - vicechair@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

SECRETARY

Robin Jagot 24, Tiverton Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 5HY 01707 651461
E-Mail - secretary@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

TREASURER

Gary Cobden 2, Chapel End, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8DN 01992 469153
E-Mail - treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

SOCIAL SECRETARY Position Vacant

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Ken Goldman 17, Green Walk, Hendon, London, NW4 2AL 020 8203 1376
E-Mail – kengoldman@btinternet.com

TRAINING SECRETARY

Stan Rosenthal 40, Slades Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 7EE 020 8367 2579
E-Mail - training@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

GEAR SUPPLIES

Percy Brown 33, Cotton Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 5JT 01707 851369
E-Mail - supplies@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

COUNTY RA DELEGATE

Charles Lifford Address Withheld Withheld
E-Mail - cra@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Martin De La Fuente 7, De Soissons Close, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6YX. 01707 321502
E-Mail - councilone@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

Michael Mackey (Snr) 46, Latymer Road, Edmonton, London, N9 9PU 020 8807 4898
E-Mail - counciltwo@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

Michael Mackey (Jnr) 62, Morley Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0BG 020 8367 6509
E-Mail - councilthree@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS: Please send to Ken Goldman – by e-mail if possible.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify Gary Cobden

HONORARY AUDITORS 2010-2011

Jim Taylor 020 8560 8262 Tim McGowan 07793 402610

LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

George Basten	Peter Dace	Ken Goldman
Terry Hayne	Robin Jagot	Brian Langstone
Mick Osborn	Arthur Stewart	Tony Ward

Visit the North Middlesex website at:- www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

THE NORMIDIAN is the Official Publication of North Middlesex referees Society, and is published nine times during the football season, between September and May.

The next Meeting of the North Middlesex Referees' Society will take place at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club Kirkland Drive Enfield Middx. On Thursday the 7th of April 2011 at 7.45 pm. **Please note the change of date occasioned by the Easter Holiday.** Our special guest speaker will be **Mike Riley** who is Manager of the Professional Game Match Officials Board Ltd and a former FIFA and Premier League Referee. We are hoping for a big attendance on the night to greet an important colleague.

EDITORIAL

With the demise television-wise of Andy Gray using his 26 Sky cameras available to castigate referees and their Assistants and just when we thought it was safe to get fair adjudication on matches, came the incident in the opening minutes of the recent Carling Cup Final. Once again an Assistant Referee, This time Ron Garfield, became pilloried in the newspapers for getting an offside decision, which television replays (several of them and some in slow motion or freeze frame and then poured over by the written media) was arguably wrong. I say arguably because the freeze frame replay showed the kicker about to strike the ball but not having struck it. So whether the Birmingham striker was actually offside would have been virtually impossible to detect with the human eye. Indeed it has already be scientifically shown beyond reasonable doubt that until evolution leads to humans having eyes in the sides of their heads it is impossible when level with the second last defender for an Assistant Rreferee to see accurately both the kicker and the attacking runner. Likewise Officials are not equipped with 26 cameras showing the aforementioned differing angles, slow motion and/or freeze frame and although it is very good news that the International Board have agreed to experiment with goal-line technology you can see why they are wary of leaving decisions to the cameras especially on offsides. What would have happened if the game in question had been stopped and the incident analysed? Presumably the Arsenal 'keeper would have been sent off and a penalty awarded to Birmingham. What though if in the split second involved the attacker was offside but the Assistant had not raised his flag? Then of course the result just postulated would have been the same. But following a review the keeper would have been called back. The penalty rescinded and a free kick for offside given to Arsenal. Do we really need all this hassle for the Officials where they have to make marginal decisions throughout each game? All of this led me to recommend earlier that offside should become one meter behind the second last defender so no more hair-line decisions. We have already seen that cricket has now become a farce with players questioning the Umpires' decisions and seeking a review. They hang about waiting for the result of a third television umpire and if the decision over-rules the Umpire his credibility if not his authority is certainly diminished. Heaven forbid we get to that stage and if we do what happens at grass roots levels. In any event years

ago before the proliferation of Sky's cameras and the need to be controversial that decision of Ron Garfield would have gone virtually unnoticed, passed as an accurate one and everyone would have proceeded with the match. Which brings me to the new fangled idea of "what is in the expectation of players, managers and spectators"? For example although the offside law should favour the attacker would we really prefer a "dodgy goal" rather than a "dodgy offside"? What then is the position of the penalty area viz a viz referees. Should we treat it the same as any other part of the field and award 8-10 penalties in a match. I am afraid I doubt that these things are what we all want in our "expectations" and would everyone stand for it. Let us start treating the Officials as human beings and not machines that can be calibrated to get everything perfect. Players make mistakes and sometimes several of them in a game whilst Managers make wrong team selections so why is technology used to castigate the Officials? Perhaps we should rally round the favourite slogan of last season in professional football and "get on with the game".

As a footnote to the Carling Cup Final offside scenario Arsenal went to Tottenham earlier in that Cup and came off worst in two offside decisions and just a week after the Final in a League match against Sunderland a tv replay with freeze frame argued that their player was onside despite being given offside. Being at that match and in line with the Assistant Referee from the naked eye it seemed a good call which only goes to prove two things. The first immodestly is that what has been written here is correct and second that things in football **DO** have a way of evening themselves out over a season.

Ken Goldman

Editor

FOOTNOTE

Here's what to look out for in our next edition which is the last magazine of the season.

- Willy Woodwork completes his match, to end the series of Law teasers.
- More good stuff from Observer.
- Mick Osborn takes us back in time.
- Reports of the Guest Speaker Meetings for March and April.
- All the forthcoming AGM details.

There is still time to make a written contribution especially if you wish to express views on any Law changes you would make if you were in charge or simply to send in your plum appointments

OBSERVER PENS NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

Now that we are into the New Year it is customary to make the odd resolution, such as giving up smoking, drinking or eating less. Have you given any thought on the subject to your refereeing?

That is to say, resolutions, which will improve your performance as an official. Here are a few suggestions. Check through all of these suggested resolutions that have been listed, there will be at least one that is applicable to each and every one of you. See how many you need to make to improve your own performance. Here we go: -

1. KNOW THE LAWS

It has been found by experience that more often than not the man who knows the LOAF is the man who has recently qualified. Very often, the longer we referee the less we read it. Do we really know it all that well?

When the new LOAF arrives at the start of each season how many of us just study the law amendments? None of us are that good as to think that we know all the laws without reference.

Make it a point to read the laws of the game fully at least twice a season and always keep one handy for easy reference. Mind you, don't take it onto the field of play with you or players may well lose confidence in your ability!

2. FITNESS

The sore point for most of us, both literally and figuratively. Are we really as fit as we should be? Can you be in the right place at the right time throughout the match? Even during extra-time? Let us be honest, not many of us can put hand on heart and answer 'yes. It can take great effort to drag yourself out after a hard day, on a cold and wet night, or even when the snow is on the ground, to run your three or more miles, jogging, sprinting, running backwards etc.

We must be at least as fit as the fittest player on the field. Many referees have been heard to say, "I only took to the whistle when I became too old to play". This can only be accepted if they meant that it was because of injuries which did not affect their pace, certainly not fitness. You must be able to last out the whole of the game, at least 2 hours, without flagging. Come on chaps, get your running shoes on, or preferably boots, and out you go.

3. TURNOUT

Is your kit getting 'tatty', or did you get a new set for Christmas? Are your boots in a good state of repair and highly polished with clean laces? Are your socks really black with white tops?

It does sound as though you are expected to turnout as if for a big parade. It should be the same for every game. Pride in appearance brings with it pride in a job well done. Do you approach the field of play correctly? Ball under your arm in the company of your two

linesmen (if of course you are lucky enough to have them) with that look of authority. Make it a resolution, always to look and act the part of a referee or linesman and be a credit to the uniform you wear.

4. TIMING

Are you always early arriving at the ground for your match? Your duties start long before the first whistle, meeting and briefing the linesmen, getting the feel of the game before it starts. There is nothing more off-putting to players than being kept hanging around because the referee and linesmen are late. Ensure that you always arrive at the very least, 30 minutes before kick-off time

5. HELP EACH OTHER

Everyone seems to think that the sole prerogative of senior referees is to watch their junior colleagues and to give advice. Nothing is further from the truth. If, as a junior referee, you find yourself watching a colleague and you notice a fault or an annoying mannerism, point it out to him. Many junior referees prefer constructive criticism from their younger colleagues rather than from a more senior colleague. Any help, at any time, from any one, so long as it is offered and of course it is accepted in the right spirit, can only help to improve the overall performance, and that is the aim, or certainly should be, at all times. Make a resolution to both give and accept help from any one.

6. APPOINTMENTS.

This is probably the most important resolution of them all. The man with the hardest job in your Area is the Appointments Secretary, mainly because YOU make his job so difficult. Why did you not return your availability slip? Why have you not given him a ring to let him know that you are unexpectedly available? Why on earth did you leave it until the last possible moment to inform him that you can not do the game this afternoon? It is no joke scrambling around at the last possible minute trying to find a substitute official. How on earth can you complain about not getting matches when the chap who dishes them out has not been informed that you are available? Please make every effort in the New Year to ensure that the Appointments Secretary is always informed of your availability.

7. MEETINGS

Any excuse will do to save you turning out for a meeting on a 'dirty' night. Is that your attitude? Wife or children not well, unexpected visitors, last minute duty? It should never happen.

The referees' meeting is where it all happens, where you can meet your friends and colleagues to find out the answers to that problem you remember from your last match, where you learn to understand the laws of the game and to know their interpretation.

If you were not sure about that decision you made in the last game, what better place to be than at your meeting, talking to a colleague over a drink, and asking him his opinion. This is YOUR club, yes, a REFEREES' CLUB where you learn all the answers, even more important you answer someone else's. You don't have to be a senior referee to help. We can relax and learn, and believe me, we never stop learning about the game. So this year, how about it, no more excuses for non-attendance. Show up every month.

8. TREAT ALL GAMES THE SAME

So many referees get into deep trouble in so-called 'friendly' matches because they have approached the game with the wrong attitude. The Laws never change, apply them to the full in any game in which you officiate.

The players will respect you more for a firm attitude and will play within the laws of the game. More serious injuries are incurred in so called 'friendlies', than in many competitive games, makes you think doesn't it? Accident, stupidity or lack of control?

9. LINING IS IMPORTANT

Are you one of the guys who asks the Appointments Secretary when he calls, "Is it a middle or a line?" If so, then this is the resolution for you. Why on earth any official should look down on lining appointment. It is just as important as being in the middle. You have tremendous responsibilities as a member of a team.

Many results of important matches have been decided by a decision made by a linesman. Never look down on the job, a good linesman is worth his weight in gold. You are the poor relation, so promise to get that completely out of your head. From now on be just as pleased with a line appointment as middle, because one is just as important as the other.

10. ONLY YOUR BEST IS GOOD ENOUGH

Try your best every time you go out onto the park. It is very hard at times when the weather is very bad or a team is 10 goals in front, but do not lose interest. No one can ask, or will expect more. Make it your resolution to give the players the best game you can every time.

Never be satisfied, always strive to improve. It is our job to ensure a good and well-controlled game.

Remember that you are never the best, without trying to be.

[Although Observer meant this to be for the New Year magazine and actually ended with a New Year's wish, unfortunately the space required for this excellent article was too great to fit in the previous three editions. Hopefully the resolutions can be treated as still standing good, some four fifths into the season. After all most of us will hope to actively carry on next season so we can still bear all of this in mind even then. -ED]

The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Part 8 – The very first few minutes

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
Venue: Hackney Marsh - Pitch165
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)

Following on from last month's article I thought I would stay with the same theme of the opening minutes of the match.

It is imperative for the referee to 'set their stall out from the beginning'. That means for the referee to maintain a consistency through out the match for all decision making and to ensure he or she is totally focused and makes every effort to be in the best position to give the right decision. I have always felt it is easier to 'sell' a bad decision from ten yards than a correct decision from twenty yards. That just simply means the closer the referee is to the incident gives the referee more credibility for players to believe the ref had a great view of what just occurred.

If only I had taken my own advice because in the first minute the Casuals forward run on to a through ball and advanced towards the rovers goal. "Offside" shouted several Rovers players and I hesitated before using my whistle. I pride myself in always having a 'loud' whistle but the player ignored my whistle and continued his run before his shot went blazing over the cross bar.

In normal circumstances that was a mandatory caution but I thought that being only the first minute of the match that I would use 'common sense' and just tell the player to 'play to the whistle and not do that again'. The decision seemed to be appreciated by the players but not as I discovered after the match by the assessor who had come to observe my match but more about the assessor later.

The Casuals goal keeper was well over six foot and his goal kicks went deep into the opponents' area. On one such kick it landed just outside the Rovers penalty area and straight onto the boot of the Casuals forward. He was in an off side position and this time I had no hesitation in blowing my whistle. Again the player ignored the whistle and kicked the ball into the net. "How can that be offside? I received the ball direct from the goal kick and you can't be offside from a goal kick!" I told him "Offside is offside and you were clearly in an offside position. It doesn't matter that you received the ball from a goal kick, you were offside". I then proceeded to caution the player for persistent infringement as this was the second occasion he had ignored my whistle. I knew that I had made the correct decision after all I was the referee. I noticed the assessor making notes which were obviously stating how well I had dealt with the decision.

Casuals were playing well and had certainly started the stronger of the two sides. As the Casuals attacked the Rovers goal the goal keeper came to collect what appeared to be an easy cross. Under no pressure at all he collected the ball comfortably in his hands and then for no particular reason he just fumbled the ball and it dropped to the ground and rolled to the Casuals forward who just had to tap the ball into an empty goal. To every ones total amazement the player kicked the ball wide of the goal. It was easier to score than to miss. He player covered his face with both of his hands and shouted a number of expletives. I am sure you can imagine the names' that he called himself. I asked for the player's name which he duly gave me and I then produced a red card. A few of his team mates also rushed over to remonstrate with me. They all told me he did not swear at another player and anybody would have done the same in the circumstances. I was sympathetic to their cause but I knew I had to send the player off for using offensive, insulting and abusive and abusive language regardless of whom it was aimed at.

Only a few minutes played and already a player sent off. But I knew a referee was there to apply the laws of the game and I knew I was correct. Already the assessor must know how good I am.

Casuals continued to dominate the very early stages and were soon after awarded a corner. There was a lot of jostling going on. Players were holding and pulling opponents and I decided to 'lay down the law'. I gave the whistle three loud blasts and said in a loud voice "no more holding and pushing. I can see what's going on so keep your hands down."

This appeared to work but as the kick was taken I noticed two players holding each other. Their movements now had them actually over the goal line and practically entwined in the goal net itself! As the goal keeper collected the ball the defender pushed the forward who fell to the ground and seemed to get caught in the net. "Penalty" shouted several Casuals players. There was no doubt I had a clear view of what happened and I knew what to do.

Several comments were conveyed to me 'You saw that ref, he struck him and that's a penalty' and 'Violent conduct ref, a sending off and a penalty!' Both were fair comments but the incident occurred off the field of play and I knew I could therefore not give a penalty. I blew my whistle and awarded a drop ball on the goal line. Of course I sent the player off for violent conduct and I knew this was the correct way to restart. This decision not to award a penalty was obviously not too popular and one of the Casuals players was cautioned for dissent. Well, would you have done anything differently? Surely not as I know I am usually right!

The Rovers defender approached me and very politely asked for my permission to leave the field of play to change his boots. What a charming and polite person I thought to myself. He started to walk off when suddenly one of his team mates passed the ball to him. The player set off towards the opponents' goal and from approximately twenty five yards shot and scored. I blew my whistle and cautioned the player for unsporting behaviour. The player was not happy "How can you disallow the goal. There was nothing wrong with it and now to caution me!" I explained he had asked my permission to leave the field of play and that his actions were unsporting. I restarted with an indirect free kick to Casuals where the player had first played the ball. I saw the assessor making notes which were obviously congratulating me on my excellent decision.

Remember not to change your style of refereeing to attempt to please the assessor. Just keep to what you normally do and apply the laws in a firm and fair manner. A clumsy tackle would warrant a word with offender, a reckless tackle must be a caution and an excessive force tackle must be a red card. Maintaining control of the match is imperative and let's see what happens in the next instalment.

Regards



Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Willy Woodwork

OFF THE POST

Dear Ken

I'm reading the Normidian as I do each month and I think I know of a faster sending off!

I can't remember the year but I went to Lincoln versus Barnet many years ago. It was a fiery match and Barnet were already down to 10 men when they made a substitution with Herbie Smith coming on. Barry Fry told him to "get in amongst them" which he took literally as he ran onto the pitch and immediately elbowed someone in the face. The referee sent him off before he had a chance to restart the match, So I suppose you would say he was sent off after 0 seconds!

Best Regards to all at NMRS

Adrian Bland

@@

Dear Ken

You occasionally publish so called "plum" appointments in the society mag. With many cup finals just around the corner you may be doing so again, in which case please be advised that I have been appointed as AR on the AFA Intermediate Cup Final, scheduled for 26th March.

Regards

Les Kypriani

@@

Deaths

We are sad to record the recent deaths of Nat Lofthouse a Bolton and England legend, Dean Richards who played for Spurs and Wolves; Chelsea players Eric Parsons and Les Stubbs, Neil Young of Manchester City; a famous Czech footballer of the '60's Jan Popluhar and French World Cup Referee Maurice Guigue.

LETTERS OF THE LAW

To: Observer

Re: February 2011 magazine

Having read your article about weak refereeing and the use, as you put it, of “Industrial language” I must take issue with you.

Society today has changed dramatically in the last 40 years. The use of what my parents and possibly those of my generation called bad language is the most noticeable change.

Unfortunately, young people swear, with most using inappropriate language every day. Whether you or I like it, it is a fact of life.

Football is a passionate game and you cannot expect anyone to change their daily habits during a game of football. A clever referee will manage the language and will have differing attitudes depending where the match is held. If it’s next to a children’s playground then an appeal for silence may be heeded but if it’s in the middle of Hackney Marshes then a different tolerance level may be warranted.

Also what would you have a referee do about the expletives from the striker who has just missed an open goal?

FIFA recognised this problem some time ago and changed the Laws to “the use of Insulting or abusive language and / or gestures”. Now we have to decide if the comments are a player’s normal language or if it is meant to be insulting or abusive to the recipient.

It may not be so easy but we have to reflect current society and FIFA’s wishes.

Stan Rosenthal

[A good start. What about some more comments either on the original Observer article or on Stan’s reply or the question on this raised at the last meeting –Ed?]

XX

Whose that Ref?

Peter Dace has come up with the answer to the question of who is that Referee at the start of Match of the Day’s title shot, who is shaking hands with Bobby Moore. It is in fact Welsh Referee Iorwerth Jones and the match was on the 29th March 1969 at Upton Park between West Ham and Manchester United which ended 0-0. The Referee was born in 1927 at Bedlinog Glamorgan and worked in a colliery as a fabrication welder. He became a FIFA Referee in 1967. He gave up the whistle in April 1975 and retired to follow his hobbies. – **Thanks Peter**

Membership Fees for Season 2011/2012 are now due!

For those of you who have already renewed your membership for season 2011/2012, thank you for your prompt response. If you have yet to renew your membership for Season 2011/2012, it became due on 1 April 2011. If the Society has an e-mail address on file, and you normally receive your magazine by e-mail, you should have received a second copy of your personalised Membership Form in this way; for everybody else yet to renew, a second Membership Form is included with this month's Normidian.

The NMRS Membership Fee is again being held at £10.00 for those who elect to receive their magazine by e-mail, or £12.00 if you receive your monthly magazine by post. This is the eleventh consecutive season that the basic society membership fee has remained at £10.00 – the last increase being at the commencement of the 2001/2002 season. The Referees Association has increased its subscription again; this year by £1.00 to £16.00. However, the Referees Association has also introduced some additional, voluntary benefits – details later.

Membership Fees payable are as follows:-

- **Full Members**

- **£26.00 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£28.00 if magazine received by post.**

This includes your Referees Association fee of £16.00 including the Insurance Premium of £4.00. If you are over 75, you are not automatically covered by the Insurance Premium, and your fee payable will be reduced by £4.00. However, should you wish to purchase insurance cover, this can be arranged on request. Please contact me for a proposal form which you need to complete and return to me.

- **Associate Members**

- **£10.00 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£12.00 if magazine received by post.**

You must pay your Referees Association fee through another Society, and this should be shown on your Membership Form. Alternatively, you may join as an Associate Member if you have other interest in football work – please indicate on the Membership Form.

- **Junior Members**

- **£15.00 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£16.00 if magazine received by post.**

For Members under 18 years of age, and includes your Referees Association fee of £10.00.

Individual fees payable are shown on your personalised Membership Form. You are reminded that you will not be covered by the Referees Association Insurance after 31 May 2011 unless your fees have been paid to the Society by that date. Please complete and return your Membership Form as soon as possible. You need to bear this in mind if you will be refereeing late season or early pre-season games.

You can also take this opportunity to join or rejoin the Society One Hundred Club – just complete the appropriate part of the membership Form, and include the additional remittance with your membership fee.

It would be appreciated if you could all check your details shown on the Form, and amend any information that is shown incorrectly. Please also specifically check e-mail addresses shown carefully, as some that we have on file are resulting in rejections. Additionally, please check that the NPD Number (Registration Number) where shown is correct, and complete it if it is missing from the Membership Form. The number can be found on your County FA Registration Form. If you are not currently registered with a County FA, please indicate on your form as Not Registered. Please also indicate where requested whether you are an Assessor; Examiner; Instructor; or Mentor.

Now, a bit more about the additional benefits available from the Referees Association for the forthcoming season. For a premium of £5.00 per season, you will be covered for up to four separate musculoskeletal disorders during the season. A brief summary of the cover follows.

Referees Association Physiotherapy Insurance - Overview

To provide the members of the Referees Association with a scheme which provides them with (immediate) access to physiotherapy and rehabilitation if they suffer a musculoskeletal disorder (MSD), which prevents them from being able to perform their duties as a referee. Cover is only available to members between the ages of 14 and 75, and is provided by IPRS (www.iprsgroup.com).

Description

The incident or Injury which results in the MSD must be incurred whilst the member is travelling directly to and from a game, during a game, training or whilst on recognised referee's society business. To qualify for the service, the MSD must prevent the member from being able to perform their duties as a referee for at least five consecutive days. An injury website will be available during the intervening period, so that the initial care which should be administered by the patient immediately following the injury can be treated, e.g. Icing elevation etc.

An IPRS Personal Care Advisor will contact the member by phone within 2 working days, to carry out a triage call to assess the extent of the member's injuries, and whether IPRS intervention is appropriate. If IPRS intervention is appropriate, IPRS will arrange a physical assessment and **up to a maximum of four treatment sessions**, as clinically appropriate. Each member can claim for up to **4 separate**, non-related MSD's during the annual Agreement Period. All treatment will be **arranged by IPRS** only, and referred into their network of Associate Practices which are local to your home or workplace.

Treatment will not be provided for an MSD:

- i) which did not specifically occur within the Agreement Period,
- ii) where, in the opinion of IPRS, it is neither reasonable nor appropriate to do so,
- iii) which occurred within 7 days of the commencement of the Agreement. This does not apply for renewal Agreements,
- iv) for which the Official has previously received treatment under this Agreement.

Should you wish to take advantage of this additional cover, please indicate on your Membership Renewal form.

Due to time constraints, some of you may have received a second Membership Form despite having recently paid for which I apologise. Membership Cards will be distributed upon receipt from the referees Association; initially with the May Normidian.

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



EVE OF CUP FINAL RALLY

Date: Friday 13 May

Time: 6.15 for 6.45p.m. (Ends around 9.00p.m.)

Venue: Hotel Russell, Russell Square, London WC1B 5BE

The Guest Speaker for this year's rally will be David Dein.

David is a well-known figure, and was Vice-Chairman of Arsenal Football Club for 14 years, overseeing the

appointment of Arsene Wenger and the move from Highbury to the Emirates Stadium.



Bookings for this event can be made shortly, via the website www.footballreferee.org, or through Society Secretary, Robin Jagot.



Referee Development Programme launched

The FA has launched its National Referee Development Programme. The scheme is committed to training, retaining and developing enthusiastic, committed referees with support and coaching in a safe and constructive learning environment, allowing referees, as individuals, to make choices on their routes of progression. The programme will fit under the current referee development structure at The FA, allowing aspiring referees to have a better level of support from Referee Coaches and also providing each referee greater access to the mentor and support resource that is vital to their development.

The FA's Head of Refereeing Development, Ian Blanchard, said of the programme launch: "The aim of the programme ultimately is to ensure we have better, more qualified and well supported referees at the semi-professional level of the game and above. We wanted to provide our referees with a clear pathway and route into the semi-professional game, and also ensure they had the support and resource from The FA, whilst giving them a start and end point dependent on the route they wanted to take. This will help us not only recruit more referees in the future but also just as importantly retain the huge number of referees we already have that are out there helping us maintain our game at grassroots level."

The NRDP has been devised over the last four years and will form a major part of The FA's initiative to recruit, retain and develop referees involved in 11-a-side football. The programme will be central to The FA's target of recruiting 8000 new referees by 2012, a key objective which forms part of The FA's National Game Strategy, a £200m investment into grassroots football. The programme will have no age restrictions placed upon it, but will rather focus on the adage that whatever your age and current experience in refereeing in grassroots football the programme has something to offer. This will apply to new trainee referees from July looking forward to their first six games to those possibly who have reached level five or four and are looking to progress further.

Mike Riley, General Manager of the PGMO, also offered words of support for the programme: "This is a step forward for The FA. The programme should help all referees that are currently in the system and provide them with a greater level of support and resource whilst driving the recruitment of new referees who really want a clear pathway into the game. The hope is that with better developed referees coming through the system, we may reap the benefits of this programme in the professional game for many years to come."

The NRDP will be executed by the County Football Associations under the leadership of their Referee Development Officer/s (RDOs) managing the programme. They will appoint other staff from their volunteer workforce to support them in achieving this, including an assistant who may be the County Training Officer and a team of Mentors and Coaches to support and develop referees through the programme.

The scheme will rely on the Counties establishing or building upon relationships with leagues and clubs who will become their partners in providing referees with the appropriate environment for their games to be supported and developed.

For the full FA document, see:-

<http://www.thefa.com/GetIntoFootball/Referee/NewsAndFeatures/2011/~//media/Files/PDF/Get%20into%20Football/Referees/NRPD%20Final%2022211.ashx/NRPD%20Final%2022211.pdf>



HENRY TILLY LTD

Sports Goods Suppliers of 94, Turners Hill, Cheshunt
are again please to continue their support of

North Middlesex Referees Society for Season 2010/2011

Contact us for all your sporting requirements
Telephone 01992 623714



www.htsports.co.uk



HT Sports specialise specifically in the supply of sportswear and equipment for most major sports, and stock all major brands of sportswear. Corporate wear can also be supplied. HT Sports also offer comprehensive embroidery and engraving service. A full range of non-clothing sports equipment is also available.

Contact us by phone on 01727 843155 or e-mail us at sales@htsports.co.uk



E-mail:-

office@ackerman.co.uk
sales@ackerman.co.uk
accounts@ackerman.co.uk

Ackerman Group PLC
15/16 Hickman Avenue, Chingford,
London, E4 9JG

www.ackerman.co.uk

Telephone:-

020 8523 1321 (Office)
020 8527 5050 (Sales)
020 8527 5020 (A/cs)
020 8527 6439 (Fax)
020 8503 2002 (Fax)

**Are once again pleased to support North Middlesex
Referees Society in Season 2010/2011**



North Middlesex Referees Society One Hundred Club - Season 2010/2011

The results for the March draw are shown below. With 42 shares subscribed, the total amount payable is £29.40.

1st 5 Michael Mackey £16.80 2nd 40 Adrian Bland £8.40 3rd 12 Matthew Webster £4.20

If you would like to join the 100 Club for the remainder of Season 2010/2011, please complete and forward the form below.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB

I wish to purchase.....share(s) in the NMRS 100 Club at £1.00 per share per month.

Please find enclosed my cheque/postal order for £...00 to cover the subscription for 6 months.

Renewal information will be included with next seasons Membership Form

Name..... Signature.....

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

**Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer**



For our New Referees

You are all told what not to forget to take on to the pitch at the start of the match during your training course. However, spare a thought for Premiership Referee, Peter Walton who forgot to take his yellow card with him for the first half during the recent Everton v Birmingham match. In the 40th minute Peter scrambled around in his pocket for something that wasn't there. In the end, he brandished an invisible yellow card to Birmingham's Jordan Mutch. Needless to say, he didn't forget his yellow card in the second half, and used it three times!



Promotion News from Middlesex CFA-

Level 6- 5 promoted - George Grant and John Noblemunn

Level 7- 6 promoted - Jamie Morris, Chris Fenner, and Carl Fernandes

Congratulations from all at North Middlesex

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of North Middlesex Referees Society will be held on Thursday, 19th May 2010 commencing at 7.30 pm at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, off Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex. EN2 0RU

Provisional Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To CONFIRM the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
3. To CONSIDER any matters arising therefrom.
4. To RECEIVE a report from the Secretary.
5. To RECEIVE a report from the Treasurer together with the audited accounts.
6. To RECEIVE a report from the Honorary Auditors.
7. To RECEIVE any reports from the Council and Officers.
8. To CONSIDER any change to the Society Rules.
9. To ELECT Officers and Council for the ensuing year.
10. To ELECT Honorary Auditors currently T. McGowan and Jim Taylor
11. To CONSIDER the following motion –
That this Annual General Meeting places on record its thanks to the Officers and Council for their work during the past year, and express appreciation of the conduct of the affairs of the Society.
12. Any Other Business

Any person wishing to stand as an Officer for Season 2011/2012 must be duly Proposed and Seconded – and assented by the nominee - in accordance with Society Rule 9c. Any proposals for changes to Society Rules must be duly Proposed and Seconded in accordance with Society Rule 9d.

Proposals for Officers must be received by the Secretary not less than 21 days before the Annual General Meeting - i.e. not later than 28 April 2011.

Proposals for Changes to Rules must be received by the Secretary not less than 28 days before the Annual General Meeting - i.e. not later than 21 April 2011.

Robin Jagot

Honorary Secretary
24 Tiverton Road
Potters Bar
Hertfordshire
EN6 5HY



North Middlesex Referees Society

Minutes of the Society meeting held on Thursday 17th March 2011 at Holtwhites Centre

Apologies: As per the Society Handbook

Chairman's Welcome: The Chairman welcomed all and our Guest Speaker John Cooke from the AFA.

Secretary's Report: Secretary requested those members that will be attending the Quiz, would they please let us know by Wednesday 23rd March if they require the Chicken supper instead of the usual Fish & Chips, as a special order would be required. The secretary informed the meeting that a "Presentation Evening" will be arranged on Friday 21st October 2011 at Old Owens Sports Club to honour those members who will receive awards from the Football Association and Referees Association. The seven members are R A Awards -George Basten and Gary Cobden. F A Awards - Peter Dace, Mick Osborn, Don Stewart, Tony Ward and yours truly.

The Presentation Dinner Evening will be a three-course-menu and there will be a Guest of Honour from the Football Association and Referees Association. Tickets will be £25 per person and the maximum number we are hopeful of attending will be 85 – 90 guests. Our M.C for the evening will be our LVP Peter Dace.

At the time of writing these minutes I can say that six tables of (10 persons) are accounted for at this early stage and I strongly advise that if you wish to attend please apply now.

Secretary advised those members that the next Council meeting would be held on Tuesday 19th April at the Chairman's residence starting at 7.30pm.

Treasurer Report: The treasurer had nothing to report but a question was raised as to what finances were held in the Society's Bank Accounts. While the treasurer did not have accurate figures to announce the treasurer assured us that they were in a healthy state.

Editor's Report The Editor informed the meeting because of the next Society meeting being held on 7th April the deadline for any articles would be 18th March.

Any Other Officers'Reports: None

Any Other Business: A question from the floor requested that Council seriously look at the benefits offered by the Referees Association and urged it be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next Council meeting. A request from Jeff Till to the meeting to seek approval from the Society to invest £49 in " 1000 Text Messages" to encourage members to attend the next Society meeting. On a point of order through the Secretary, the Chairman stated that this very issue had been recently discussed at a Sub-Committee of Council and the decision agreed was to reject the proposal. The Chairman informed members that as Mike Riley was our Guest Speaker at the April meeting the County FA's of London, Middlesex, Hertfordshire and the AFA had placed special adverts on their web-sites and that various leagues and competitions were also informed. In other words every effort was being made to attract a large audience.

There being no other business the meeting was closed and our Guest Speaker John Cooke was introduced by Roger Fox after a short break.

Chairman.....

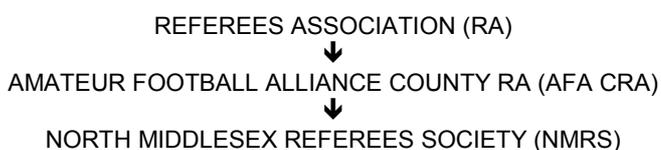
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

The Referees' Association (RA) is the national body for. The RA is independent of, but works closely with, County Football Associations to ensure that matters affecting referees are discussed and resolved. These include law changes, current interpretation, assaults and other problems affecting referees nationally.

North Middlesex Referees Society (NMRS) Is one of some 350 local Referees' societies that are spread all over the country; some are referred to as Societies, others as Branches, Associations, or Clubs. They often work closely with local leagues to aid recruitment, and to ensure that any parochial problems are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. NMRS meets on a monthly basis throughout the season; Guest Speakers are invited; training sessions are held; social events arranged; and local problems - including Match Incidents - are discussed.

So what is the link between the Society and the National Body? All Societies must be a member of a County Referees Association (CRA). North Middlesex, together with the AFA and London Society of Association Referees, form a County Referees Association known as the Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association (AFA CRA). This Association operates with Officers and a delegate from each Society who, like the Officers and Committee of this Society, are elected annually in a democratic manner. The AFA CRA send a delegate to the locally held annual RA Liaison meeting which reports back to The RA Board, who meet at least four times a year. All delegates and officers of the AFA CRA Committee are elected annually in a democratic manner.

The National Structure for the Society is:



As a full member of NMRS you are a member of the RA.

The Objects of The Referees Association are clearly defined in their rules, and include:

- provide insurance, and financial support for members
- improve the status and reputation of referees.
- protect members from injustice or unfair treatment.
- promote, educate, train and develop referees in general.
- promote the best interests of the game of Association Football.
- provide guidance and support for members of local Societies.

What are the Benefits of RA Membership?

Insurance - The major benefit is the Personal Accident Insurance Policy. For a small amount, the insurance policy covers you whilst actually refereeing; travelling to and from a match; attending meetings (including travelling to and from home); attending organised training; and loss or theft of kit whilst at a match. Full details are available to members on request, as it is now no longer a requirement that each member who has paid the insurance premium is supplied with a copy of the terms of insurance. A range of increased benefits are also available - for an additional premium - and members should contact the insurers direct if they wish to take up these benefits. Additionally, active referees who are over the age of 75 can now be covered by the Insurance subject to an additional premium being paid.

Supplies - A full range of equipment is available from The RA - and often at a lower cost than if you bought it from a local sports shop. By purchasing equipment in bulk, the RA is able to pass the cost savings on to its members. Publications by top names are also available, along with "The Referees' Association Manual of Guidance" which gives advice to the referee on such varied subjects as diet, law queries, training, pre-match preparation, match control and lots more. "The Assessors Challenge" is another book that forms essential reading for every referee and assessor. It deals with every aspect and quality required for promotion. All items are available from the Society's Supplies Officer - although kit may need to be ordered. The Society's Supplies Officer is also able to supply you with kit and other refereeing items from a range of suppliers to make your purchasing requirements easy.

Refereeing is a joint publication of the Football Association and the Referees Association. It is published four times a year, and is mailed direct to all registered referees by the Football Association. The magazine includes features and updates from the Football Association and items of RA-FA and RA news.

Benevolent Fund - It is hoped that you never have to apply for assistance from the Fund but, sadly, some of our members do fall on hard times through sickness and other reasons. The NMRS Fund is available to all NMRS members, and the RA Fund is also available to full members.

Why do I receive two different Membership Forms each year? You will receive Membership Renewal Forms from both NMRS and the CFA with which you are registered, although not necessarily at the same time. The CFA form will also show the 'three lions' badge of the FA, as the FA now has overall responsibility for the registration of all referees, although you will still be parented by a local CFA. When you successfully completed your six matches, following your completion of the Referees Examination, you were automatically registered with a CFA appropriate to the area in which you live, and this is most likely to have been either Middlesex; London; Hertfordshire; Essex; or the AFA. During your training, you will have been invited to take up Trainee Membership of NMRS. If you want to continue with your refereeing, then registration with a CFA is a compulsory requirement. However, the CFA's and RA-FA are unable to offer you the benefits available locally through NMRS. Whilst your membership of NMRS is entirely voluntary, it is strongly recommended as you will be able to participate in regular meetings held throughout the season - on local territory with the opportunity to discuss relevant local matters; meet and hear Guest Speakers; and receive regular training updates, along with the other benefits outlined above.

Note

Abbreviations that are commonly used in magazine articles or in reports at meetings.

AFA	Amateur Football Alliance
AFA CRA	Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association
CFA	County Football Association
CRA	County Referees Association
LFA	London Football Association
MCFA	Middlesex County Football Association
R.A.	Referees Association
RA-FA	Referees Association/Football Association partnership for cooperation between the RA and FA.

Updated July 2010

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except April 2011 - first Thursday),
commencing at 7:30 pm, at
Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RN
Telephone: 020 8363 4449
Dates for Season 2010/2011:- September 16; October 21; November 18; December 16 2010;
and January 20; February 17; March 17; April 7; May 19 2011



*The venue is passed by Bus Route W9 direct from Enfield Town, and Enfield Town;
Enfield Chase; and Gordon Hill Rail Stations are only a short distance away. For fuller directions and
how to get to the venue, see our website. See also www.tfl.gov.uk;
www.nationalexpresseastanglia.com; and www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk.
If anybody has difficulty reaching the venue, and would like assistance, please contact one
of the Society Officers – whose details are on the inside front cover.*

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE NORMIDIAN EDITORIALY, OR BY CONTRIBUTORS, DO NOT
NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY.

ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE MAGAZINE MAY BE AMENDED BY THE
EDITOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH EDITORIAL POLICY.

PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO REPRODUCE MATERIAL WITH A SUITABLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE SOCIETY WAS FORMED AT THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE, SOUTHGATE, LONDON, N14
ON 20th JANUARY 1949