

*The Normidian  
Magazine  
Season 2012/2013*



THE  
REFEREES'  
ASSOCIATION



*April 2013*

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**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, Middlesex at 7.45 pm on Thursday the 18th April 2013 when the Society will welcome Premier League Referee Kevin Friend who this season has refereed both the Community Shield fixture and the Capital One Cup Final, both at Wembley.**

### **EDITORIAL**

Two on-field connections with contrasting results, over the last month, with both leading to extremes in terms of punishment, or lack of it, for both the innocuous who suffered and the reckless that did not. I refer in the first instance to the Manchester United player Nani who was sent off whilst trying to bring the ball down out of the air with his back to the subsequent opponent whilst in turn always looking at the ball. In point of fact the only player to have propelled himself was the player who was accidentally kicked albeit high up on his anatomy as a result of his rushing in to try to get the ball. If you consider the movement what was the difference between what Nani did, i.e. stretching for the ball in the air and what Demba Ba did in scoring spectacularly against Chelsea in the 6<sup>th</sup> Round FA Cup Replay against Manchester United. It was a movement that had Adrian Chiles on television drooling that kids all over the country will be trying to perfect that. Well they won't if they get a red or yellow card for doing it near an opponent and catching that player by accident. Surely dangerous play or as our "rulebook" phrases it playing in a dangerous manner takes into account the circumstances of what a player is doing or intending to do in addressing the ball (whilst appreciating that intent no longer applies except arguably where an accident occurs). This is surely borne out by the Interpretation & Guidelines section of LOAF which states "If a player plays in a dangerous manner in a "normal" challenge the referee should not take any disciplinary action. There are other provisos but the key to making a rational and fair decision is how much one knows or ought to know about the playing of the game and not about knowing the Laws and paper edicts but not recognising how to interpret them. Even Glen Hoddle or the radio got into the debate when describing the way that Zinedine Zidane brought the ball down in the air saying his feet were like hands and that his skill might have been in jeopardy in a similar case to Nani and thereby bemoaning that Nani had actually been sent off and thus incurred an automatic one match ban. However bad decisions lead to inconsistency and we have since that incident, including in subsequent European Championship ties, seen in similar circumstances either a yellow card dished out or no action taken at all.

We had a kind of straw poll on the subject at the last monthly meeting where the results proved inconclusive, with some up for a red card, several for a yellow and some for doing nothing, so it showed that as usual everyone has their own opinion. Unfortunately from my point of view they do not express it often enough in these pages.

The other case was the MacManaman challenge by the Wigan player on a Newcastle man which went unpunished because one of the Assistant Referees said he saw it and did not think it worthy of bringing it to the Referee's attention. Once seen on replay after the game the Referee did consider it worthy of a red card but the rules of the FA agreed by various stakeholders as they are called now prevented them from taking any retrospective action. It was as most people agree a horrendous tackle but in essence it is all part of the professional game. At grass roots there are no such luxuries and all we are left with is the tenor of the game and the reaction of the players if we are unsighted. Angles do make a huge difference of course to the interpretation of tackles and fouls and on the parks especially if there is no "linesmen" the job is obviously very much more difficult. However if seen such a tackle on park pitches should always result in a dismissal from the field.

As we near the end of the season it becomes time to think about what one would like for next term. One thing that would be very nice would be, bearing in mind, so many matches are televised, for the names of the referee the two assistants and the fourth official to be posted up in the same way as the two teams and their substitutes. The BBC on Match of the Day gives some lip service by giving the referee's name but only after that of the commentator. A Respect campaign is nothing without respect and it is about time that the officials received some recognition as they do in the written match programme. There have been cases, Crystal Palace for example where for a short while they even gave a pen picture of the referee.

Mention has been made at the top of the magazine that Kevin Friend will be our next guest speaker and it is a pleasure to receive a Premier League referee so we need a good turn out to welcome him. We had one of the largest attendances to hear Colin Lewin so let's make sure we do that again and if possible beat it. Members can invite friends for the evening.

The next magazine is the last of the season and as usual I would like to have what is generally known as a bumper edition. Please send in your plum appointments articles or viewpoints but unfortunately if they are longer than half a page of A4 it is not possible to retype them so anything longer please send by email. The May meeting is on the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month and is the AGM so it would be helpful to have all contributions as soon as possible please.

Ken Goldman.

Editor

**ACHIEVING CONTROL  
ON THE FIELD OF PLAY  
BY OBSERVER.**

**Control whilst on the move.**

**The most important aspect in achieving this is to select the most effective patrol during the match. It is just as true today as it was when it was ever first mentioned to you. The 'old diagonal system' is now considered to be a thing of the past, but is it? The modern game, maybe faster but you still have to get in a position to get the correct view of any incident at whichever level of football you area operating.**

When Club Assistants only are available, it can makes things more difficult but remember they only there to assist and not to make major decisions, hence the reason that you still have to ensure that you are wide enough to monitor the incidents that occur in a match thereby achieving proper 'Control'.

On these occasions the referee, before taking to the field of play with the assistance of Club Linesmen, needs to think seriously about the patrol that is going to be adopted and always be ready, during the match to amend it according to the way play develops or circumstances dictate.

So what should be considered when deciding your patrol?

***1 Environmental Conditions.***

**a. The state of the pitch**

Whether it is wet or dry? Are there any boggy areas or patches of surface water which will tend to decide the chosen running path. This is important, because you will need to get around the field of play as quickly as possible, so you will want to ensure that your feet are on the firmest ground possible. Also, because you know that the players will be attempting to avoid any areas, which are not conducive to ball play and this will therefore contain the areas where patterns of play will develop.

**b. Direction of the sunshine**

To enable you to get proper views of the play without being dazzled by the sun, you must achieve an optimum patrol that keeps the sun out of your eyes as much as possible. The referee has to make the important decisions, so it is not too important if the linesmen have the sun in their eyes, as most of their decisions are made close to the touchline.

In fact, occasions do arise where it would be more advantageous to the referee to have both his linesmen on the one touchline, whilst he takes up a patrol close to the other line. Even though this would restrict him from closely following play, it is better to

have the sun behind him, allowing him a clear view of play, rather than being dazzled at all.

### **c. Direction of the wind or rain**

Here again it is a matter of achieving a patrol, which will allow good visual control of the play, and keeping these elements out of your eyes. The strength and direction of the wind will, in many cases, tend to dictate movement of the ball during play and will therefore affect your patrol and more particularly, your positioning at all restart situations, ie. free kicks and goal kicks.

### ***2 Players ability and attitudes.***

With teams of reasonable playing ability, definite playing patterns will emerge during the game, which will dictate the referee's movement and positioning. Whereas in matches where the ability is low, the ball will often not go where the players attempt to put it and the referee will have to quickly change his patrol to compensate for these errors.

The attitude of the players to each other will occasionally dictate the patrol to ensure that you are near or thereabouts to any potential flash points of misconduct.

With teams of differing ability, it may be found that play tends to be at one end and you may have to amend your pre-supposed patrol to suit this, but always be ready to move quickly and directly up field when the occasion arises.

### ***3 Size and shape of the field of play.***

The patrol you take up for a short wide pitch will be different to that on a long thin pitch, as the patterns of play will be different. Also the state of the pitch markings can affect your patrol decision.

Having taken all this into consideration on deciding your patrol, now, you must ensure that you are able at all times to clearly observe the area where the ball is being played and the movement around it, because this will be the main area where incidents will happen, which can affect your overall 'Control'.

It could be that it is better to be slightly behind play, whilst it is on the move, where you can get a wider view of the play and also be more ready for the breakaway that can leave you way out of position. It could be that if you are right up with play, your view could be restricted by players' movements around you, so therefore, your own movements could become restricted so that you end up getting mixed up with play. When you have to stop play for an incident, keep moving towards it whilst whistling. Then when the players turn to look to see what you are signalling for, you will be there with them and they will not realise how close or far away you were at the time of the incident.

## **Wall control by Stanley Lover.**

I see many matches, played in several countries, and am disappointed to observe top referees using the same old methods of wall control, which date back over half a century. However, I'm impressed with the marker spray method, used in the US MLS games, and would like to see it applied universally.

This is how I compare that with the old (current) procedure.

### **Current procedure.**

- ⤴ We see the ref at the ball, talking to the kicker (plus one or two others), then raising his whistle, above his head, before starting to pace out 10 yards.
- ⤴ He invites two or three defenders, standing at the ball, to move away. But, they help the ref by pointing to a position farther back. The ref insists he's got it right and urges them to move. They shuffle back slowly and stop about 6 yards from the ball, while team-mates arrive to form a solid barrier between ball and goal.
- ⤴ Ref goes to side or front of wall and asks the players to retreat. More slow shuffles and stop, at about 8 yards.
- ⤴ Not enough - ref commands, with vigorous gestures.
- ⤴ With no co-operation, ref attempts to pull or push the wall (yes, that is seen on numerous occasions).
- ⤴ Meantime, offences by players jockeying for territory, are missed.
- ⤴ Play is delayed while the referee moves into position before his whistle signal.

This procedure consumes precious playing time.

### **The Marker system**

Briefly, I believe the system operates as below;

- ⤴ If the kickers indicate they want a ceremonial restart, the ref uses a visible spray to mark the exact spot for the ball.

- △ He does not speak to the defenders, but moves smartly to 10 yards.
- △ His spray mark shows the wall limit to all players and spectators.

The advantages I see are;

- △ no doubt about the positions of ball and defenders,
- △ ref does not invite dissent from defenders by engaging in explanation/argument,
- △ the ref does not need to command or touch players,
- △ he is freed to observe pre-kick off-the-ball conduct before the whistle signal,
- △ he can concentrate on best positioning to observe play from the restart,
- △ the reason for yellow cards, shown to caution encroaching defenders, is clearly justified to all; stifling dissent,
- △ consumes less time,
- △ reinforces the referee's authority.

Have I missed anything?

Soon, the IFAB will consider abandoning the marker experiment. I have heard that there may be some argument against extending it, including potential risks to players and spectators, *"if a strong wind blows toxic chemicals into their lungs".(!!!)*

If the IFAB reject the spray, on that or other grounds, I hope they will consider alternative visible means.

I see no valid reason why referees should not use some kind of visual reference - be it cards, beer-mats, coloured tapes, or suchlike - to improve their match control.

We don't need to wait for debates in committees. Referees can start *now*, in their next game.

Provided the adopted method entails no *real* risk, and is performed in a dignified manner, I would applaud any referee I observe who applies such means to help his match control.

# *The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork*

## *Part 23 – The penalty....to be or not to be!*

**Match:** Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers  
**Venue:** Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165  
**League:** Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)  
**Time:** Seventeen minutes remaining plus any additional time to be added

*Whatever decision you award during any match it is good to make sure the following tips are in your 'game plan' for all matches –*

- 1) Ensure that you are in a good position to 'sell the decision' which simply means if you are within ten to fifteen yards of the incident there is less chance of a player querying your decision.
- 2) By using a loud strong blast of the whistle this will show there was no doubt that you witnessed exactly what happened.
- 3) A strong arm signal meaning a fully extended arm which along with the other two points will show what a calm and confident referee you are!

*I always do my best to apply all three pointers into my 'game plan' and it proved be a success when I awarded a penalty to Rovers and there was absolutely no dissent shown against my decision.*

*The Rovers player placed the ball on the penalty mark and eagerly waited for my signal. I told the goal keeper to stay on his goal line and for the players not to encroach. Good advice that all referees should do the same at the award of a penalty.*

*On the sound of my whistle the Rovers player kicked the ball forward and it hit the cross bar and rebounded straight back to him. He prepared to kick the ball into the goal as the Casuals goal keeper was still on the ground from where he had previously dived in his vain attempt to save the penalty kick. The Casuals defender then ran into the penalty area and tackled the penalty taker in what I deemed to be a reckless manner. This of course meant that the Rovers player was now on the ground due to the impact of the challenge and was unable to kick the ball into the empty goal. Of course I immediately blow my whistle.*

*But then it dawned on me that this was clearly an obvious goal scoring opportunity and all the many options were flashing through my mind and there were quite a few.....?*

- a) Retake the penalty
- b) Send the offender off with a red card and another penalty
- c) Show a yellow card to the offender and a penalty
- d) The ball was kicked out of play by a defender so just restart with a corner
- e) Ask the referee on the next pitch what to do or maybe even the assessor
- f) Restart with a drop ball

**g) No action against the defender as the Rovers player would have committed an offence if he had played the ball a second time**

*It seemed everyone was watching me and they all had their own opinions. Suddenly everyone was an expert on the laws of the game!*

*This was an unusual situation. The challenge was reckless and was a mandatory caution but had the penalty taker kicked the ball it was irrelevant whether he scored or not as quite simply the law states a player cannot play the ball twice when taking a free kick.*

*Players claimed the incident was an obvious goal scoring opportunity but I explained to the players his second touch would have been an offence because he played the ball twice and that would have resulted in an indirect free kick to the opposition.*

*This was a time to be strong and shows the importance of not only knowing the laws but knowing how to apply them and knowing the correct restart.*

*With enough thinking now was the time for action. From my comments at the start of the article I was in a good position to witness the incidents and I was now ready to blow my whistle and with the correct signal let everyone now know my decision.*

*The forward even though he attempted to play the ball a second time was prevented from doing so. The defenders challenge was reckless and occurred in the penalty area. I then cautioned the offending player and awarded another penalty. I explained this was not a retake of the first but the awarding of another penalty. This decision appeared beyond the players' comprehension who simply did not understand.*

*This was not an easy decision to make but I am sure you would have done the same as me.....well would you?*

*For the record the Casuals goal keeper produced a great save and as he kicked the ball up field I wondered what was going to happen next.....*

*See you all soon for the next instalment.*

*To give or not to give a penalty that is the question!*

*Best wishes*

*Willy Woodwork*

*Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork*

## **Sir Walter Winterbottom England's coaching Icon by Ken Goldman.**

The month of April this year marks the centenary of the birth of a man who did more to promote the role of coaches and coaching in this country than anyone else can claim to have done. In some respects Sir Walter Winterbottom has become a forgotten man and when remembered these days it is often as the first and still the youngest and longest serving England Team Manager. However he was also the first FA Director of Coaching and in that position and capacity almost single handedly dug the roots and watered them and thereby created the coaching system that is in place today. Furthermore he laboured under extreme conditions of opposition being on the one hand in the invidious position of being England Team Manager who was unable to pick and choose the players who were to perform to his directions on the pitch as the selection process was usurped by a selection committee. For the most part they wanted and in some cases insisted on having a player or players from their own club which naturally led to considerable frustration. Yet on the other hand he stood alone as the man who had to quite literally tour the country setting up coaching courses which he himself ran and performed in, whilst almost required to beg for the funds to develop the system and encourage everyone from professional players, managers and trainers to university students and school teachers to want to become football coaches. Always a modest man he had to summon all his strength and desire to overcome the strange concept that coaching could not have a bearing on improving players and teams, as the system had got along very nicely up to then without it. All of this necessitated much planning as he devised the courses, the examinations and the initial awards which stood for years as the Preliminary and Full coaching badges. Although it was necessary to obtain more coaches the examinations were not easy and were not handed out as a sinecure.

Walter's background had been as a teacher and that is how he saw coaching. He also had a very useful career as an amateur player and then when it looked like honours would be bestowed upon him while playing for Manchester United the Second World War intervened and his playing career was cut short by serious back problems of which he naturally made light. During the war, as a previous student at Carnegie College where he graduated as a physical training teacher, he became a P.T. Instructor and post war used all his skills to promote the massive coaching job he was asked to undertake by Stanley Rous, staying in the position for 16 years.

Walter Winterbottom was responsible for bringing through some of the great coaching names in English football including England Managers Ron Greenwood, Bobby Robson, Terry Venables and their long time assistant Don Howe; Dave Sexton, Jimmy Armfield, Jimmy Hill, Bill Nicholson and the list goes on and on. He also in his earlier years along with Stanley Rous as he then was organised refereeing courses and ensured that during the Preliminary Badge course there was a Laws of the Game section which had to be passed before the award was given.

At long last tributes are being given to this outstanding football man with the publication of a biography by his son-in-law Graham Morse entitled "The Father of Modern English Football" and especially importantly the unveiling of a bust of him in his honour which will take place this coming St George's day at the venue he would have most loved to have seen, St George's Park.

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**BOOK REVIEW.**

**The Nonsense of Free Will by Richard Oerton published by Troubadour Publishing @ £8.49.** Although written by a lawyer and in not directly related to football the author poses questions which apply to all referees when they think of how they see their lives progressing and whether they can handle the different types of players managers and coaches that they have to deal with even from the earliest ages. The principles of cause and effect course through the refereeing and administration of the game over 90 minutes or more and the elements of choice and chance are also there in abundance. This book helps to understand some of the philosophical elements involved and the author as the book title suggests comes down against free will as such. A difficult but enlightening and thought- provoking book of 167 pages.

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**Flagging Up.**

This year's annual **Eve Of the Final Rally** will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> May 2013 at One Great George Street London SW1P 3AA. The guest speaker will be Mr Mark Collins Chairman of the FA Cup Committee who will talk on the history of the FA Cup which is very relevant in this the FA's 150<sup>th</sup> year. Tickets are available @ £15 each for adults and £10 for under 18's from The RA at unit 12,Ensign Business Centre, Westwood Way, Westwood Business Park, Coventry CV4 8JA; or phone 02476 420360.

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Congratulations to North Middlesex Referees gaining promotion. Thus from 7-6 it is Messrs Daniel Lauszkin and Kevin Nottage; whilst from 6-5 it's James Morris and John Fowler.

## Last Month's Guest Speaker.

We were very pleased to welcome in front of a large audience the Arsenal Physio Colin Lewin. After a short introduction to his career path, in which he paid tribute to his cousin Gary Lewin the current England physio, he confirmed that Arsenal have 4 physios of whom he is the head, plus 3 full time masseurs and two fitness coaches. The medical equipment and facilities at the training ground now have had added to them rehab amenities researched at 20 such facilities in the USA plus a couple in Europe. He explained that being on duty for such long hours during the season was not good for family life but had to be the subject of dedication. As could be imagined the procedures on match days are the most stressful and Colin explained what actually is required from him and the other staff, from getting the players up in the morning from the hotel that they stay in, then organising the food procedures and later dealing with the warm ups. Since this season is nearly at an end Colin took us through what will be needed for the pre-season to come when the players return from holiday that include full medical screening and cardiac testing as well as measures against increased body fat and producing diets.. He pointed out two major cases the first involving Petr Cech and the other Patrice Muamba which have added to the requirements at grounds and the awareness needed concerning head injuries, cardiac arrest and speed of para-medics to get to the injured player and remove him to hospital if necessary. Colin felt that it was necessary to keep up with the changes that were constantly taking place in the medical field of sports injuries together with general updating and felt that he was still learning all the time. This meant attending a special conference each year as well as other discussions.

A point of interest was that he was required to tell the drug testing unit every day where all the players were to be found even when they are away from the training pitch or ground on match days. Likewise he has to check all the drugs that players are prescribed to use to see that they are legitimate especially when they first arrive at the club. Part of the talk centred on the number of key relationships he has with other members of staff including, coaches agents, parents, the media team and especially surgeons and we were given a good over-view of the inter-action.

Finally Colin went back over his time at Arsenal highlighting the changes that have occurred since he arrived there. These included only having 3 foreign players there, as opposed to some 19/20 different nationalities with different cultures, a small dressing room at Highbury compared to that now at the Emirates, and little analysis on player performance. Now there were podiatrists and psychologists coming in and a massive amount of data stats and analysis taking place. There were also new problems related to social media, leaks to the papers and tv and agents constantly around. In addition the club's commercial arm had got bigger and bigger and the club now does its preseason with matches and training in the far east rather than in Austria and neighbouring European countries.

Colin ended his talk by saying that he hoped referees would always (1) get physios on quickly at head injuries and (2) then clear everyone away from injured players. Finally in hot weather think about creating a drinks break.

A much enjoyed evening by all, with the vote of thanks given by Tony Ward.

## NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

### Minutes of the Society Meeting held on Thursday March 21<sup>st</sup> 2013 at Holtwhites Sports Centre

**Apologies:** Don Stewart and as per Society handbook

**Chairman's Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed our Guest Speaker Colin Lewin and Eddie Green, Secretary of the Middlesex Referees Association along with members from other local Societies.

**Secretary's Report:** The Secretary informed members that the Society has supported a proposal by Berks & Bucks RA for the RA Board to arrange an EGM of all County RA's and associated Societies to attend before the July RA Conference. The reason for the EGM is that many questions put forward by the County Associations and Societies including our own have remained unanswered, and also recommendations by the Inquiry Board team have not been implemented.

A Society Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2013 at 24, Tiverton Road, Potters Bar when the annual accounts will be the main topic along with other issues.

Finally anyone wishing to attend the Society Quiz evening will they let me know at the end of this meeting please.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer reminded members that membership forms have been sent out, and also that any outstanding out of pocket expenses to be claimed must take place before 31<sup>st</sup> March, as the annual accounts are now being completed. A plea was made for someone with financial/banking experience who could help the Society to audit the Society accounts would be appreciated.

**Editor's Report:** Reminded members that the deadline for publication for the April magazine is Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April, and would always welcome further articles from members.

**Any Other Business:** Jeff Till mentioned that our Guest Speaker for April Howard Webb had not yet confirmed his availability yet, but the date had been firmly booked in his Secretary's diary!

We are hopeful that Howard will be in a position to attend and the Society Secretary will keep the membership informed.

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of North Middlesex Referees Society will be held on Thursday, 16th May 2013 commencing at 7.30 pm at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, off Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RU.

**Provisional Agenda** (a full Agenda will be published in the May Normidian)

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To CONFIRM the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in May 2012.
3. To CONFIRM the Minutes of the Extraordinary General Meeting held in February 2013.
4. To CONSIDER any matters arising therefrom.
5. To RECEIVE a report from the Secretary.
6. To RECEIVE a report from the Treasurer together with the audited accounts.
7. To RECEIVE a report from the Honorary Auditors.
8. To RECEIVE any reports from the Council and Officers.
9. To CONSIDER any change to the Society Rules.
10. To ELECT Officers and Council for the ensuing year.
11. To ELECT Honorary Auditors.
12. 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.
13. Any Other Business

Any person wishing to stand as an Officer for Season 2013/2014 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 25 April 2012.

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 18 April 2012.

## **Robin Jagot**

Honorary Secretary  
24 Tiverton Road  
Potters Bar  
Hertfordshire  
EN6 5HY



## **North Middlesex Referees Society - One Hundred Club - Season 2012/2013**

The March draw was made at the recent Society meeting; the winners are shown below. Cheques are either included with this magazine, or will have been sent to you by post if you receive your magazine by e-mail.

March		
15	Steve Wildgoose	£16.40
36	Max Lea	£8.20
8	Daniel Webster	£4.10



Gary Cobden  
Honorary Treasurer



## **Membership Fees for Season 2013/2014 are now due!**

Yes ladies and gentlemen, it's time again for my annual message. Your membership subscription for Season 2013/2014 became due on 1 April 2013. For those of you who have already paid, thank you. If you have yet to pay, where the Society has an e-mail address on file, and you normally receive your magazine by e-mail, you should have received a further Membership Form in this way; for everybody else, a Membership Form is included with this month's Normidian.

Subscriptions for both the Society and Referees Association have been maintained at the same level as last season.

## **Membership Fees payable are as follows:-**

### **• Full Members**

- **£27.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £29.50 if your magazine is 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**

- **£11.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £13.50 if your magazine is 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 as such on your Membership Form.

### **• Junior Members**

- **£15.50 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £18.00 if your magazine is received by post.**  
For Members under 18 years of age at 1 April, including 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 2013 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.

Some members have previously opted to take advantage of the Referees Association Physiotherapy Insurance. The fee for this has now increased to either £25 or £35 based on the level of cover required. If you require more information about this cover, please let me know, and I will forward the relevant information.

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 check your details shown on the Form, and amend any information that is shown incorrectly. 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.

You may wonder what benefits you get from your membership of North Middlesex. Outlined below are some of the visible – and invisible – benefits of membership:-

### **Available Benefits from the Society and Referees Association other than Society Meetings.**

- The Normidian – full of articles, news and information on refereeing and other topical matters.
- Mentoring of new referees.
- Access to the NMRS and/or Referees Association Benevolent Funds if you fall on hard times.
- RA and other kit supplies available at meetings and to order.
- Society Website - also packed with up-to-date information on the Society.
- Monthly 100 club draw; Christmas social; and other social events.
- RA Conference – free attendance for members.
- Eve of the Final Rally tickets.
- RA Website.
- Representation on the MCFA Council; the MCFA Referees' Committee.
- Representation to the RA through the AFA Referees' Association.
- Advice, support and representation if assaulted, charged or suspended.
- RA Personal insurance when officiating or attending refereeing business.
- RA-FA Incentive Scheme with the potential to earn free kit.
- Free Motor Legal Insurance Cover.
- Free general one-off Legal Advice
- RA Representation on the FA Council.
- RA Representation on the FA Referees' Committee.
- RA representation to the FA Refereeing Department.
- RA Service awards

**Gary Cobden**  
**Honorary Treasurer**



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### FINAL WHISTLE

This month will see a rare occurrence when father and son will take up the challenge against each other as Managers when Lee Johnson will take his Oldham Athletic team to face his father Gary Johnson's Yeovil Town team in a League Division One match. This has apparently only happened once before in the League when Bill Dodgin junior managing Fulham met Bill Dodgin senior managing Bristol Rovers. I seem to recollect that Sir Alex Fergusson may have managed against his son in a cup tie, but am happy to be corrected and also enlightened as to how many sons have followed their fathers into management either from playing or from some other position in the game. The Clough paring is an obvious one, whilst there have been numerous players who have followed their fathers into playing top class professional football from the Easthams to the Redknapps and their relatives the Lampards, with several also receiving International recognition in both generations. So far as Referees are concerned there are numerous examples of sons taking up the whistle but can anyone write in to say who may have hit the high spots in their two generations?

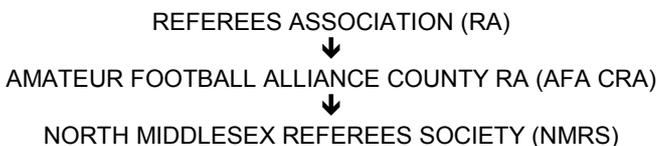
## INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

**The Referees' Association (RA)** is the national body for Referees. 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. Physiotherapy insurance is now also available for a premium of £5.00.

**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 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 co-operation between the RA and FA.

Updated July 2011

## MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except December – second Friday) 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 2012/2013:- September 20; October 18; November 15; December 14 2012 (second Friday); and January 17; February 21; March 21; April 18; May 16 2013



*The venue is passed by Bus Route W9 and Bus Route 191 stops just a five minute walk away - direct from Enfield Town. The Rail Stations of Enfield Town; Enfield Chase; and Gordon Hill are also only a short distance away. For full directions and how to get to the venue, please see our website. See also [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) for bus information; [www.greateranglia.co.uk](http://www.greateranglia.co.uk) and [www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk) for rail information.*

*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