

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2014/2015*



THE
REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION



April 2015

COUNCIL 2014 - 2015

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MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTIONS:

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

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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 Society will take place on Thursday the 16th of April 2015 at 7.45 pm. at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield, Middlesex when there will be an open discussion on relevant refereeing matters.

EDITORIAL

We had one of the best monthly meetings in March that we have had for a long long time (see report in following pages) together with the largest audience in ages. It would seem that at the present time all the Societies are experiencing difficulties in getting speakers and have low attendances and it is hard to see how this trend can be halted. We have been lucky to attract a couple of youngsters to our meetings and that could be a way that things could change because attracting the new young generation of referees is absolutely essential if Societies are to continue. The figures for RA membership are down over the country and of course the one time largest Society the London Society (Lonsar) folded to the extent that it had to amalgamate with the AFA Society a few years back. Even though we have had some disappointing numbers this season we have had meetings where there have been open discussions on match incidents, problems faced in officiating, various sections of the laws of the game and a general good feeling in these meetings which has made the time go fast has been felt by all who have attended them. We are always looking for speakers so if any member or reader knows of anyone who wants to speak or even volunteer please let the Secretary know.

I was recently looking through some old copies of what was known sometime back as "The Referees' Chart and Players' Guide to the Laws of Association Football", which was then authorised by the International Football Association. It had some quite interesting decisions and advice especially on the Indirect Free Kick and I hope to share some of the nuggets therein contained in the May edition of the magazine. Writing incidentally of the May edition is an opportunity to remind everyone that it is the last edition of the season. It is also a chance to notify all and sundry that if you wish to submit anything for that edition, be it an article or a letter or any other comment can you please send it in early to me so that we can have a bumper final edition for the season.

Ken Goldman

Editor

The Adventures of Willy ‘Red card’ Woodwork

The Whistling Referee

Part 38 – The ‘insisting’ Assistant

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Venue: Hackney Marshes – Pitch 165
Today’s assistants: Oh dear!

Any good referee and can I say what a good referee I am, will wish for two neutral assistants who will assist you on the day. Sadly for me today I had two club assistants. One who hardly moved from the half way line and was constantly making calls on his mobile and the other who waved his flag even for corners in the other half. I am sure the plane flying overhead almost landed due to the erratic waving.

Over the years when I have acted on many matches in the capacity as an assistant referee I have often witnessed a challenge that in my opinion if I were the referee then I would have blown my whistle because I had observed a unfair challenge. But the simple ‘secret’ here is before any waving of the flag the assistant should always look at the referee first.

The following needs to be taken into account before the assistant makes any decisions

- *Firstly is the referee in a creditable position?*
- *Are they for example within ten to fifteen yards from the incident?*
- *Did the referee have an unobstructed view of the incident?*
- *Does the referee maybe shout ‘Good challenge’ or maybe gesture to the players to play on?*
- *Did the assistant have a better view than the referee?*

Taking these points into consideration the last thing the referee wants is the assistant waving their flag for a free kick when in the opinion of the referee the challenge just witnessed was a completely fair challenge. If the assistant does signal for a free kick then this would be a perfect example of the assistant who ‘insisted’ rather than ‘assisted’. Remember the referee is there to referee and the assistant referee is there to assist the referee. I’m sure that all makes sense.

This all leads nicely to what happened next. Two opposing players run to challenge for a loose ball. They arrived at the ball almost simultaneously and the ball run loose towards the Casuals goal keeper. He shouted over to the assistant ‘Can I pick it up?’ Which the assistant replied ‘Yes’.

Naturally at the time I was unaware of this and on watching the ball being picked up by the goal keeper I blew my whistle because in my opinion the ball had last been played by the Casuals defender. All the players seemed to be looking at each other as no one seemed to understand as to why I had blown my whistle. They were all puzzled to say the very least.

I informed the goal keeper that I had awarded an indirect free kick against him as he had received the ball direct from one of his team mates and picked up the ball. 'But the lino said it was okay. He told me I can'. The goalie replied. I looked over to the 'lino' who once again was on his mobile. He told the person at the other end to 'hang on a moment'. I walked over to my 'assistant' and told him once again to turn his phone off and put it away. I knew this was to no avail. I asked him if he had told the goal keeper if he could pick the ball up and my assistant just smirked and said 'Yes, what's the problem?' I shook my head and told my assistant to concentrate and just signal if the ball goes out of play and not to give any instructions to any players. My assistant smirked again, said 'Okay' and then carried on with his phone call. Better to have two assistants rather than one if I had elected to relieve the assistant of his duties. Club assistants.....Oh dear!

*What instructions do you give to the club assistants?
Ball in and out of play or can they signal for offside as well?*

I always show them how to signal and to keep the signal until acknowledged by me, do you do the same?

Always ensure your club assistants are briefed prior to the match. Not too much detail but enough to show that they are part of your team. It is also good if you bring them to the centre pre match to meet the captains and observe the coin toss. If one of the 'assistants' are replaced (they are normally substitutes) then also make sure the new assistant receives some instructions.

Keep waving the flag,

Willy Woodwork

Willy 'Red card' Woodwork.....the whistling referee.

Remember it could happen to YOU next week!

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

ARE HOLDING A

***** QUIZ NIGHT *****

ON FRIDAY MAY 1st- Starts 7.45pm

AT OLD OWENS SPORTS CLUB

Max - Table of 8 persons

Includes Hot Buffet- Scampi/Chips or Chilli/Rice

***** Price - £10 per head *****

CONTACT ROBIN 01707 651461 or (m) 07791 746 036

ALL WELCOME

*Please let me know your food requirements by Wednesday 29th April latest
or
if any special food arrangement is required- Thank You!*

*****Please note that once you have decided your choice of menu it cannot be
changed on the evening of the Quiz Nite*****

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Membership Fees for Season 2015/2016 are now due!

Ladies and gentlemen, it's time again for my annual message. Your membership subscription for Season 2015/2016 became due on 1st April 2015. If the Society has an e-mail address on file, and this is how you normally receive your magazine then you will have received a Membership Form this way, and an additional one will have been sent recently, or will be sent in the next few days; for everybody else, you should find a further Membership Form 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 - this includes your Referees Association fee of £16.00 which – in turn - includes the Personal Accident 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 this insurance cover, it can be arranged on request. Please contact the Secretary for a proposal form which you will need to complete and return.
- **Associate Members**
 - £11.00 – to qualify for this 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 – this is for Members under 18 years of age at 1st April, and includes your Referees Association fee of £10.00 (including the Personal Accident Insurance premium of £4.00).

Individual fees payable are shown on your personalised Membership Form. You are reminded that you will not be covered by the Referees Association Personal Accident Insurance after August 31st 2015 unless your fees have been paid to the Society by that date. Please complete and return your Membership Form as soon as possible. The completed Membership Forms and remittance should now be returned to the **Society Secretary** – as per the details shown on the Form. Some members have previously opted to take advantage of the Referees Association Physiotherapy Insurance. The fee for this is either £25 (includes a maximum of 2 physiotherapy treatment sessions) or £35 (includes a maximum of 4 physiotherapy treatment sessions). If you require more information about this cover, please contact the Secretary for the relevant information, or visit the Referees Association website - <http://www.refereesassociation.co.uk/rabenefits.php>.

You can also take this opportunity to join or re-join 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 you also 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 (worth £25.00).
- 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 Accident Insurance when officiating or attending refereeing business.
- RA-FA Incentive Scheme with the potential to earn free kit (worth up to £75.00).
- RA Motor Legal Cover (average cost £30.00).
- RA Representation on the FA Council.
- RA Representation on the FA Referees' Committee.
- RA Representation to the FA Refereeing Department.
- RA Service awards.

Not that for all Referees Association insurances, Terms and Conditions apply.

Details of the RA benefits can be found on the Referees Association website:- <http://www.refereesassociation.co.uk/rabenefits.php>

For more details on any of the available benefits, please contact the Society Secretary.

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



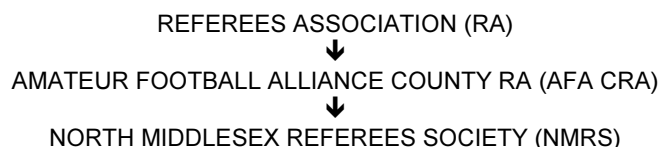
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

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 either £25.00 or £35.00 dependent on the level of cover required.

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.

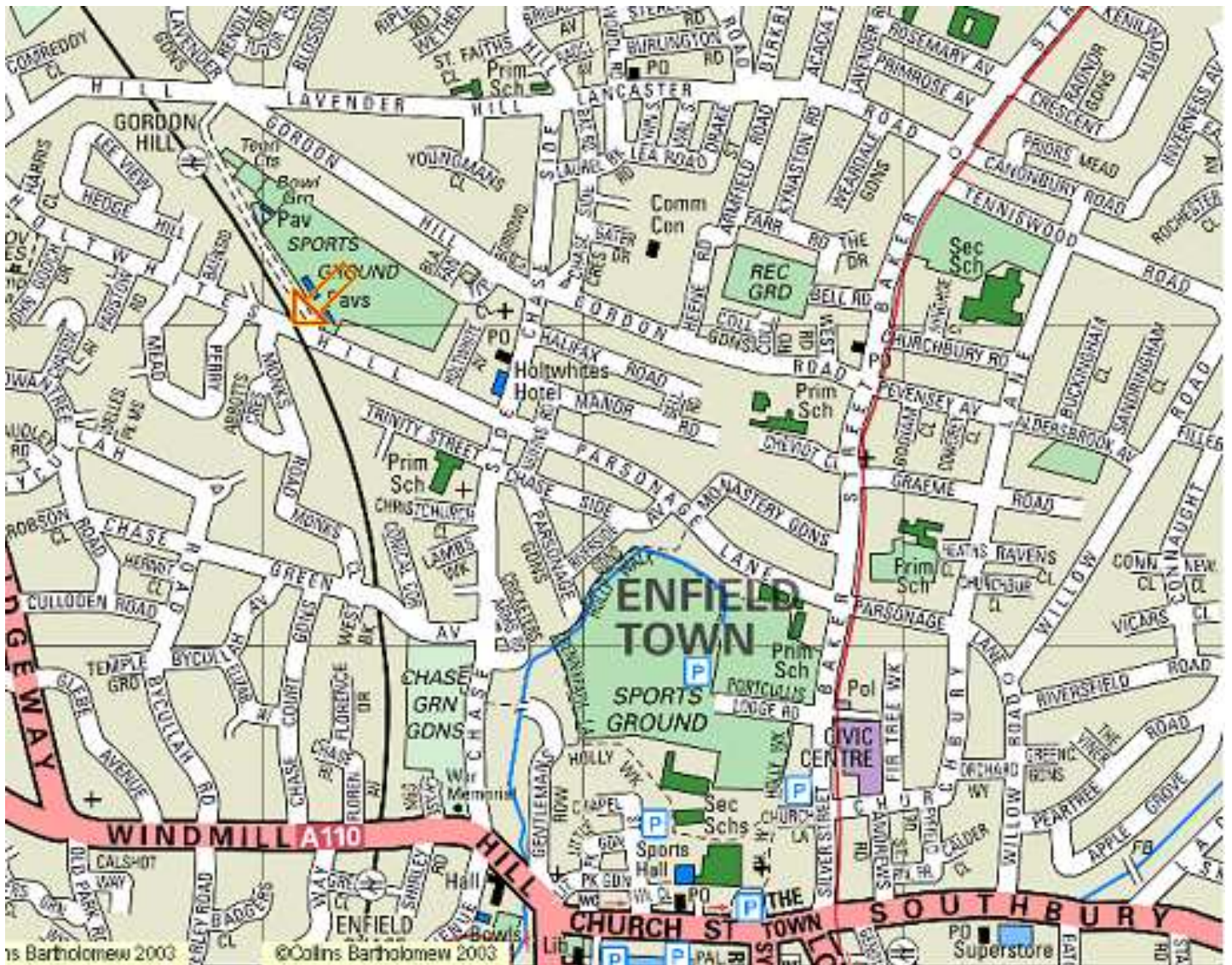
AFA	Amateur Football Alliance
AFA CRA	Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association
CFA	County Football Association
CRA	County Referees Association
LFA	London Football Association
MCFA	Middlesex County Football Association
R.A.	Referees Association
RA-FA	Referees Association/Football Association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

Reviewed July 2014

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except December – second Friday) commencing at 7:45 pm, at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RN Telephone: 020 8363 4449

Dates for Season 2014/2015:- September 18; October 16; November 20; December 11 2014 (second Thursday); and January 15; February 19; March 19; April 16; May 21 2015



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 for bus information; www.greateranglia.co.uk and 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