

*The Normidian  
Magazine  
Season 2010/2011*



THE  
REFEREES'  
ASSOCIATION



*December 2010 /  
January 2011*

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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 7.45pm on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2010 when there will be the annual Christmas Social Evening. This will be followed by the next Meeting which will be the 20<sup>th</sup> of January 2011 at the same venue of course, when there will be a Training Evening run by our own Member Stan Reed an FA Licensed Instructor.**

### **EDITORIAL**

As we know one of the main functions of the Referee is to manage the game, but there must be a strong suspicion that that function is being eroded by players trying certainly in the professional sphere to usurp the officials' powers. Take two initial examples this season where players have tried to run aspects of the game and which have led to referees being unfairly criticised, albeit they made minor errors. The first was in the Sunderland. v .Liverpool match where the referee awarded a free kick and turned away satisfied about the position of the award. The Sunderland player promptly back-heeled the ball and when a Liverpool player fastened on to it and scored the initial player said he had not taken the free kick and was expecting his goalkeeper to take it from further back, even though that was then in the wrong place. Likewise in the Manchester United .v. Spurs game, after refusing a penalty for hand ball against Nani the referee played advantage when Gomez the keeper picked up the ball and put it down some yards further than the hand ball incident indicating presumably he wanted a free kick which was never given so when the United player scored Gomez protested. The referee although not operating the full advantage signal still nonetheless had made it obvious that he intended Gomez to play on and had not blown for a free kick. Thus first Nani who put his hand on the ball claiming a penalty and then Gomez claiming a free kick both tried to run the game their way whilst no-one in those incidents followed the old adage of "play to the whistle". Other instances are legion and include "stealing" several yards at throw-ins sometimes even from the wrong half of the field; goalkeepers kicking from outside their penalty areas as well as taking free kicks for infringements inside their goal areas, well outside them. Then there is one which is known to infuriate me, as I have mentioned it before, namely that of dictating to the referee at a drop ball incident, which team will kick the ball to the opposition either backwards or forwards when it hits the ground And these aspects do not even include all the "verbals" and dissent from players whilst giving their opinions on decisions made by the referee. It is therefore little wonder that if these things are happening week in week out in the Premiership and the Football League and are seen on television that they are replicated on the parks of grass roots football. The message is therefore clear – Referees must work as hard as they can at all levels to wrest back the initiative from the players and even if it seem s petty to enforce some of the Laws some of the time the officials cannot allow player-power to take over management of the game. As if all of this were bad enough as we go to print there are reports of Stoke Manager Tony Pullis cited by

Fulham's Murphy for matters we need not go into, demanding that Referees on the select list be judged by managers and the three who get the least marks be relegated out of that list. Perhaps the three teams who get the least marks in the Premiership fair play league ought to be relegated as well to the Championship. Would one wonders see Stoke being in danger of being so relegated? Unfortunately the goose's source does not appear to be the same source as that for the gander.

Difficulties over the Christmas period mean that there will not be the usual two editions of this magazine in December and January and so it has been decided to combine the two into one on this occasion. Therefore this is a larger than usual edition and whilst the Council wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year; they want also to draw attention to the two meetings referred to above, namely the annual Christmas Social and the January Guest speaker.

Ken Goldman

Editor

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**QUOTE ON QUOTE**

You can't just write players off, you cannot just say he can't do this he can't do that. You have to tell them what you want, help them, instruct them. You're a Coach.

**Harry Redknapp** in an interview with Martin Samuel in the Daily Mail.

My theory is that the way you handle a group is the way you are deep down. I want to show my character in front of the players, in front of the club and in front of the fans. I learned these qualities from my father that you have to move on with difficulties.

**Carlo Ancelloti** in an interview with Sport magazine.

In answer to your question as to why I think I have been so successful I believe it comes from self-confidence and the ability to stand up and lead which is probably just within me. Being decisive and go- ahead and at times even aggressive is just me. I've always been like that, never changed. That aggression is a Glaswegian thing especially with guys on my generation. "I come from Glasgow" is a statement.

**Sir Alex Fergusson** in an interview with the Metro Newspaper.

I tell the players the job is football and with football you live very well, not just you but your family and sometimes everybody you know. So you must be 100 per cent ready and this is how you get 100 per cent ready and it should not be impossible for you to compromise. There are players whose only target is their day off and that is a big problem. You must replace them with those whose target is the win and who will work every day for this with their head always on the pitch and on the job.

**Roberto Mancini** in another interview with Martin Samuel in the Daily Mail.

Young players need freedom of expression to develop as creative players; they should be encouraged to try skills without fear of failure.

**Arsene Wenger.**

## **FITNESS BY OBSERVER**

Everything that happens in a game depends on fitness and it is impossible to referee at a high level without a corresponding level of fitness. Furthermore, the modern game is making even greater demands on each referee the trend will not be reversed.

Fitness, however, does not only involve physical fitness - it also involves mental fitness. It is impossible to determine exactly where physical fitness ends and mental fitness begins. It is also impossible to know the influence, which a referee's physical state has upon his mental state and vice-versa. It can, however, be stated with certainty that there is an influence and interrelationship between a referee's physical and mental state. Do not make the mistake of concentrating solely on physical fitness to the exclusion of mental fitness.

Before one can understand how to achieve fitness for refereeing, one must understand the causes and effects of fatigue.

What, therefore, causes fatigue?

- 1) Movement: running, jogging etc.
- 2) Work to overcome inertia.
- 3) Mental concentration and tension.

### **1) Movement- running, jogging etc.**

All running contributes towards fatigue. The running undertaken by a referee is of an unrhythmic nature, some fast, some moderate and some slow. There is some doubt as to how much running a referee does during the course of ninety minutes football. It was measured that the referee was once measured as covering a distance of seven miles during a Premiership match, approximately 25% of this distance was covered at speed.

Even if many facts are only roughly correct, and then we can accept that one-mile is covered on average every twelve-thirteen minutes. This is still only moderate in comparison with an athlete's performance. Is this an unfair comparison since there are so many other factors, which contribute towards the total fatigue of a referee?

### **2) Work to overcome inertia.**

This is work done to overcome the resistance of one's own body weight i.e. stopping, starting, turning etc. The hardest thing to do physically once one has started running is, not to continue running, but to stop, turn and run in a different direction. If, in addition, the referee has to run through mud or spongy grass, the physical effort is greater. Unrhythmic running (that is running at varying speeds) is more tiring than paced running. But unrhythmic running, punctuated frequently by work to overcome inertia is even more tiring. This is surely the type of work a referee has to undertake. But, as far as fatigue is concerned, that is not the whole story.

### **3) Mental concentration and tension**

There is no doubt that mental concentration is tiring. Anyone who has attended a meeting will agree and appreciate that fact. The simple process of sitting around a

table concentrating on what people are saying or doing is tiring. Driving a car for several hours is tiring. Those efforts are nothing by comparison with the referee who is constantly required to assess each situation, always trying to think ahead and assess the next move or situations. Also, there is the added tension, which inevitably surrounds every important game and raises a referee's desire, even anxiety, to do well and invokes in him a fear of failure. This is another cause of fatigue and may well be a greater drain on a referee's energy than any of us know. It is a combination of these three factors, which causes fatigue in referees, but what are the effects of fatigue?

**a) A decrease in work-rate.**

As a referee gets tired, he will not only undertake less work (i.e. cover less ground) but he will also cover the ground less quickly. The moral behind this fact is that referees will officiate when fatigued and therefore they must practise when fatigued. Also, since a referee must learn to adjust his performance in accordance with his physical limitations, he must still be efficient within that limited capacity. Failing to make this adjustment will lead a referee to attempt the impossible and be totally inefficient.

**b) Decrease in Powers of judgement.**

As a referee gets tired, so his judgement begins to falter. He will be slow to see things and to assess situations. Eyesight deteriorates with fatigue. This factor is likely to affect the higher class of referee more since he is more likely to suffer when the edge is taken off his performance.

**c) Decrease in technical performance.**

It follows, almost without saying that if a referee suffers a decrease in judgement, he is likely to suffer a decrease in technical performance. His control of the game is likely to deteriorate.

**d) Decrease in powers of concentration.**

Of course, we all know that it is more difficult to concentrate when we are tired. The efficiency of a referee depends largely on his concentration on the task he has to perform. What, then, is the object of training for referees? Fitness is the capacity to delay the onset of fatigue. A referee, therefore, as he becomes fitter gets fatigued less quickly. It inevitably follows that a fit referee will be more efficient than an unfit colleague. This leads to one fundamental question: How does one delay the onset of fatigue? The answer is that referees must work to achieve fitness levels and this can only be done in accordance with the principles of 'overload'. Working in overload can be defined as doing a little more this week (or this session) than one did last week (or session). It should be understood that a referee's level of fitness is unlikely to remain static for very long. He will either become more or less fit, thus the onset of fatigue

will either be quicker or slower. By doing the same amount of work each week, a referee cannot improve his fitness. At best, you will only retain a level of fitness. So if you think you are fit, you can get fitter. If you are not fit, work hard to become fit, it will add a whole new dimension to your game and that can assure you that your games will be that more enjoyable. Some players will even notice and admire your ability to move around the field of play.

Training on your own requires much dedication and self-motivation. If this is too difficult, then consider training regularly with your colleagues. Why not form a group, it could even be fun.

### **Shop via the Link on our Website, and help us raise funds!**

With Christmas approaching, I am sure many of you will be making a number of on-line purchases so that you save a bit more than you would if you shopped on the high street. Go to the North Middlesex website at [www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk](http://www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk) and click on the link at the top right of our home page – or go direct to [www.buy.at/nmrs](http://www.buy.at/nmrs) to make your usual on-line savings and help us raise additional funds at the same time with just a little effort.

Below are just some of the retailers that will offer us a small bonus on your on-line purchases – visit the site for details of all retailers from all business sectors.



You are guaranteed that you will pay exactly the same price as if you navigate directly to the retailers' main site.

## **LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER**

We were very fortunate to have as the November speaker Mark Ives the head of the FA's disciplinary department who not only gave a genial presentation but also provided an insight into some very important new disciplinary rules he hopes to push through. Mark who had 9 years on the Football League line and 2 years as a Panel referee started by saying he was averse to those referees who reach the top and then often forget where they came from. He then went on to explain why he was trying to make all disciplinary matters the same whether they be at senior; junior or grass roots football. In this respect he queried why at the lower levels punishments were in days whilst in the higher echelons they were on a match basis. He is therefore working to ensure that in all open football from the 2011/12 season it will all be the same and be match based i.e. all suspensions will be for matches rather than days. The most important change and very beneficial for referees, will be the move which sees no right of appeal on standard charge dismissals "Match type" suspensions will apply to on-field offences and be the same as at present except that if committed on a Saturday, the suspension will be for Saturday football only and the same applies to Sunday football. But if they are aggravated by something said or done by the player they will give rise also to a misconduct charge which will be a suspension from ALL football and the punishments will be more severe where assaults and serious offences occur. These will be term suspensions as before. Where there is a claim of mistaken identity an appeal will follow but either the presumed offender or another team-mate must receive a suspension as someone will be found to have committed the offence causing dismissal. Where the claim is for wrongful dismissal the claimants must produce video evidence and pay a fee up front but they can claim that a potential punishment is likely to be excessive in all the circumstances of the offence... So far as reporting misconduct is concerned this must be within 2 days of the game and confirm the relevant details with no opinions or exaggerations and referees from this season are entitled to know the outcome of appeals under the current regulations which not many referees appear to know.

Mark then showed some video clips on recognising offences and then on wrongful dismissal where the onus of proof is on the appellant. Finally he opened the meeting to a forum for questions and general discussions. The Vote of thanks was given by Steve Palmer.

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### **Notable football deaths during 2010.**

We are sad to record the deaths of Eddie Bailey former Spurs player and assistant manager; Pat Welton also a Spurs Assistant Manager; Bobby Smith former Spurs and England player; Malcolm Allison former Manager of Crystal Palace and Manchester City and Ronnie Clayton former Blackburn Rovers and England player.

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

## *The festive Christmas Edition –Good will to all!*

A good rest during the summer and just as we have a few games under way and really get into the swing of things along comes winter and no football again. We usually know by the Wednesday that our match on the Sunday morning is going to be called off. If only they had under ground heating at Hackney Marshes!

I have decided that rather than talk about my match incidents I would write a little ditty instead, I hope you enjoy it.....

### *'Ode to a football referee'*

*There was a young ref called Willy  
Who lived quite near Piccadilly  
With whistle in hand  
Players didn't understand  
And they really thought he was silly*

*I know this may sound funny  
But he didn't do it for the money  
It may be a surprise  
But it's good exercise  
Particularly when it is sunny*

*The ref found the ground alright  
The home team said their kit was white  
The ref had a scare  
It's really not fair  
The away were team were also in white*

*It would be wrong to exaggerate  
But the games they always start late  
It's always the same  
The teams never take blame  
Some things you can't compensate*

*It's no fun to ref in the cold  
The whistle is so hard to hold  
It takes three days to recover  
I'd rather be under the duvet cover  
Must be a sign of getting old*

*He pointed and gave an off side  
But the forward he didn't abide  
He really let loose  
He shouted abuse  
He was shown a red card and he cried*

*The shot was going wide  
But it hit the refs' backside  
It was windy and wet  
The ball flew in the net  
"What a goal" the ref shouted with pride*

*The linesman he lived near the City  
He wasn't too good that's a pity  
The ball went off for a throw  
He didn't know which way to go  
To be honest his performance was shi\*\*y*

*The ref said to the player "No more"  
He said "You're useless" and then swore  
The ref said "Now you've caught  
You can play with one man short"  
"Your behaviour is so very poor"*

*Number seven now he had a trick  
When the ball was gone he would kick  
The ref gave him a look  
And put his name in the book  
It really happened so quick*

*The game went so quick, the time flew  
And on ninety minutes the ref knew  
Lots of things had been said  
Fourteen yellows and five red  
That was a lot of writing to do*

I hope that you have all enjoyed my poem and I would like to think I have brought a smile to your face.  
I take this opportunity to wish you all a merry x-mas and happy new year.  
Have a good rest and sharpen those pencils ready to caution those players very soon!

Regards



**Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork**  
*Willy Woodwork*

**PREMIER LEAGUE REFEREE PETER WALTON'S EVENING WITH THE RA-FA**  
**(LONDON FA BRANCH)**

There was a chance for referees to hear Peter Walton give an illustrated talk at the annual event formerly a FAMOA meeting, held under the auspices of the London FA this year. Peter showing various incidents on film had this to say by way of advice :-

- Make sure that your body language matches the incident you have to deal with on the field and be positive in that body language.
- Thinking time is vital especially when there is a big decision to make and never try to talk oneself out of a red card dismissal; rather think oneself into it. Thus thinking time then is most important. I believe that, speaking only for myself, a yellow card is one for a gut reaction so less thinking time is necessary.
- There is no advantage to be played when you see a sending off tackle is made.
- Remain focussed if going to give a caution, because often other players will intervene trying to interfere with your thought and action processes. This also applies if you have played an advantage and intend to return to the player you intend to caution.
- When deciding whether to play advantage consider whether the player fouled wants the free kick or the advantage. Try to caution players separately in case if done together they want to continue the aggravation between them.
- Ensure that you are psychologically secure to recover from a poor performance. I always believe in the philosophy that my glass is half full rather than half empty so that I cannot influence what has just gone.

Peter also stated that it took him a lot longer to recover from a game as he got older but that he trains 4 days per week and that a proper diet is essential. He also referees one in four Sunday mornings in a local league. He went on to explain when referees can talk to the press and media which is when it is on a point of law and not an incident of fact.

Finally he confirmed that there are discussions likely to take place concerning the front sliding tackle, which is so dangerous because it invariably means that an extended leg and foot has the boot studs showing.

## **MY THOUGHTS BY OBSERVER**

### **(Does the Society need the Referees Association – a Follow Up?)**

Congratulations, what a thoughtful man. This article would get a lot of support from many individual Societies, but I still get the feeling there are Counties like Berks & Bucks, Essex, & Oxford, and probably a few more up North where, although not having representation on the Board, they would not support disbanding the RA. There are others who would perhaps agree to disband a National RA, but would want some liaison or linking with at least adjoining Counties where their referees operate.

You recall my contention that groups of referees will always want to meet and discuss refereeing topics. Before members owned motor cycles and cars, they used to meet at bus garages, train stations if only for a few minutes. AFA referees regularly met at various Clubs after matches. Near Hackney Marshes there was a pub which was used almost exclusively by referees and players. Now there are several Websites where opinions and information are exchanged.

My concern is, the Board will never accept we lose all chance of independence when our employee serves on FA Council and Committees where everyone knows his boss is David Elleray, the Chairman of their Referees' Committee and their nominated representative on European and International Committees which govern recruitment, training, promotion and appointment (levels) of refereeing. There is no way Arthur Smith, Secretary of The RA is going to offend Mr Elleray or the FA by being controversial. He retires in a few years, but until then will enjoy a social life he and wife never dreamed of ten years ago. The boat will not be rocked.

Obviously I like the article with the questions, but an overall factor is that belonging to a Society (or group of referees) directly affiliated to the RA (RA of England) also gives a sense of being associated with a larger family with relations nearby in Wales and Northern Ireland, and further afield like Australia and America there are long lost cousins who like to feel the fraternal bond. Are there any associations of referees in other countries like Germany, Italy, Norway, Denmark, and others in Europe USA, South America, Africa and others where the standards are high enough to reach International recognition. Do they have Referees Association independent of their Football Associations? Or are they like Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland where we know referees are completely ruled by County FAs and their main FA? Is it simply that after 100 years of tolerating independent thinking by English referees our FA decided to conform to worldwide control through FIFA and dominate our referees?

Let us not forget that Leagues still pay a large part in Refereeing. I recall that 50 years ago it was (in addition to being a good referee) "Who you know" which counted. A few years ago I went to Bournemouth and found several Referee and League administrator friends on a Masonic ladies' weekend. The Leagues have money and our Premier League probably employs more staff to look after Referees that does the FA' Refereeing department.

So there is a lot to think about, but for the good of referees?

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

Without doubt, BRIAN GLANVILLE has carved out for himself the top billing when it comes to the genre of football literature. Indeed it is hard to recollect anyone that even comes close to him, so that it is extremely pleasurable to record that two of his more famous full length football novels have been **republished by Faber & Faber in their Faber Finds series** in paperback at £13 each.

The first of these is "**The Rise of Gerry Logan**"

Described by both Frans Beckenbauer and Derek Dougan as the best football novel ever written, this is the story of a Scottish inside-forward with brilliant individual skill who moves to London to play for a Club and then gets transferred to Italy and plays International football. He gets entangled in a number of varying incidents including those temptations for players, sexual and otherwise, which encompasses the problems of the glamour of being rich and famous, which still obtain today. Sounds familiar? Well it is definitely not based on the life of "Gazza" as it was written before his time, but the incredible co-incidence follows the Oscar Wilde theory "that all life mirrors art". In point of fact the author has indicated that the fact of the player being a non-English intelligent International, who played for a London Club, was based on the late Danny Blanchflower who did not follow the pattern of life described for the hero of this novel. The prose is Glanville at his evocative and very best as can be seen from this quote describing at the end of the book, what might be in store for a football legend of the time, or for lower order or failed players of today-"For if man begins to die as soon as he is born, how much more imminent is the end of a footballer, with his few years at the top, followed by the many spent in the stale odours of a public house, sweeping up lint and bandages in dressing rooms; spent at a factory bench, on building sites, in youth hostels." Despite this Logan is an optimistic man and remains so to the end unlike the ominous pessimistic but prophetic theme, hinted at in the above quote, which pervades the later novel and second of the republished books-

### **"THE DYING OF THE LIGHT".**

To some of us "raging against the dying of the light" as described by the poet Dylan Thomas means that terrible time when we realise that summer is transferring into autumn and anticipating the dreaded turning back of the clocks. To the author however it means the recounting of the fall from grace of a great footballer. The story is based around the life of a goalkeeper Len Rawlings who, a hero in his footballing world gradually loses all his self esteem and reason for living as he becomes more and more a forgotten man outside the game from which he has retired. Worse still he turns to committing petty crime and the only solace he can find is in the love of his daughter who although unlike him in nature, is the only one who understands both him and the loneliness he is suffering, as well as the isolation players of the era and sometimes also nowadays (without their agents and managers) often feel as they pass from playing, where they are so closely cosseted, to life outside the game, a shock for which they are almost, totally unprepared. The unusual ending to the book only serves to emphasise that the author is prepared to go outside a comfort zone that many are not willing to breach.

If you have no football novels on your shelves get these two for starters and you won't be disappointed, whilst for others they will be a timely addition.

## **OBSERVER rounds off the Year with some “Odd Bits”**

### **SENDING OFF**

Sendings off are now a regular occurrence at all levels. That fact will not make the first one you handle any easier, although the players may be more ready to accept the situation than in the past, when it was so rare. The important thing is to take your time. If stopping play is necessary, do so with a loud blast. Call on the physio/ trainer if needed, but keep watching the player(s) you want, to avoid losing them in the chaos that may ensue.

Take the player(s) some yards away from the incident calmly ask the name and inform the player he is being sent off. Display the red card without any risk of touching the player with it. Watch him go off before re-starting play. If more than one player is being dismissed, do not send them off together, that could be asking for further Trouble. Ensure the player takes no further part in the game. Ensure that you have a clear written record of the player's name, before re-starting play, the time and nature of the offence.

### **NEUTRAL ASSISTANT REFEREES**

A situation many referees face at this time of the year as semi-finals and finals are played. Inexperience of the situation can lead to under-use of the colleagues on the day, so prepare thoroughly. At senior level many referees have a written checklist, which they use on every occasion, they brief their assistants. You need a system yourself to avoid missing anything, but check your list with a senior colleague in advance to ensure it includes all the points that should be mentioned.

Above all, give yourself time to brief the assistant referees, especially at Cup Finals, where interruptions will be regular in the hour before the match. Even think of giving them a telephone call before the event so as to get to know them in advance. You may prefer to brief your assistants during the inspection of the field of play and its surrounds. If this is to be the case, take your list with you.

### **APPOINTMENT AS ASSISTANT REFEREE**

A situation that is often seen at this time of year is the inexperienced Assistant Referee. Many readers will have been appointed as assistant referee for a Cup Semi Final or Final, without having previous experience in that role. It could be a nightmare for you unless you prepare. Contact the Leagues Referee Secretary to enquire if he can find you a couple of ‘lines’ to do before the Final. Study the LOAF on the section relating to Assistant Referees. Act as a club linesman/assistant referee if necessary to get the positioning and the flagging right in advance. It will make your day.

## **ONE ASSISTANT REFEREE**

Is it a nightmare scenario or just another first in your career? Have you given thought as to what you would do if only one neutral assistant turns up? Try to prepare in advance of such a situation, would you take the local handbook with you to call possible replacements? Would you seek assistant from those watching (if anyone is watching!)? Always give a club assistant referee his own defence throughout, or leave him at the same end throughout? Match day circumstances will dictate what you do, but be prepared. Always carry small change for the telephone call, not necessary if you have a mobile. You could check with your colleagues in advance that they would be there.

## **FEMALE COLLEAGUE(S)**

For many male referees, the appointment of females to their match (either as assistants or referee) can mean the need for thought. A respect for the female colleague should be natural, but is not always. The need to protect and nurse the female colleague sometimes comes through in a male referee's demeanour but is this not unfair to the lady and to the players. The three officials are there to do a job, earn respect in so doing, and work as a team. Treating lady colleagues differently seems unnecessary, other than ensuring that suitable facilities are available.

## **SENIOR FOOTBALL**

The appointment to a Supply or Contributory League list is a major first that will be remembered by every referee. Make sure you remember it for the right reasons. Obtain a handbook and speak to the local colleagues already on the league to learn about reporting times, kit requirements, etc. Whilst some will be natural, the simple things (hooped or white sock tops) are often overlooked.

## **SERIOUS INJURY**

One of the most difficult decisions to make is to know when to abandon a game because of serious injury. Use the simple rule, the injured player's health is the most important thing, so he must not be moved until a qualified person (e.g. a paramedic) says so. After that, decide on the basis of the type of injury, how it was caused, how long remains in the match, whether it can be finished before nightfall, etc. Is the field of play safe? How long was the delay between injury and possible restart? All factors to consider before making your decision. Remember not the manager and not the players, your decision.

## **ASSESSMENT**

At all levels, the presence of an assessor should be ignored. The assessor is there to support you in your desire to progress. So let him/her see your natural style, not some version you think that will please him. It is a 100% certainty that it will not do so.

## Quiz Nite

North Middlesex Referees Society is planning to hold a Quiz Night on Friday 25 March 2011 at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club – our usual meeting venue.

Ticket price is to be confirmed, but please make a note of the date in your diary now. It would be appreciated if we could have an early indication of likely attendees, so please let me know if you plan to attend.

Do not worry if you cannot get a complete team together (six people) as there will be others in the same position, so we will be able to 'mix and match'.

Gary Cobden  
Honorary Treasurer



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### North Middlesex Referees Society for Season 2010/2011

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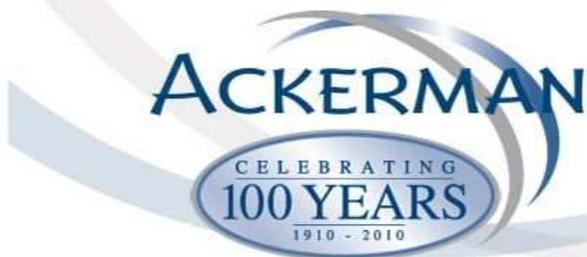
Contact us by phone on 01727 843155 or e-mail us at [sales@htsports.co.uk](mailto:sales@htsports.co.uk)



The RSPCA have acted very quickly after recent incidents at the Emirates Stadium. If you see an Arsenal fan with a dog please ask them to call 0800 2-0 2-1 2-2 2-3 for free advice on how to hold onto a lead.



An arsenal fan and his 5 year old son were watching the match against Tottenham and they were 2 up and by the final whistle - after they had lost 3-2 - little Peter turned to his dad and said "Daddy can I have a Spurs shirt for Xmas"



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



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

One new number has now been subscribed for the 100 Club for the remainder of the season – number 42 has been allocated to Michael Mackey Jnr. With forty-two shares now subscribed the regular monthly payout is £29.40.

The result of the draw fro November is shown below. Cheques are enclosed or sent by post if you receive your magazine by e-mail.

**November**

1<sup>st</sup> 37 Peter Allen £16.80 2<sup>nd</sup> 35 George Grant £8.40 3<sup>rd</sup> 8 Daniel Webster £4.20

**Gary Cobden**

**Honorary Treasurer**



**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 9 months.

Renewal information will be included with next seasons Membership Form

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

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

**Gary Cobden**

**Honorary Treasurer**

**NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY**

Minutes of the Society held on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> of November 2010 at the Holtwhites Sports Club.

**Apologies for Absence:** Robin Jago. Martin de la Fuente, Terry Hayne.

**Secretary's Report:** In the absence of the Secretary there was no report.

**Treasurer's Report:** There are now 94 full members; 6 associate members and 66 trainees. The next trainee course starts 17<sup>th</sup> January 2011.

**Editor's Report:** The editor apologised to Observer for the fact that one of his articles had been inadvertently been moved from the front to the back page during printing.

**Other Officers' Reports:** None

**Any other Business:** None

**Match Incidents:** Two similar issues over offside were discussed and the guest speaker was able to clarify these for the members who had raised them.

There being no further business the Chairman introduced the guest speaker Mark Ives the Head of Discipline at the Football Association.

@@

**FLAGGING UP**

There has been some good news recently in that the go-ahead has been given to build the National Football Coaching Centre at Burton. So far as is known this will also enable referee coaching to be housed there. More details to follow when known.

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Many of our members are involved in Women's Football and the England Women's Head Coach Hope Powell was recently awarded a CBE to go with her OBE at Buckingham Palace. She has also led the National Team to the Women's World Cup Finals next year.

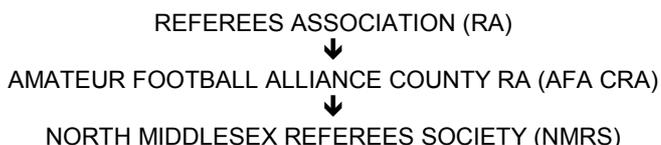
## INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

**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](http://www.tfl.gov.uk);  
[www.nationalexpresseastanglia.com](http://www.nationalexpresseastanglia.com); and [www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk](http://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  
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