

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2014/2015*

*Happy
New Year*



THE
REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION



January 2015

COUNCIL 2014 - 2015

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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 15th of January 201 at 7.45 pm. at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield, Middlesex when the speaker will be our own Stan Rosenthal

EDITORIAL

One of the biggest problems in football exercising minds these days is the subject of “diving” or to give it its proper name which is “Simulation”. This comes under Law 12 “Fouls and Misconduct” and is stated to be attempting to “deceive the referee by pretending to be fouled” and is also bracketed with “feigning injury”. The punishment if caught as we know is a caution under the general heading of “unsporting behaviour”. However the emphasis must be on the intent to deceive which in the modern parlance is to “con” the referee or perhaps the three C’s of confuse/capitalise/cheat the official and thereby also both opponents and the spirit of the game.

The main problem in all of this is that with the game so fast at senior levels and so imitated at grass roots “the man in the middle” has the greatest of difficulty in spotting simulation when it is practised and I do mean practised by clever professionals. There are of course many types of dive and the closer the diver is to an opponent the more difficult it is to spot. Usually a clear case of a dive is where a player throws himself/or herself forward as if pole-axed at the point at which an opponent is going for a tackle. It then becomes a matter of angles for the referee if he/she is to spot the cheating. Some cases are incredibly obvious but others are really complex especially when an attacker goes down in a one-on-one situation with a diving goalkeeper and it becomes almost impossible to tell whether the arm touches the leg or the leg touches the trailing arm as the ball squirts away. Then there are other difficulties as with a recent Premier League case where the referee cautioned two Chelsea players for diving but refused to caution a third when Gary Cahill went headlong between the legs of two defenders as they were about to tackle him. The reason I am sure was that the player was trying to avoid injury and not con the referee, a view supported by Paul Scholes in his weekly Evening Standard column. This is a situation that we as referees are again called upon to judge, as is the case of a speedy player running with the ball who is going so fast that the merest touch sends him flying. The judgment call on that is whether it was a foul, the player lost his footing, was an exaggeration or an over-exaggeration.

However although it is often alleged that foreign players have brought the ploy to this country one can remember the 1970’s when two Manchester City players of blessed memory had the habit of connecting their back legs to the front and going down as if tripped by an opponent. It led to a lot of controversy but also to a lot of free kicks in their favour.

Players going to ground (being the modern parlance) has become something of a nightmare hazard and whilst there have been calls for retrospective punishment from video replays that only further reflects the difference between professional and senior football as against

The Adventures of Willy 'Red card' Woodwork
The Whistling Referee

Part 36 – The hand ball goal

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Venue: Hackney Marshes – Pitch 165
Time: Looking forward to my Sunday roast very soon

Not too long to go now and with the weather suddenly becoming rather cold, wet and windy again I must be honest and I am looking forward to my Sunday roast. But I need to focus my mind on the remaining minutes for the match and stop thinking about roast beef with crispy roast potatoes and lovely vegetables all covered with gravy and not forgetting the yorkshire pudding. Absolutely mouth-watering thought and with the degrees plummeting yet again that mental image of my hot dinner was far more appetising than Cockfosters Casuals versus Reds Rovers.

But I knew it was my duty to give the players my total efforts before no doubt they run off to the local 'Dog and Duck' pub just around the corner. By coincidence my next match is the Dog and Duck team who are having a good season in Division Three.

Rovers took the corner kick and the Casuals goal keeper came out of his goal and cleared the ball with a mighty punch of his fist. The ball went high in the sky and seemed to get caught in a vortex with the hurricane like winds taking the ball very fast to the opposing Rovers goal.

I caught a glimpse of the Rovers goal keeper and he appeared confident as the ball sped towards his goal. The ball began to drop and I was convinced the goalie was going to comfortably collect the ball in his hands. After all, he had been playing well all the match and seemed to have 'safe' hands.

The goalie poised himself to collect the ball as it fell from the sky. A routine catch we all thought. Alas we all thought wrong as the ball seemed to drop between his hands and as he turned to dive on the ball it entered the goal.

All thoughts of my roast dinner had by now all disappeared. 'Goal' shouted the Casuals players and I was just about to point to the centre mark and award the goal when one of the Rovers players asked me 'How can you award that goal. It was hand ball. A player cannot score a goal with his hands can he?' 'Of course a player cannot score a goal with his hand'. This put me in a dilemma. 'No goal' I shouted but what was the restart? I was puzzled. I initially thought I would give a hand ball against the Casuals goal keeper but then I thought he did punch the ball but that was in his own penalty area and he is allowed to handle the ball there.

Then it dawned on me. 'Drop ball in the middle of the pitch'. That had to be the fairest way. On the basis the players do not know the laws or the rules as they call them and for once I was a little unsure. This seemed to be the fairest solution for both teams.

I dropped the ball and play continued. Remember, if in doubt restart with a drop ball, it always works for me! After all hand ball is hand ball and we all know a goal cannot be scored by using the hand.

The next moment saw Rovers attack the Casuals goal. The windy conditions were causing havoc for the players. On a good day the standard of skill is not too great for a Division Three match but the skill factor seemed to be reaching a record low level as the players struggled with the conditions.

Just a pointer here, all referees should take the players skills factor into consideration. We mustn't expect the same skills that we see in the Premier division.

Anyhow the Rovers player run down the wing and launched a lovely high cross hoping to reach one of his team mates. Instead the ball began to drop by the tall Casuals central defender. The player used his upper shoulder to trap the ball and it ricocheted down to his lower arm and hit his hand. I thought I was the only referee on this match but suddenly there were twenty two. Eleven shouted 'Hand ball, penalty' followed instantly by another eleven voices shouting 'Never'.

As always I gave my decision in a calm and confident manner. I instantly shouted 'Play on'. The defender with the ball now at his feet kicked the ball over his goal line for a corner kick. How could I award a penalty.....firstly the defender had used his shoulder in an attempt to control the ball and it was the top part of his shoulder, not his arm and secondly and most importantly his action was not deliberate and it was a ball to hand movement as opposed to a hand to ball movement. I hope that all makes sense to you as it could happen to you next week.

I looked down at my watch again and the thoughts of that Sunday roast all came flooding back to me.

Role on lunch time,

Willy Woodwork

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

Well, did our referee make the right decision with the goal keepers?

- a) Can a goal be scored when the ball is punched from one goal area to another?*
- b) Was the drop ball the correct restart?*
- c) Should the goalie have been cautioned for a hand ball?*
- d) Was awarding a goal the correct decision?*

With regard to the second incident.....

- a) If a player uses the top of their shoulder is this hand ball?*
- b) Should the referee have awarded a penalty for hand ball?*
- c) Was it correct just to play on?*
- d) Stop thinking of lunch and focus on the match!*

Flagging Up

Pep Guardiola has been so keen to ensure that his Bayern Munich team don't get sloppy or into bad habits that he drawn up a list of rules which if broken earn a fine. Skipper Phillipp Lahm has been allocated as the fine collector and grabbing the players by the Euros if they look scruffy or pile on the pounds or fail to put their dirty kit into the laundry baskets.

XX

Last month the problem over encroachment at Penalties was refereed to and Referee Mark Clattenberg highlighted. Well in a December Premier League game between Burnley and Southampton he awarded a penalty to Southampton which the Burnley keeper saved but there was encroachment by both sides and no re-take was ordered. - Just checking!

XX

Is it ever possible to ignore a Law for the sake of humanity? Not apparently in the case of 23 years old Roma striker Alessandro Florenzi after he netted his team's second goal in their 2-0 Serie A win over Cagliari. Florenzi then ran to the stands to give his grandmother, making her first visit to the Stadio Olimpico, a great big hug. However the referee still felt obliged to provide him with a yellow card to enhance his celebrations

XX

Another family problem occurred in an Ecuadorian League match when midfielder Alex Bolanos of FC Barcelona who were playing rivals Emilec saw him get a straight red card for a violent tackle on his own younger brother Miler Bolanos.

XX

From filial disputes to the profane. Lance Perry playing for Rowley College in the West Midlands Christian league was dismissed from the field after warning his team-mates about "dog shit" on the pitch. His manager Pete Bennet commented "The League does have a zero tolerance policy to foul language and referees can sometimes interpret that rather crazily" Perhaps a good match incident for members to consider especially as the red card was later rescinded.

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Laura Wareham playing for Newcastle United Ladies had to leave the pitch after the pain became so bad following a collision with a team mate. Taken to hospital it was found she had been playing with a break at the base of the skull although later it was felt it may have been ligament damage. The brave 21 year old had also broken her neck in a match in 2011.

(The source of most of the above comes from "The Metro" Newspaper. With many thanks.)

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

ARE HOLDING A

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

ON FRIDAY MARCH 27th - 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 25th March 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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The International Football Association Board (IFAB) convened for its Annual Business Meeting (ABM) at the Europa Hotel in Belfast today, aided for the first time by two new advisory panels set up to help bring fresh ideas to the table with regard to the Laws of the Game.

The inaugural meetings of the Football Advisory Panel and Technical Advisory Panel on 24 and 25 November marked an important step in the 129-year history of The IFAB as experts from across the world of football were given a platform to directly voice their views on matters relating to the

Laws.

Stakeholders at confederation, member association and league level, as well as a representative of FIFPro, provided The IFAB with different perspectives on a range of challenging topics including the so-called "triple punishment" rule, Law 12 with respect to handling the ball, the use of electronic performance monitoring systems and the matter of video replays for match officials.

The aim of the ABM was to further discuss and analyse ideas for potential changes to the Laws of the Game, which can then be put forward to the following Annual General Meeting (AGM) – the only time when amendments to the Laws can be made.

The 129th IFAB AGM will take place in Belfast between 27 February and 1 March 2015.

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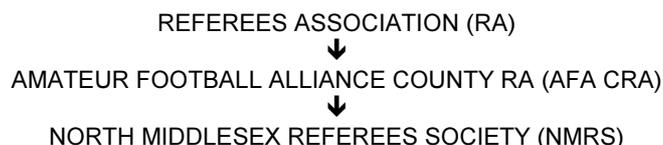
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

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.

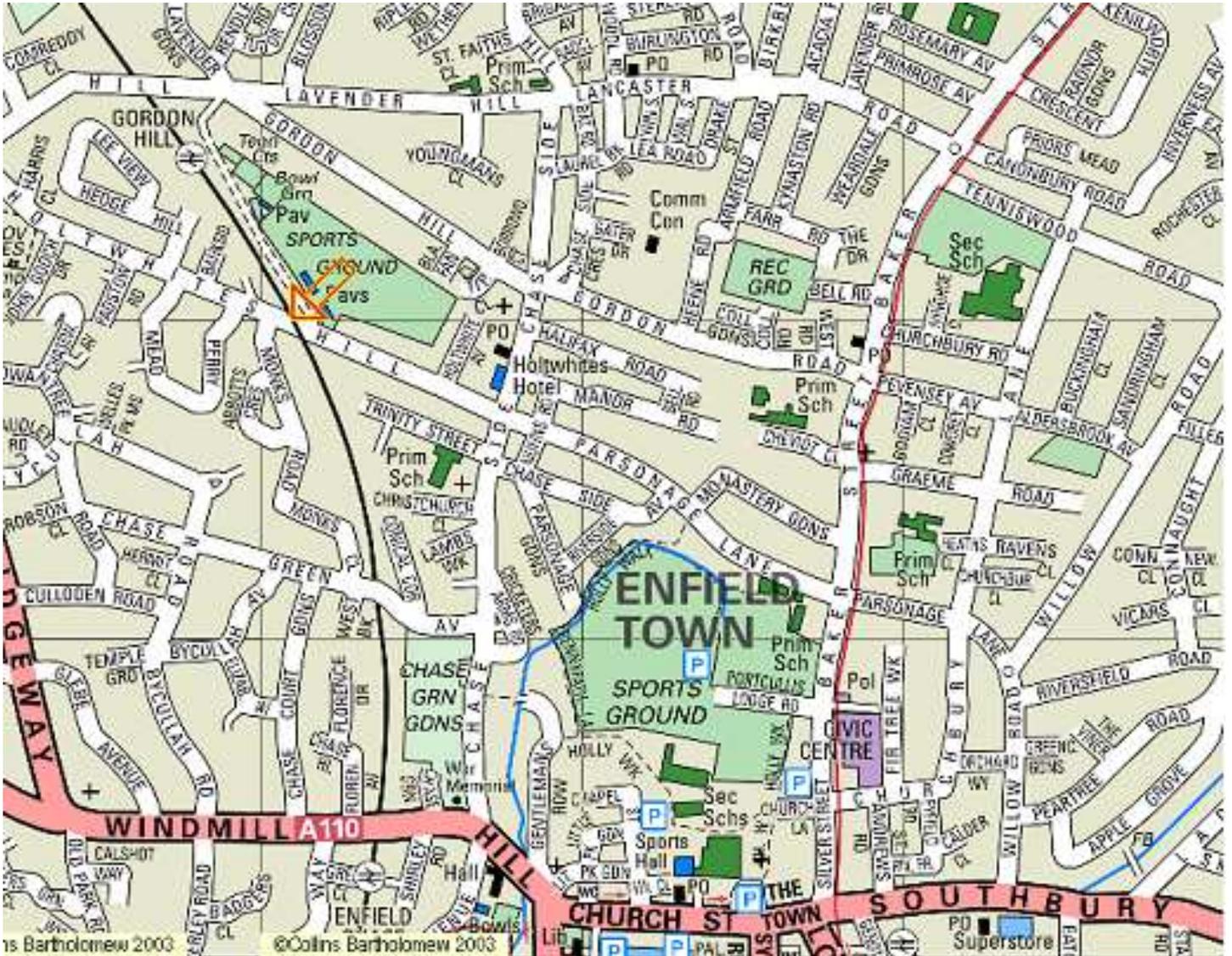
AFA	Amateur Football Alliance
AFA CRA	Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association
CFA	County Football Association
CRA	County Referees Association
LFA	London Football Association
MCFA	Middlesex County Football Association
R.A.	Referees Association
RA-FA	Referees Association/Football Association 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; 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.

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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