

March 2002

The next meeting of the North Middlesex Referees' Society will be held at 7.30 pm, on Friday, 8th March, 2002 at Cockfosters FC, Chalk Lane, Cockfosters, Barnet, Hertfordshire, EN4 9GL. Special Guest is Joe Guest, Referees' Officer at the Football Association.

Firstly an apology for any offence taken by members of the Training Team, following the article in last month's magazine on their presentation at the January meeting. What was meant by the author to be light-hearted comment, was taken as "flippant and offensive" by the Team. The photos, accompanying the article were also much to be desired. However, as can be seen by Vice- Chairman, Vince Yeudall's article, "Compensation Claim", elsewhere in this issue, he found the article both amusing and instructive in equal measure – as it was supposed to be.

The bug I've been nursing for some time even affected my computer! Brian Fuller's reply ("It's Good Enough For Me" in February's issue) to Len Willcock's article in January's magazine ("It's Not Good Enough For Me") came out with some strange spellings – sorry Brian! This saga rumbles on though, with another riposte from Len and an article from "Observer" in this month's magazine. Anyone else want to chip in on this subject before we close it?

Last month's guest, former Army Major, Ron Roberts, provided good entertainment at the February meeting - pity if you missed him! A report on Ron's visit elsewhere.

Another of Robin's refs quizzes is included this month; also see Gary Cobden's less serious football quiz.

My computer bug, see above, was attended to by Gary and Denise Cobden one evening. The following day they both came down with awful flu, (no wonder I'm still 'peaky'!). Get well soon, both!

The Elephant Race Nite was well orchestrated by the usual band of Paul Vosper & co. Sheila Ward organised the food and Council members chipped in as required; also, the Treasurer seemed pleased! An excellent evening, thanks to all!!

Heard at last month's meeting – "Will FAMOA take over from the RA idc?"!!

Cup Final appointments and promotion time on the way! Well done, or hard luck? Let us know your 'results'.

Yet another batch of new referees have come off the Training Team's assembly line. Well done to the successful candidates and the Team. Full details included elsewhere.

No minutes for February received in time for publication – sorry!

The AGM is on Friday, 10th May - details are included in this issue.

Thanks to Vice Chairman, Vince Yeudall for the 'jokes' included in this issue!

Closing date for the April magazine is Monday 18 March 2002

CONGRATULATIONS

The following candidates successfully completed Training Courses held in the Autumn of 2001

Course No.168 held at Brimsdown F.C., Enfield

Thomas Abraham, Kenny Banks, Billy Byford, Raymond Caabay, John Canavan, Ahmet Kaan, Darren Daly, Liam Davis, Sarah Foster, Martin Hobbs, Laurence McLoughlin, Simon Martin, Lee Mercer, Rob Mullin, Mike Power, Oliver Richmond, Glen Roberts, Martin Sidoli, Daniel Sidoli, Michael Smee, Bryn Turner.

Course No.169 held for The Chancellor's School. Brookmans Park

Joe Brandon, Dave Curran, Scott De La Fuente, Robert Fuller, Nicholas Moon, Adam Nicholaides, Simon Nicholaides, Simon Sheldon, Coral Smith, Derek Sola and Robert Wyllie.

Each candidate was presented with a Certificate of Competence and the relevant County Associations advised. The Council of NMRS offer their congratulations and welcome the new referees to future meetings.

A new course started at Brimsdown F.C. on the 28th January, 2002.

Congratulations – Provisional Cup Final Appointments 2001/2

Middlesex County Football Association

Senior Challenge Cup 1 st April @ Hayes FC – Referee, Alfred Street	
Senior Charity Cup 6 th May @ Brook House - Assistant Referee, Nick Rider	
George Ruffell Challenge Trophy – Pre Season -	Assistant Referee, Steven Conway
	Reserve Official, Peter Jago
Junior Cup 10 th April @ Yeading FC	Referee, David Johnson
Junior Trophy 1 st May @ Harrow FC	Assistant Referee, Stan Rosenthal
Sunday Premier Cup 14 th April @ Northwood FC -	Assistant Referee, John Taverner
Sunday Junior Cup 5 th May @ Hayes FC	Referee, Martin De La Fuente
	Assistant Referee, Daniel Barnett
	Reserve Official, Jeff Till
Veterans Cup 27 th March @ Uxbridge FC	Assistant Referee, Percy Brown
	Assistant Referee, Paul Metselaar
Women's Jun. Cup 24th April @ Hayes FC	Assistant Referee, Alan Haggart
Jeff Ritson Cup (Under 18 Super Cup)	Reserve Official, Richard Meikle
Under 14	Assistant Referee, Costas Tanti
	Reserve Official, Peter Smith
Under 13	Reserve Official, Luke Deamer
Under 12	Reserve Official, Michael Mackey Jnr.
Under 11	Assistant Referee, Michael Mackey Snr.
Under 13 Girls	Reserve Official, Graham Samuels

AFA

Essex Senior Cup	Fourth Official, Len Willcock
Middlesex Intermediate Cup	Assistant Referee, Mick Osborn
Middlesex Minor Cup	Assistant Referee, David Woolf
Open Veterans	Referee, John Faithfull
	Assistant Referee, L. Miltiadous

February's Guest Speaker – Ron Roberts (Maj. Ret'd)

Robin Jagot introduced our special guest, Ron Roberts, to a well-attended meeting. Robin pointed out that the last time our guest came to North Middlesex was in 1992, so he had, coincidentally, featured in 'Peter Dace's Reminiscences' for that year in the current February magazine. Ron has been guest speaker at Society meetings on no fewer than 202 occasions.

Ron was proud to have played in goal for Wales v England, even if it was during lunch times at Bethesda Grammar School – Wales invariably won! He also played for Sandhurst - "Second Eleven of course" - before deciding that Wales were unlikely to call on his goalkeeping services, so he became a referee, with accelerated promotion to Class One in 1959. He was appointed to the Army Select List in 1964, refereeing many prestigious games for the Army and Combined Services before refereeing the Army Cup Final in 1980. An injury, suffered in 1983 whilst refereeing in Saudi Arabia, curtailed Ron's career as an active referee so he became an Instructor and Assessor. Many Army appointments soon followed, including Director of FA Referee courses in Saudi Arabia, Zimbabwe, Cyprus and Hong Kong. In 1986 Ron was appointed Referees' Area Advisor for Gloucestershire and Somerset and in 1988 he was appointed FA Staff Referee Instructor. Many other appointments and honours include various Committee posts in Services RA Societies around the country and elsewhere worldwide, an RA Meritorious Award, being guest speaker at the RA Conference at Swansea, 1982 and at Cardiff, 1992.

Ron began by thanking those present for their hospitality. It was his third time at North Middlesex and each time he has been welcomed warmly. He was also pleased to see lady referees present at Society meetings. He had previously asked the NMRS Council for a subject they thought the membership would prefer. In the event he was given seven to choose from, out of which he chose 'Management' which he thought would give value for everyone.

"How do we as referees get out of situations, and manage people and situations", Ron began. "And how do we make people enjoy football?" Ron discussed the chasm between the professional game - a business - and other football. If the professional game went out of business, 99.9% of football would still be played. The FA says so! The main purpose of refereeing is to promote the enjoyment of the players, Ron suggested, and in enjoyment terms the players came first, followed by the spectators, then the referee. "Service before Self remains a vital element in refereeing" said Ron.

Refereeing has changed over the years, suggested Ron, with officials having to be much more pro-active than in times gone by when the ref was more 'seen and not heard'. Control means management and we need to think more about managing situations, and being non-sympathetic damages the game which consists of contact, endeavour and passion. He suggested trying to understand the players' frustration, at the lower level in particular, where the skill level is perhaps not so high. Ron spoke of the unintentional pain received by players, and that we should always remember it is their game with the referee being the twenty-third player, which takes away the 'us and them' factor. So, try not to act like a policeman.

On positioning and management, Ron discussed how these elements inhibit offences taking place, being the antithesis of an RSM (Regimental Sergeant Major. Ed!) type of referee.

Continued

Ron Roberts – continued

Ron gave some examples of how and when to talk to players (some serious and some hilarious), which he followed by discussing the importance of positioning. “Friction will always occur”, said Ron, and we need to be fit to always be close to a potential problem. An experiment in Holland and Germany had revealed that 25% of offences occurred after the ball had gone; 45% whilst the ball was in the air, and if we keep watching the ball we miss some 30% of offences. The advice given was to watch when the ball goes and when it arrives.

How to avoid confrontation? Ron suggested being pro-active: stop encroachment; communicate, particularly at static situations. And what about the difference in players’ attitude to us? Ron pointed out a number of ways how to defuse a potentially confrontational situation involving ‘the talkative player’, the ‘niggler’ and the ‘constant appealer’. He suggested that if these types of players are not dealt with immediately, a situation can and often does escalate. Be firm and don’t be afraid to use ‘please and thank you’. “And the ‘dissenter’, who eats at your authority, should not be tolerated”, said Ron.

In summary, Ron suggested we must endeavour to manage offences efficiently; understand frustration; have the courage to act; and be as close as possible to any potential problem. He concluded that football is a sport and it should be played in a sporting manner.

On behalf of those present, President Mick Osborn gave a vote of thanks to our special guest who, he said, had treated a serious subject with humour. Ron then accepted a copy of “North Middlesex Referees’ Society – A Celebration of 50 Years of Football” from Mick, as a souvenir of his visit.



Laugh with Vince

Referee – “It’s a Yellow card for you”

Player – “You know what you can do with your Yellow card”.

Referee – “You’re too late, there’s three Red ones up there already”.



There was a big football match between Heaven and Hell

The Angel said “We’ll win, we’ve got all the good players up here”.

The Devil replied, “Oh no you won’t, we’ve got all the Referees down here!”

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“Kwikquotes” - from The Chiltern Referee

“..... and Tranmere Rovers are playing with a 5-man back four” – **Radio Five Live**

“Mark Wright – a great player, both on and off the field” – **Peter Jones**



Peter Dace Reminisces – the Normidian of March 1992

March meeting at Norsemen FC will feature a mock disciplinary board to allow newer Referees the chance of seeing how the process of appeal works.

Society Member Andy Bishop writes to the Editor complaining of being invited to line on a Final but being told that he would not receive a fee, only a trophy. Andy says, “the trophy is the mark of thanks from the Leagues Committee, but they shouldn’t then take twelve or thirteen pounds out of my pocket to pay for it”.

Treasurer Gary Cobden writes ‘Society Membership trends’ and we note amongst many statistics that compared to the previous seasons record membership of 222 this year it stands at 198. Seventy-one of last season’s members have not re-joined although these have been partially replaced by trainees from the Training Centre.

Peter Willis, National President of The Referees Association writes a three-page letter to all R.A. members – his first since coming to office in 1984.

It is the turn of North Middlesex Society to run the MRA (Middlesex Referees Association) County Rally. Details are published for the evening – Friday 24th April at Barclays Bank Sports Club in Ealing.

Bryan Green supplies two cartoons to help fill out the magazine, as do advertisements from Brigg Sports and Paine & Co.



Middlesex Referees’ Association – Annual Social Evening

The MRA Annual Social Evening will be held at Hillingdon Borough Football Club on Friday 26 April. Societies are asked to remind members to put the date in their diaries.



Laugh With Vince

“Paddy, what was the score on Saturday?”

“Nil, nil, Mick”

“What was it at half-time?”



“IT’S NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME” – by Observer

PART III

In the first article (Len Willcock, January mag. Ed.) there were quotes: -

"I'm beyond Youth games." & "I don't do Youth football"

The author suggested that it was 'Well Done Middlesex FA, for giving youth appointments equal status to adult games'. A referee should not turn down a County Youth appointment.

Does he really know what he is talking about? If he does why does he not put the whole truth into words.

Does he referee for a Youth league in Middlesex?

Does he have to accept County youth appointments?

I would suggest that he does not know because he does not mind doing youth matches, but not in Middlesex.

The Middlesex County Football Association holds the referee's registration on behalf of the Football Association, which does not stipulate where a referee should apply his profession. So why does his County?

The County appoints the referee to a County Youth Cup match and does not ever consider whether the referee operates at youth level.

The referees who operate on the local youth leagues week in and week out are a special type of person. In many cases they have to put up with a lot - on many occasions a poor standard of football, the attitude and awful behaviour from spectators.

Spectators are made up, on the whole, of the relatives of each player taking part in the match. Those who support the player want the player's team to win at all costs. These are mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts and uncles and if the team does not win, very quickly make the referee the scapegoat.

Is this not the reason that many referees do not get involved with youth matches?

Youth Leagues operate on Sunday mornings and the referees who do Sunday morning football have enough problems with adults playing football, so they choose not to do games at youth level where the problems are considered to be greater.

So what should the referee (senior or promotion candidate) do when he is appointed by the County to do a Youth Cup match?

Accept without question?

What right does the Middlesex County FA have to override the referee's RIGHT TO CHOOSE?

Continued

Observer - continued

Should not the Councillors on that Association spend time in finding out what happens in Youth matches and get first-hand knowledge of the problems that could face the person they are forcing to referee a match?

I suggest that those persons go out and watch a youth match refereed by a person who wants to do it and see for themselves the problems at first hand, then go back to their Council chamber, sit down and talk about the problems that the current referees are having at youth level and not dwell on the fact that 'It was easy in my day'. I put it to you, when did they last referee a youth match, if in fact they ever refereed at all?



“But is it Good Enough for the County?”

Where does Brian Fuller fit in? Well, this depends on where his County fits in with him! My original article referred to his point of view precisely. Brian, mate, nobody has a problem if you choose not to join a league upon which you will have to line, or referee, youth football. As you say, that is your choice, but knowing you as I do, I don't think you'd be very likely to turn down a County appointment, just because it was a line, a youth game or a Sunday morning game. Or don't I know you as well as I think I do?

When I was MRA delegate for this Society, it frequently amazed me how many replacements the Youth Appointments and Sunday Appointments Secretaries had to make – between September and January, something like one hundred plus, each.

My article referred to referees who frequently turn down County appointments because they don't think they should have to be bothered with such 'run of the mill' games, and look down their noses at the rest of us! I don't think you are one of them, Brian.

When it comes to County appointments, is it anyone's choice? Unless the date has been closed it is not; and we all know this before we start out as referees. I am sure you are not the sort who cooks up stories as to why you forgot to close a date, and therefore cannot accept a County appointment. I frequently accept County appointments when I would rather be doing a game elsewhere; it's all part of refereeing – a hobby from which I get a great deal of enjoyment.

But, I know I can't have it all my own way and that I can't have my cake and eat it, nor do I want to.

Len Willcock



Laugh with Vince

Grandson – “Is that right you play centre forward, Grandad?”

Grandad – “No lad, I'm too old to play football, why do you ask?”

Grandson – “Well, it's just that Dad said when you've kicked-off we can buy a new car”.



Gear Supplies Price List – Season 2001/2002

Matchday Kits

We can supply both Umbro and RA Kits. Both ranges are available with either long or short sleeves, and can be supplied with your County FA Badge pre-embroidered for a small additional charge. Socks are available with either plain white tops, or with hooped tops. Cushioned feet socks can also be supplied. Boots and Tracksuits are also available to order.

Prices are as follows:-

Umbro Short Sleeve - £32.00	Umbro Long Sleeve - £33.00
Umbro Shorts - £23.50	
RA Short Sleeve - £18.50	RA Long Sleeve - £18.50
RA Shorts - £12.50	
White Topped Socks - £5.00	Reinforced Foot - £5.50
Hoop Topped Socks - £5.50	

County Badges added to Shirts - £7.25 extra on Umbro Shirts; £8.50 on RA Shirts

We are also able to supply Middlesex County FA Badges, and Referees Association Badges, for Kit use - £3.00.

Flags

Touchline Flags and Flagsticks are available in various combinations. Choose from Quartered or Super-Quartered, Plain, or Premier. Premier and Super Quartered are manufactured from high visibility solid warp knitted polyester yarn (125gm). Plain and Quartered are manufactured from high visibility warp knitted polyester yarn (52gm).

Flags and Flagsticks are also available separately. Alternatively, why not buy a complete set with Flag bag. If your existing Flagsticks are damaged, and require replacement end-caps or inserts, these can also be obtained (in pairs). If you are looking for Flags, but do not wish to pay quite so much, the RA's own flags and sticks are also available- in quartered or plain styles.

Prices are as follows:-

Touchline Flags:- from £11.50 (Plain) to £15.50 (Premier)
Touchline Flagsticks (pair) - £14.95; singles - £8.50; End-caps - £2.25; Brass Inserts - £1.25; Flag Bag - £5.25
Touchline Sets – Flags and Flagsticks – from £21.50 (Plain) to £25.50 (Premier)
Touchline Complete Sets – including Flag Bag - from £23.50 (Plain) to £27.50 (Premier)

RA Flags Plain - £4.75; RA Flags Quartered - £7.00; RA Flagsticks - £3.00

Matchday Accessories

We can supply Match Record Cards and Holders; General Purpose Postcards; Red and Yellow Cards; Wrist Lanyards; a selection of Whistles including the ever popular Fox range, and some with finger grips. Pressure Guages are available to order.

Prices are as follows:-

Match Record Pads - £0.70	Match Record Pad Holder - £0.70
Red and Yellow Cards and Wallet - £2.00	Red/ Yellow Cards/Wallet/Pencil - £2.30
All Purpose Postcards - £1.10	Red and Yellow Cards (set) - £1.10
Pencils - £0.10	
Plastic Whistle With Grip - £1.30	Plastic Whistle - £1.20
Plastic Finger Whistle - £1.40	Metal Whistle - £3.40
Pealess Whistle - £1.30	Lanyard - £1.60

Continued



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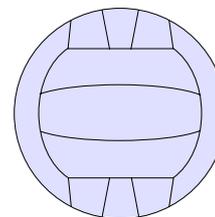
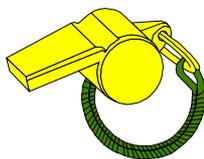
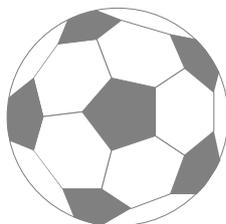
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Are again pleased to support North Middlesex Referees Society in Season 2001/2002



Supplies Continued

Other Items available as follows:-

Boot Laces - £1.15

NMRS Ties - £6.00

RA Tie - £5.50

FA Diary - £4.00

RA Baseball Cap - £5.00

"Football Referee" Magazine - £0.75

Coloured Shirts - £5.00

Sock Ties - £1.10

NMRS 50th Anniversary Tie - £7.50

LOAF (Referees Chart) - £3.00

NMRS Credit Card Holder - £3.30

RA Crested Holdall - £15.00

Coloured Shorts - £5.00

Christmas Specials

Christmas Wrapping Paper - Packs of 10 Sheets

£2.00

Birthday Cards - Packs of 12 Cards

£2.00

All Prices subject to fluctuation and change without notice.

Contact Percy Brown - 01707 851369 or 07801 985912

Compensation Claim – by Vice-Chairman, Vince Yeudall

Mr Editor

In last month's Normidian you published a photograph, allegedly of Mr Percy Brown, our esteemed Supplies Officer, and myself at the January meeting.

May I make it clear it was not a photo of Percy and myself it was obviously a picture of two chimney sweeps (for junior members, read 'Oliver Twist'), coal miners (junior members read old newspapers) or Mike Tyson and Lennox Lewis. They are certainly not my friend and I!

Now, the photo has caused us both a lot of stress and p... taking. Because of this, and the fact that everybody does it these days, we both want to claim compensation from the photographer, the writer of the article associated with the pictures, and yourself as editor of our magazine! (A pint from each of you would settle the claim.)

In conclusion, whilst Percy and myself know all there is to know about refereeing, we still learned a great deal from the excellent presentation given by the Training Team and enjoyed all the speakers.

So, watch what you print next time!!



From the Editor

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you for your letter what I received.

As an escoose, the pixtures were orichinally tuk by Peter Dace on a new finged gagit used with compooters. The reeprduxtion was pure an I am sorree for it. Wee will get a kik up the watsit from him as wel no dowt (wen hee fineilly cums bak from a braord)

Keep reeding the magazeen an let mee no if yoo spot eny mistakes innit

Thee end,

(I mest git this speling an granma thingy ficksed!!)



More Kwikquotes from the Chiltern Referee

“Newcastle, of course, unbeaten in their last five wins” – **Brian Moore**

“Certain people are for me, certain people are pro-me” – **Terry Venables**

“In terms of the Richter scale, this defeat was a Force Eight gale” – **John Lyall**

- Q1 May a Free Kick be taken by lifting the ball with a foot or both feet simultaneously?*
- Q2 Although an opponent is only 4.5m from the ball a player takes a quick free kick Is it permitted?*
- Q3 The goalkeeper controls the ball with his hands in the penalty area, and passes it to a teammate who is also in the penalty area The latter miskicks the ball towards his own goal The goalkeeper touches it with his hands but fails to stop it entering the goal What action does the referee take?*
- Q4 A player throws his footwear at a person seated in the technical area. What action does the referee take?*
- Q5 A player is charged in a fair manner, but the ball is not within playing distance. What action does the referee take?*
- Q6 When play is about to be restarted with a dropped ball the players of one team refuse to take part. What action does the referee take?*

Robin, Training Centre

Laugh With Vince

An angry captain glared at the ref., “What would happen if I called you an idiot who couldn’t make a correct decision to save his life?”

“It would be a red card for you” said the ref.

“And if! didn’t say it, but only thought it?” retorted the captain.

“Ah, that’s different. If you only thought it, but didn’t say it, I couldn’t do anything about it” countered the official.

“Let’s leave it like that then”, the captain smiled.

A Footballing Quiz

You have to work out the football team names.

All the clues lead to the team names taken from leagues in England & Scotland.

The first one is done for you.

Wild Dogs	Wolves	Car outside Spanish house	
Cowboys have them		To put under ground	
Professor on rollers		Famous President	
Males meadow		Animal Car	
Dirty Water		Latest fort	
Males together		Famous jockey	
Push Weight		Vital organs	
Steel city day		Smashes things up	
Always one hundred		Collection of arms	
Famous for their buns		Organ on small lake	
Cash service		Bottom of a ship	
A prison clock		Not eastern beef	
Famous football brothers		Greedy pig	
Lock the door		Opposite of dull/off	
Fill the harbour		1 of 3 R's	
Ask about ill parent		Harbour with a gorge	
Brick after cotton factory		A putrid pig	

Answers Next Month



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

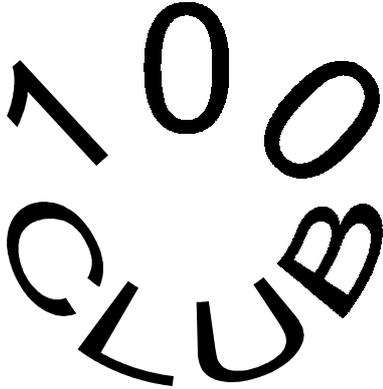
Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of North Middlesex Referees Society will be held on Friday, 10 May 2002, commencing at 7.30pm, at Cockfosters Football Club, Chalk Lane, Cockfosters, Barnet, Hertfordshire, EN4 9JG.

A full Agenda will be published in the May Normidian. However, if any Member wishes to stand for election for Office, either as an Officer or as a Member of the Council, Nominations should be made to the Secretary, duly Proposed, Seconded, and Assented by the Nominee in writing, and must reach the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the Meeting, ie by 19 April 2001.

Any Agenda Items, or any proposed Rule Changes, again duly Proposed and Seconded, must also be made in writing, and must reach the Secretary not less than 21 days prior to the Meeting, ie by 19 April 2001.

Martin De La Fuente
Hon. Secretary
98, The Walk
Potters Bar
Hertfordshire
EN6 1QF

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY



Draw results for February 2002 are shown below. There were 55 shares subscribed, and this month the payout is 100% of the pool - £55.00. The draw was made by our Life Vice president, Terry Hayne

First	21	Geoff Jacobs	£30.25
Second	34	Mike Sibley	£16.50
Third	53	Frank McNeil	£8.25

MEMEBRSHIP FEES - SEASON 2002/2003

Yes colleagues, its that time of year again. Enclosed with the Normidian this month, you will find your Membership Application Form for Season 2002/2003. The forms have been completed from the details held about you on the Society database – please check the information is correct, making any necessary amendments.

To ensure that you receive continual unbroken cover from your Referees Association Insurance Policy, you need to ensure that your Membership Fees are paid as soon as possible, and, in any event, by 1 April, when your current cover expires. Fees, which are unchanged from this Season, are as follows: - Full Members - i.e. those who do not pay their Referees Association subscription through any other Society - £19.50 (aged 18 and above on 1 April); £12.00 (if under 18). If you are under 14 or over 75 on 1 April, deduct £2.50 for the Insurance Premium from these figures.

Associate Members - i.e. those who pay their Referees Association subscription through another Society (which must be indicated on the Membership Form) - £10.00 (aged 18 and above); £6.00 (if under 18). These figures are shown on the Membership Forms, and are valid only if paid prior to 30 June 2002. Those members making payments made after this date will be liable to pay the Society Subscription at the full rate, and not the discounted rate – an additional £2.00.

There is an additional question on the Membership Form this year – would you like to receive your Normidian electronically. If you are prepared to receive your Normidian by e-mail, please answer Yes to this question, and keep the Society advised of your current e-mail addresses.

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



The North Middlesex Annual Dinner and Dance will return to the Apollo Suite at Cockfosters on Saturday, May 11, 2002. Tickets will cost £25.00. Our guest of honour this year is Society Member, Phil Sharp, who will be representing England at the World Cup Finals in June 2002. We will also be making a presentation of an RA 50 year Membership Award to Society stalwart Frank McNeil. So make a date in your diary to come along and celebrate.

If you would like to pay in instalments, please let me know. Likewise, if you require a vegetarian option, we must know in advance.

E-Mail me at garycobden@nmrs.freeserve.co.uk if you would like tickets, or for further information. Alternatively, contact Tom White by e-mail at tcwht1@netscapeonline.co.uk for reservations.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

Secretary: MARTIN DE LA FUENTE
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020 7615 2316 (Business)
07760 422223 (Mobile)

March 2002

Dear Colleague

Referees Association – Grand Draw 2002

Enclosed with this months Normidian, you will find one or two books of tickets for the above Draw, for which the major prize is a new Car.

It would benefit the Society greatly if you could sell the tickets enclosed, as, for each book sold, the Society will receive 50% of the proceeds, and this income can assist the Society in keeping down membership Subscriptions. If you are successful in selling some – or all – of the tickets, please return the completed counterfoils – together with the money – and any unsold books to me at the above address. It is essential that you return them direct to me, and not to the promoter. If the tickets are not returned to the promoter through the Society, we do not receive our share of the proceeds. If you are able to sell any additional books, please let me know.

However, if you do not wish to sell the tickets, this is understood, but it would nevertheless be appreciated if you could return all unsold books to me, as we may have other Members who are able to sell them on our behalf.

Thank you for your assistance.



Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer

SOCIETY FORMED IN 1949

North Middlesex Young Referees

MOTIVATION

What has motivation to do with refereeing?

Motivation is the main difference between a good game, an average game, or indeed the worst game an official might have in a season.

It is the driving force behind every match.

That little bit extra that the referee puts into a Cup Final or the game on the local park when he believes there is an assessor watching.

Motivation is that additional effort and determination that should be put into every game.

One way of showing that motivation is important to a match is to indicate the times when there is distinct lack of it.

How many times have you heard the following comments at various times when in the company of refereeing colleagues?

“I had a good game last week, but I am only running the line, this Saturday.” “My cup tie has been postponed, and I’ve got this junior match instead, and I was really looking forward to the other match.”

Do not these examples explain the point?

No doubt there are many other such phrases, which could be included.

To my mind, every game should be treated the same, whether one is refereeing or running the line. All must be equally important.

To the lads playing in the lower divisions of any league, their matches on a Saturday afternoon or Sunday morning are more important than those in the Football League. They should therefore be treated as important by the referee. The fact that a better class of football is being played on an adjoining pitch should not be allowed to interfere with the referee in his own game. An official should treat every match as the most important in his career - as though it was his World Cup Final. If such thoughts put that extra zip into his performance then he is advised to use it each weekend.

The individual means of motivation is a personal thing, but I believe it falls into one or more of these categories:

- a) Love of the game.
- b) Personal satisfaction
- c) Advancement with the game
- d) Confidence.
- e) Pride in being as perfect as one can be.

The knowledge that one knows the Laws of the Game and is able to put them into practice gives the confidence to motivate a referee through a game.

The Referees’ Association provides great help in stimulating interest amongst members, and to my mind every referee should join as a first stage in motivating himself for every weekend with the whistle.

A referee must be fair to all teams, no matter what the standard of football, giving his best whatever the circumstances.

He should always motivate himself which will inevitably lead to greater things.

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.

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.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB Application for/Renewal of Membership - Season 2001/2002

I,, wish to become a member of the North Middlesex Referees Society 100 Club, and subscribe to shares each month.

I agree to make payment:-

By Cheque

By Standing Order (details will be provided on request) (Delete as Appropriate)

The initial term of membership is 12 months; renewal details will be distributed with the 2002/2003 Society Membership Forms. To join for the remainder of the current Season, a payment of £6 is payable.

Please forward the completed Application Form to Gary Cobden, Hon. Treasurer.

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