

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2012/2013*



THE
REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION



March 2013

COUNCIL 2012 - 2013

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THE NORMIDIAN is the Official Publication of North Middlesex referees Society, and is published nine times during the football season, between September and May.

The Next Meeting of the North Middlesex Referees' Society will take place at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield, Middlesex at 7.45 pm on Thursday the 21st March 2013 when our guest speaker will be Arsenal Physiotherapist Colin Lewin.

EDITORIAL

In one of his recent excellent articles in the Evening Standard Patrick Barclay raised the subject of goal area confrontations including impeding the goalkeeper. Now this tactic started in the 1960's when Jack Charlton then of Leeds stood in front of the goalkeeper. I have mentioned before that I was refereed in a match by Stan Macabe a FIFA referee who warned the opposition striker that he was watching him and then proceeded to blow up when the ball was in play for a foul on the keeper. Since that time in my refereeing I have followed this course when it was apparent that the attacker was looking for the keeper rather than the ball and have blown up. This usually works but when on one occasion a rather silly player did it twice and I blew up again even his team-mates told him not to bother again. Perhaps referees should be more pro-active in this respect because blocking the keeper is now apparently becoming an acceptable illegal practise. Perhaps it is the position of referees these days. They seem to stand in positions too far away from this penalty area hubbub to see what is happening and there was a prime example of this in the Oldham versus Everton Cup tie at Boundary Park where the Oldham goalkeeper up for a desperate corner jumped with his arms in the air whilst the Everton goalkeeper could not get to the ball and Oldham scored a very late equaliser, a point very much made in Paddy Barclay's piece. The positioning aspect of referees at corners has changed dramatically from yesteryear when the Ref stood anywhere in an imaginary arc between the 6 yard line behind the back post to the just behind the penalty spot, always ensuring that he moved around each time, to avoid another Leeds trick of the era, of himself being blocked off. As to defenders grabbing attackers or putting arm-locks on them the answer is even more simple. It is for the referee to award a penalty. A few of those per game and the practise would stop. Howard Webb did this in an important International match and whilst the offended, in both senses of the word, Country severely criticised him FIFA confirmed he was right to so act.

So what is in the armoury of the referee to act firstly against blocking the keeper and secondly defenders grabbing attackers. Well in the first instance there is impeding the progress of an opponent which is defined as "moving into the path of an opponent to obstruct, block, slow down or force a change of direction by an opponent when the ball is not within playing distance of either player." It is important to see whether an attacker merely stands on the goal-line and then proceeds to move out when the ball is kicked at the corner or whether he backs in or looks for the keeper rather than the ball. When it comes to "embracing" attackers by defenders the principle of holding an opponent applies which is again defined as "the act of preventing him from moving past or around using hands, arms or body". Unfortunately the advice to referees in regard to this offence at corners is not followed in the way that it should be. This advice is to intervene early and warn the defender if it's before the ball is in play and if in play to award a penalty if the offence is in the penalty area. Incidentally if the holding occurs outside the penalty area but continues into the area it is also a penalty. Another point to note is that holding is not

so as to just stop an opponent reaching the ball but also to stop an opponent taking up an advantageous position and is a cautionable offence. It has also been suggested that “impeding” if it occurs without contact with an opponent remains an indirect free kick offence, but when it involves contact it becomes a direct one as falling within other of the direct free kick offences.

Whilst dealing with cautions, is it not about time that players who attempt to get another player either cautioned or sent off by raising imaginary cards were themselves immediately caution for unsporting behaviour or perhaps under a new one to add to the heading of “simulation”. After all the showing of an imaginary card is simulating the action of the referee, and the word simulate according to the Oxford English Dictionary uses words like pretend, imitate and even counterfeit. Again a few of those dished out would soon stop this odious practice which occurs now even at grass roots levels.

Ken Goldman
Editor

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SOCIETY EGM MEETING:

It was decided by members present not to accept the new rule proposed for social membership and the amendment to the proposed rule. It was felt that we the Society should await the outcome of the decision reached by County RA Delegates at the January Conference held in Warwick for a delegation of senior members to revise the RA Constitution and Rules Revision programme which must be presented to Conference by July/2014. Once they have been approved we can then if decided by the membership, reconsider the proposal. An amendment to pass the resolution but to defer it until the RA changed their rules was defeated.

This also gives the newly elected RA Board Members 12 months to seriously decide what the future holds for the Referees Association.

Present membership stands at 9,800. The present national number of Referees at Level 1 – 9 stands at 34,500, which is the latest F.A. figure.. The number of Level 9 referees who are trainee referees who have yet to complete their standard number of matches stands at 5,500 candidates.

Robin Jagot/Secretary

JOHN DAVIS – A TRIBUTE

I was both shocked and deeply sorry to learn from the February Normidian of the untimely death of our dear friend and colleague, John Davis.

I consider myself very privileged to have been associated with John from the early 1960's and our respective refereeing careers progressed in almost identical fashion.

We were both born in the early stages of the last war, in July, but a year apart and started life in Islington. We both qualified as referees at age 19 with London F.A. and after a baptism in junior leagues, we also joined the former Athenian League as linesmen in the Reserve Section many decades before the name change to 'assistants'.

Thereafter we progressed through refereeing intermediate football to become Senior Section linemen on the Athenian League.

There was no accelerated promotion in those days, and rather like the Civil Service or banking, you had to put in a required amount of service before being elevated to the giddy heights of Class 1.

It was now the late 1960's and we were both lucky enough to receive a number of county and F.A. line appointments and would find ourselves appointed to the same match.

I have fond memories of games with John in the old London Challenge Cup when all the London professional teams would enter very strong teams for matches at say Barnet, Enfield, Hendon, and Hayes. These would often be played on Monday evenings in front of crowds several thousand strong. It was on nights such as these that I first discovered what excellent company John would prove in the dressing room – friendly and sociable, but a very professional and totally reliable team member.

It was a great thrill for both of us to be supporting one of London's top officials, and wonderful experience for our development towards refereeing in senior football. John was a very rounded person and when sharing his company, it was all too easy to move on to subjects other than football. My wife Carol has fond memories of sharing a table with John and Shirley over many years at the Dinner/Dance, when among topics discussed were our young families, holidays, travel, and other interests. Those were the days when the event was a sell-out at Firs Hall, Winchmore Hill, and Cockfosters.

Although John was an exceptional linesman and an accomplished referee, it was probably as a training officer that he made his major contribution. He had total command of his subject and his relaxed, yet polished delivery would hold an audience. As in the dressing room, his open and approachable manner put his trainees at ease. He always looked as if he was enjoying what he was doing and so his audience would do likewise.

On a few occasions, John invited me to participate in his training sessions. I was glad to be of assistance but the task did not come quite so easy to me and it was not something I pursued.

John was running the London F.A. Assessors Training Course which I attended in the late 1980's. Here I discovered at first hand what it was like to be one of John's trainees and his expert tuition led to my serving as an assessor for over 20 years, firstly with London and later with Middlesex and the A.F.A.

On John and Shirley's retirement to Cyprus our paths rarely crossed but I shall always have the fondest memories of John's dressing room welcome. A beaming smile, a very warm and firm handshake and a familiar greeting, 'How are you mate? How are Carol and the family?'

Ken May

The Adventures of Willy ‘The Whistler’ Woodwork

Part 22 –Take the lead!

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
Venue: Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Time: 81st minute

The Rovers number eleven was running along by the touch line towards the Casuals goal when suddenly he abruptly stopped in agony with what appeared to be a torn hamstring. He seemed to be in great discomfort and without waiting he just stepped off the field of play to receive treatment.

Thankfully the defender kicked the ball out of play but this still put me in a quandary. The player had clearly left the field of play without my permission but was it right in these unusual circumstances to produce a yellow card? As I walked to the player his manager asked if he could make a substitution as the injured player could not continue. I told the manager that was okay and with the player still in pain on the ground I then duly produced a yellow card. This was not a popular decision but I knew yet again I was right and that I had applied the law correctly

- **Would you have done any differently?**
- **Can an injured player leave the field of play without the referee’s permission?**

I looked at my watch and with a sigh of relief I noticed that there were only nine minutes remaining of the match. If only the remaining minutes could produce nothing contentious.....if only!

The Rovers player then shoots and the ball is about to cross the Casuals goal line and enter the goal when suddenly from nowhere a dog runs onto the pitch and prevents the ball from entering the goal! Just what I needed! I immediately blew my whistle and was of course surrounded by players from both sides. It seemed that everyone had some thing to say. ‘You cannot award the goal, the ball never went into the goal’ and ‘Regardless of what the dog did you know the ball was going to go in the goal, you must award the goal’. I had to make a decision and decided that in the spirit of football knowing the ball in no doubt would have entered the goal, my decision was to therefore award a goal. Needless to say that Rovers totally agreed and some players even applauded my decision whilst to put it mildly the Casuals were not happy. Surely you would have awarded the goal.....?

- Can a goal be awarded if there was no doubt that it would have entered the goal had it not been for the actions of the dog?

Within twenty seconds the Casuals manager asks to make another substitution. The player about to be substituted walked towards me and he was fuming about my last decision. "The dog should have been on a lead and so should you". I told him to keep his comments to himself but he continued with a tirade of abuse. This same player had already been cautioned previously for dissent in the 21st minute and I knew that I had no other option to now produce a red card.

(Just a quick tip for you here.....it is useful to not only take the players name for a red or yellow card but to also record what the offence was and the time of the incident)

Anyhow back to the match.....The player saw the red card and proceeded to leave the field of play and as he did the substitute immediately then entered the field of play. "Oh no no no you don't" I told him and explained that his team mate had been sent off and cannot be replaced.

I told the manager if he wanted the substitute to play then another player would have to be taken off. This seemed to totally baffle the manager and all the Casuals team. The substitution procedure is not fully completed until a player leaves the field of play and only then can the substitute enter the field of play. That was evident to me but not the Casuals. They had no other option than to accept my decision. A decision which I knew was correct. And as always is the case they are always awarded with confidence.

- If the player about to be substituted is sent off, does another player also have to leave to enable the substitute to enter?

As I have mentioned previously the pitches at Hackney Marshes are very close together and if it is not dogs that are not on leads causing problems then it is the ball from the next pitch which seems to be frequently on our pitch.

For what seemed to be the hundredth time the ball from the other pitch came on our pitch but this time made contact and hit our match ball. I naturally blew my whistle and awarded a drop ball. Rovers who were attacking the Casuals goal at the time felt this was unfair and felt that I should have played advantage. But I know the laws and the other ball is deemed to be an outside agent and therefore a drop ball is the correct restart.

- Would you have played an advantage?

See you all soon

Willy Woodwork
Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Learning to Toe the Line - BY OBSERVER

Scene: The changing room at a football ground.

Time: 10 minutes before kick-off time.

Present: The referee and ONE linesman.

Enter linesman No.2, saying, "Sorry I'm late, ref.!" No other explanation is offered. How many times has this happened in your experience, and which of the three characters are YOU?.

The late arrival of the Linesman immediately puts the referee on the spot, for he will have little or no time to give his pre-match instructions. The offender will no doubt be more concerned that he is ready to look the part at the kick-off than that he is fully briefed for the game. The pre match instructions and discussions should be made when all three officials are mentally alert, with other problems already attended to.

There will have been no chance at all for the referee and both his linesmen to go out and view the pitch and the physical conditions.

The late arrival of a match official must surely give the wrong impression to the officials of the clubs and also to the referee, or is it, dare we ask, the *right* impression? Is it yet another case of someone having gone to the game with the attitude "I'm *only* running the line today?"

Only, indeed? As if running the line were not of any importance, or in some way generally degrading to the official so appointed!

Any linesman who adopts an attitude like this is being grossly unfair to the referee, who, after all, is the final arbiter. What sort of assistance will the referee honestly be expecting from a man who has arrived casually only a few minutes before the start? The offender is also being grossly unfair and failing in his duty to the two teams. All this is bad enough in itself, but perhaps the biggest tragedy is that he is being grossly unfair to himself, for let there be no doubt about it, lining is an art which is not easily learned. To throw oneself fully into the lining situation is the best way of becoming an effective, valuable linesman who not only wins praise from referees, but who also enjoys lining.

Refereeing and lining are both jobs of the utmost importance, and to be executed properly they both demand physical and mental fitness, a thorough knowledge, determination, concentration and a desire to enjoy the job.

The linesman is not undertaking a second rate task, he is not being made to look inferior to the referee, so why should he ever step out onto the field thinking anything but the best of his job?

Editor's note- Although described as Linesman for junior football this article also applies to higher grade football and Assistant Referees. Hopefully by that stage there will be no "offenders" as described above.

Congratulations Are In Order

North Middlesex Referees Society wishes to congratulate the following members who have been appointed to officiate at Middlesex County FA Cup Finals at the end of this season. The lucky ones are as follows:-

Steve Reuter	Fourth Official	Senior Challenge Cup	Uxbridge FC	1 April 2013	19:30
Darren Fenner	Assistant Referee	Sunday Intermediate Cup	Harefield FC	21 April 2013	11:00
John Fowler	Assistant Referee	Womens Junior Cup	Harefield FC	24 April 2013	19:30
Daniel Lauszkin	Fourth Official	Senior Youth Cup	Enfield FC	6 March 2013	19:30
John Noblemunn	Assistant Referee	Veterans Cup	Hanwell FC	3 April 2013	19:30
George Grant	Assistant Referee	Veterans Cup	Hanwell FC	3 April 2013	19:30
Barry Berndes	Fourth Official	Under 14 Boys Cup	AFC Hayes	3 March 2013	10:30
Kevin Nottage	Referee	Under 16 Girls Cup	Rayners Lane FC	10 March 2013	14:00
Steve Wildgoose	Referee	Under 14 Girls Cup	Rayners Lane FC	10 March 2013	10:30

Special congratulations go to the following who, having completed their six games to become fully qualified referees less than three seasons ago, have been appointed to Youth Finals as follows:-

Vincent Anderson	Assistant Referee	Under 15 Boys Cup	AFC Hayes	14 April 2013	14:00
Sam Sherry	Fourth Official	Under 14 Girls Cup	Rayners L FC	10 March 2013	10:30

The Officers and Council of North Middlesex Referees Society hope you all have an enjoyable occasion.



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The **North Middlesex Referees Society Quiz Nite** is back.

Get your thinking caps on again, as its time for the 2013 Quiz – which this year will take place on Friday 22 March 2013 at Old Owens Association, Coopers Lane, Northaw, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 4NE, commencing at 7:30pm.

Tickets cost £10 each inclusive of a hot buffet.

Teams should consist of no more than 8 players. If you would like to attend, whether you have a team, or will be attending on your own, please let Robin Jagot (Secretary) or Gary Cobden (Treasurer) know. Contact information can be found on the inside front cover.

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

The January and February draws were made at the recent Society meeting, and the winners are shown below. Cheques are either included with this magazine, or will have been sent to you by post if you receive your magazine by e-mail.

January				February		
3	George Basten	£16.40		35	David Page	£23.40
5	Cos Fernandes	£8.20	10	Stan Szplit	£11.70	
2	Gary Cobden	£4.10	5	George Basten	£5.85	

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



Membership Fees for Season 2013/2014 are now due!

Yes ladies and gentlemen, it's time again for my annual message. Your membership subscription for Season 2013/2014 becomes due on 1 April 2013. Where the Society has an e-mail address on file, and you normally receive your magazine by e-mail, you should have received a Membership Form in this way; for everybody else, a Membership Form is included with this month's Normidian.

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

Membership Fees payable are as follows:-

- **Full Members**
 - **£27.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £29.50 if your magazine is received by post.** This includes your Referees Association fee of £16.00 including the Insurance Premium of £4.00. If you are over 75, you are not automatically covered by the Insurance Premium, and your fee payable will be reduced by £4.00. However, should you wish to purchase insurance cover, this can be arranged on request. Please contact me for a proposal form which you need to complete and return to me.
- **Associate Members**
 - **£11.00 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £13.50 if your magazine is received by post.** You must pay your Referees Association fee through another Society, and this should be shown on your Membership Form. Alternatively, you may join as an Associate Member if you have other interest in football work – please indicate as such on your Membership Form.
- **Junior Members**
 - **£15.50 if your magazine is received by e-mail and £18.00 if your magazine is received by post.** For Members under 18 years of age at 1 April, including your Referees Association fee of £10.00.

Individual fees payable are shown on your personalised Membership Form. You are reminded that you will not be covered by the Referees Association Insurance after 31 May 2013 unless your fees have been paid to the Society by that date. Please complete and return your Membership Form as soon as possible. You need to bear this in mind if you will be refereeing late season or early pre-season games.

Some members have also opted to take advantage of the Referees Association Physiotherapy Insurance. Where appropriate, this is also indicated on your membership form, but as this is a voluntary subscription, this is not in the figures quoted above, and you are free to delete this from the remittance shown due if you so desire. If you have not taken advantage of this cover in the past, and now wish to do so, please add the appropriate fee to your remittance and indicate as such on your membership form. You should note that this fee, currently £12.00, will be increasing on 1 April 2013, but the new fee is not known as we went to press. If you want to take advantage of this cover at the current rate you must let me have your remittance as soon as possible. If you require more information about this cover, please let me know, and I will let you have the relevant information.

You can also take this opportunity to join or rejoin the Society One Hundred Club – just complete the appropriate part of the membership Form, and include the additional remittance with your membership fee.

It would be appreciated if you could you all check your details shown on the Form, and amend any information that is shown incorrectly. Additionally, please check that the NPD Number (Registration Number) where shown is correct, and complete it if it is missing from the Membership Form. The number can be found on your County FA Registration Form. If you are not currently registered with a County FA,

please indicate on your form as Not Registered. Please also indicate where requested whether you are an Assessor; Examiner; Instructor; or Mentor.

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

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

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

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



The International Football Association Board – 127th Annual General Meeting – 2 March 2013

The International Football Association Board (IFAB) under the chairmanship of the Scottish FA President Campbell Ogilvie, convened for its Annual General Meeting (AGM) today (Saturday, 2 March 2013) at the Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh, Scotland. Today's meeting was the 127th AGM since the IFAB was formed in 1886. Today's meeting also marked the centenary of FIFA's participation as a member of the IFAB.

Following the IFAB being asked to 'self-reform' as part of FIFA's governance reform proposals at the FIFA Congress 2011, a lengthy and detailed review has taken place, involving the four British Associations, and FIFA. Whilst the IFAB composition will remain unchanged, it was agreed that greater levels of consultation with the game are required to inform and improve decision-making, and provide greater transparency. A presentation was made to the six Confederation general secretaries in Zürich on 26 February and this will be presented to the FIFA Congress 2013 in Mauritius on 30-31 May.

To improve consultation, the IFAB agreed to the formation of two new advisory panels: a Technical Panel – comprising Refereeing experts from across the globe - and a Football Panel, composed of approximately 20 former players and coaches, current coaches, FIFPro and Confederation technical directors.

To provide greater transparency, the proposals also include additional executive secretarial support, with a unit reporting to FIFA's Secretary General. This will include a distinct IFAB identity through an external web platform, detailing all minutes, timelines for decisions, progress on consultation or pilots, and the rationale for the rejection of any proposals.

The IFAB also received an update on the goal-line technology (GLT) project, since the historic decision to approve its introduction at the IFAB Special Meeting on 5 July 2012. Today's meeting agreed that the decision whether to allow replays of goal-line incidents for broadcast purposes and/or on stadium giant-screens, is to be made independently by individual competition organisers.

Also on the subject of GLT, the IFAB agreed each competition organiser should have the autonomy to decide

whether they wish to use GLT in individual matches, or all matches of a tournament.

Amongst the items for discussion was the usage of electronic performance monitoring systems. The Board agreed to form a consultation group, comprised of medics, coaches, former players and IFAB Technical Sub-Committee members to review this matter further.

In relation to the **Laws of the Game**, IFAB approved a clarification of the wording of Law 11 (Offside, Interpretation of the Laws of the Game). The IFAB agreed that the current wording is not precise enough, regarding “interfering with an opponent/gaining an advantage.” The new approved wording can be found in on FIFA.com - <http://www.fifa.com/mm/document/affederation/ifab/02/00/08/29/finalifabagenda01022013.pdf>.

Brief reports were also provided on **Additional Assistant Referees**, and the decision approved last year related to **Law 4 (The Players' Equipment) with regards to the headscarf** – to allow a trial, non-mandatory period – the IFAB reiterated that a final decision will be made at next year's Annual General Meeting.

Finally, a proposal to review Law 8 (The Start and Restart of Play “Dropped Ball”) was postponed for further consultation, with a new proposal to be presented at the 2014 Annual General Meeting. An agreement was also made to form a working group to review the full Laws of the Game to improve clarity where appropriate.

Amendments to **the Laws of the Game** taken today by the IFAB **come into effect on 1 July 2013**.
The 128th Annual General Meeting will take place in Zürich, Switzerland on 28 February - 2 March 2014.

(with thanks to www.fifa.com)



Society Auditor

The Society is currently looking for an additional Auditor to review the Accounts of the Society at the end of the season. If you have a knowledge of accounting, and would like to take on this important role, please contact the Treasurer for more information.



LAST MONTH'S SPEAKER

Our own Stan Rosenthal held court as the February speaker. He went through some possible Law changes for next season, in particular relating to offside and interfering with an opponent whilst clarifying deflections and the drop ball.

He then split the gathered throng into groups with paper and ink pens, in order to discuss such things as definitions of abusive language etc, fair and unfair tackling and various other problems that the Laws throw up. Each team or group gave their definitions out loud and then there was some discussion on the points raised. As a result we spent a very interesting hour and the meeting expressed itself grateful for the presentation.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

Minutes of the Society meeting held on Thursday 15th November 2012 at Holtwhites Sports Centre Enfield

Apologies for Absence: Ken Goldman, Bob Martin and Don Stewart together with those recorded in the Attendance Book

Chairman's Welcome: The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed our Guest Speaker John Moules along with our members.

Minutes of the last Society Meeting: Before the minutes were accepted the Secretary stated that there were a couple of errors in the minutes, which needed to be corrected. The Quiz Evening is to be held on March 22nd 2013 and not March 29th 2013 as printed in the magazine and in the section under "Officer's Report" should read "Stan Rosenthal advised" and not Stan Reed. This having now been dealt with the minutes were signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: None.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary advised the meeting that the R.A. Enquiry would now be completed in early December. A letter from the RA Secretary informing County RA's and their delegates that a meeting will be held to discuss the outcome of the RA Enquiry will be held at Warwickshire University, West Midlands on Sunday 6th January 2013. As Secretary I hope to attend along with Bart O'toole and Gordon Kirby from the AFA/Lonsar Society to complete our County team.

A further reminder and a date for your diary (March 22nd 2013) that the Quiz evening will be held at the Old Owens Sports Club, Potters Bar. Teams of 6-8 required so please try and make up a team and support the evening event. The next Society meeting is the Social Xmas event with a small buffet being laid on. The meeting will be on **Friday 14th March 2012** and not the usual 3rd Thursday. Please come along and enjoy the evening.

Treasurer's Report: Membership Full 77 Associate: 9

Editor's Report: In his absence the Editor reminded members that the deadline for articles is Wednesday 21st November and for the January edition Friday 14th December. A thank you to all those who had contributed and supported the magazine but what about a New Year's resolution for others to write something for the magazine in 2013.

Any Other Officers' Report: None

Any other Business: An issue was raised that some members had difficulty reading the very small print on certain pages in the magazine, which would be looked into to try and resolve. Also it was suggested if a new design of the cover could be considered. With regards to the cover it was recently discussed at Council that it was possible to produce a more colourful/glossy cover, which can be introduced as an experiment for the December issue as a way forward.

Our Guest Speaker John Moules was then introduced and welcomed by our Life Vice President Peter Dace.

Chairman.....

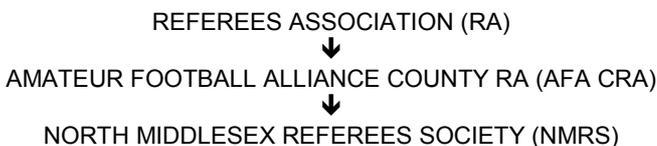
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

The Referees' Association (RA) is the national body for Referees. The RA is independent of, but works closely with, County Football Associations to ensure that matters affecting referees are discussed and resolved. These include law changes, current interpretation, assaults and other problems affecting referees nationally.

North Middlesex Referees Society (NMRS) Is one of some 350 local Referees' societies that are spread all over the country; some are referred to as Societies, others as Branches, Associations, or Clubs. They often work closely with local leagues to aid recruitment, and to ensure that any parochial problems are resolved to the satisfaction of all parties. NMRS meets on a monthly basis throughout the season; Guest Speakers are invited; training sessions are held; social events arranged; and local problems - including Match Incidents - are discussed.

So what is the link between the Society and the National Body? All Societies must be a member of a County Referees Association (CRA). North Middlesex, together with the AFA and London Society of Association Referees, form a County Referees Association known as the Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association (AFA CRA). This Association operates with Officers and a delegate from each Society who, like the Officers and Committee of this Society, are elected annually in a democratic manner. The AFA CRA send a delegate to the locally held annual RA Liaison meeting which reports back to The RA Board, who meet at least four times a year. All delegates and officers of the AFA CRA Committee are elected annually in a democratic manner.

The National Structure for the Society is:



As a full member of NMRS you are a member of the RA.

The Objects of The Referees Association are clearly defined in their rules, and include:

- provide insurance, and financial support for members
- improve the status and reputation of referees.
- protect members from injustice or unfair treatment.
- promote, educate, train and develop referees in general.
- promote the best interests of the game of Association Football.
- provide guidance and support for members of local Societies.

What are the Benefits of RA Membership?

Insurance - The major benefit is the Personal Accident Insurance Policy. For a small amount, the insurance policy covers you whilst actually refereeing; travelling to and from a match; attending meetings (including travelling to and from home); attending organised training; and loss or theft of kit whilst at a match. Full details are available to members on request, as it is now no longer a requirement that each member who has paid the insurance premium is supplied with a copy of the terms of insurance. A range of increased benefits are also available - for an additional premium - and members should contact the insurers direct if they wish to take up these benefits. Additionally, active referees who are over the age of 75 can now be covered by the Insurance subject to an additional premium being paid. Physiotherapy insurance is now also available for a premium of £5.00.

Supplies - A full range of equipment is available from The RA - and often at a lower cost than if you bought it from a local sports shop. By purchasing equipment in bulk, the RA is able to pass the cost savings on to its members. Publications by top names are also available, along with "The Referees' Association Manual of Guidance" which gives advice to the referee on such varied subjects as diet, law queries, training, pre-match preparation, match control and lots more. "The Assessors Challenge" is another book that forms essential reading for every referee and assessor. It deals with every aspect and quality required for promotion. All items are available from the Society's Supplies Officer - although kit may need to be ordered. The Society's Supplies Officer is also able to supply you with kit and other refereeing items from a range of suppliers to make your purchasing requirements easy.

Refereeing is a joint publication of the Football Association and the Referees Association. It is mailed direct to all registered referees by the Football Association. The magazine includes features and updates from the Football Association and items of RA-FA and RA news.

Benevolent Fund - It is hoped that you never have to apply for assistance from the Fund but, sadly, some of our members do fall on hard times through sickness and other reasons. The NMRS Fund is available to all NMRS members, and the RA Fund is also available to full members.

Why do I receive two different Membership Forms each year? You will receive Membership Renewal Forms from both NMRS and the CFA with which you are registered, although not necessarily at the same time. The CFA form will also show the 'three lions' badge of the FA, as the FA now has overall responsibility for the registration of all referees, although you will still be parented by a local CFA. When you successfully completed your six matches, following your completion of the Referees Examination, you were automatically registered with a CFA appropriate to the area in which you live, and this is most likely to have been either Middlesex; London; Hertfordshire; Essex; or the AFA. During your training, you will have been invited to take up Trainee Membership of NMRS. If you want to continue with your refereeing, then registration with a CFA is a compulsory requirement. However, the CFA's and RA-FA are unable to offer you the benefits available locally through NMRS. Whilst your membership of NMRS is entirely voluntary, it is strongly recommended as you will be able to participate in regular meetings held throughout the season - on local territory with the opportunity to discuss relevant local matters; meet and hear Guest Speakers; and receive regular training updates, along with the other benefits outlined above.

Note

Abbreviations that are commonly used in magazine articles or in reports at meetings.

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

Updated July 2011

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except December – second Friday) commencing at 7:30 pm, at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RN
Telephone: 020 8363 4449

Dates for Season 2012/2013:- September 20; October 18; November 15; December 14 2012 (second Friday); and January 17; February 21; March 21; April 18; May 16 2013



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

If anybody has difficulty reaching the venue, and would like assistance, please contact one of the Society Officers – whose details are on the inside front cover.

OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE NORMIDIAN EDITORIALY, OR BY CONTRIBUTORS, DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY.

ARTICLES SUBMITTED FOR INCLUSION IN THE MAGAZINE MAY BE AMENDED BY THE EDITOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH EDITORIAL POLICY.

PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO REPRODUCE MATERIAL WITH A SUITABLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

THE SOCIETY WAS FORMED AT THE CROWN PUBLIC HOUSE, SOUTHGATE, LONDON, N14
ON 20th JANUARY 1949