

The Normidian Magazine

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES' SOCIETY



May 2010

COUNCIL 2009 - 2010

PRESIDENT

Terry Wilson 25, Brookside Crescent, Cuffley, Hertfordshire, EN6 4QW 01707 889585
E-Mail - president@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

CHAIRMAN

Tom White 82, Graeme Road, Enfield, Middlesex, EN1 3UT 020 8366 4703
E-Mail - chairman@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Vince Yeudall 2, Churston Gardens, New Southgate, London, N11 2NL 020 8245 5695
E-Mail - vicechair@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

SECRETARY

Robin Jagot 24, Tiverton Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 5HY 01707 651461
E-Mail - secretary@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

TREASURER

Gary Cobden 2, Chapel End, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8DN 01992 469153
E-Mail - treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

SOCIAL SECRETARY Position Vacant

MAGAZINE EDITOR

Ken Goldman 17, Green Walk, Hendon, London, NW4 2AL 020 8203 1376
E-Mail – kengoldman@btinternet.com

TRAINING SECRETARY

Stan Rosenthal 40, Slades Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 7EE 020 8367 2579
E-Mail - training@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

GEAR SUPPLIES

Percy Brown 33, Cotton Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 5JT 01707 851369
E-Mail - supplies@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

COUNTY RA DELEGATE

Charles Lifford Address Withheld Withheld
E-Mail - cra@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Martin De La Fuente 7, De Soissons Close, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL8 6YX. 01707 321502
E-Mail - councilone@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

Michael Mackey (Snr) 46, Latymer Road, Edmonton, London, N9 9PU 020 8807 4898
E-Mail - counciltwo@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

Michael Mackey (Jnr) 46, Latymer Road, Edmonton, London, N9 9PU 020 8807 4898
E-Mail - councilthree@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

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

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Please notify Gary Cobden

HONORARY AUDITORS 2009-2010

Jim Taylor 020 8560 8262 Tim McGowan 07793 402610

LIFE VICE PRESIDENTS

George Basten	Peter Dace	Ken Goldman
Terry Hayne	Robin Jagot	Brian Langstone
Mick Osborn	Arthur Stewart	Tony Ward

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 North Middlesex Referees' Society will take place at the Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield, Middlesex at 7.45 pm on Thursday the 20th May 2010. This is a particularly important meeting since it is the Society's Annual General Meeting. As usual our Secretary Robin Jagot will follow the formal business with a quiz where he informs there will be excellent prizes for the winners.

EDITORIAL

With the World Cup in mind I return to the vexed question of the positioning of referees at the set pieces of corners and free kicks anywhere up to 35 yards out. There is no doubt that the current viewpoint at these set pieces is going to cause innumerable problems with pulling pushing and particularly holding at corners. The situation at free kicks will also cause controversy with the possibility of balls crossing goal lines between the posts and under the bar as the Law specifies. Currently to refresh the memory the referee typically counts out the ten yards and then retreats level with the kicker leaving the Assistant obviously to take off side. If the ball strikes the bar and bounces down over the line it is very much hit or miss whether it is spotted and more often than not as there is uncertainty the referee has no alternative but to play on. It is therefore particularly infuriating to realise how easy it is to overcome this problem and what stupidity it is to continue the "modern" method. To take a typical example of what used to occur I can recount what occurred in one of my own matches recently. I awarded the direct free kick and then counted out the distance, but instead of retreating I carried on and stood by the goal line. Whereupon the attacker's chip shot over the ball beat the keeper, hit the underside of the bar and bounced down over the line and out again. It was almost a repeat of 1966 and all that. However my positioning was such that I was almost the only one who could tell that it was a goal and if I had taken up the new position rather than the old one advocated some years back, I would never have been able to have known whether the ball had crossed the line and so would have refused the goal.

The same situation obtains at corners where frequently the referee positions himself/herself outside the penalty area. Whether this is because the game is faster now and there is a fear of being caught out of position if the ball is cleared downfield I do not know, but the things that I have mentioned above take place more readily nowadays and referees do not pick up the blocking off of defenders by attackers and the pulling by defenders and in some instances the dragging to the ground of opponents. That does not even take into consideration what attackers do to obstruct or impede the goalkeepers. Abroad the keeper is often more protected when he/she goes up to catch the ball but in England it has become a free for all with the keeper often blocked on the line. The referee being too far away at this set piece often does not even look at the keeper trying to peer in and see all the infringements that are occurring. Many years ago I played in a Cup Final refereed by a Mr Macabe a World Cup referee and it was at the time that Jackie Charlton was causing so much trouble virtually obstructing goalkeepers. At one corner he came up to one of our opponents who was standing in front of our keeper and said to him "You won't do too much good for yourself there as I am watching you" Sure enough as the corner swung over and the attacker made little attempt to head the ball the Referee blew up and gave a foul against him. I have always remembered that and introduced it into my own refereeing. Basically the view I take is that if the player stands there but moves away from the keeper when the kick is taken with an obvious attempt to get involved with the play then fine. If however he merely stands there, or looks at the keeper first or follows the keeper around when the keeper is positioning himself then alarm bells start to ring and I am looking for a foul on the keeper and some possible "afters" which clearly I try to avoid. Obviously this is

quite literally going over old ground but these are matters to consider and indeed which will have to be considered during the forthcoming World Cup Finals.

The season is rapidly drawing to a close as this is written and it is a chance to look back at the experiment of 5 Officials in the Europa League. The general belief so I understand it is that it has done nothing of not other than to give 2 extra Officials some bunce money. Mistakes have occurred even though these extra Officials have been on the goal line including mistaken identity. Michele Platini is going to press for the system to be introduced and for those at grass roots level it will certainly make no difference whether it comes in or not. Sky Sports has conducted an in depth survey that says that at the grass roots level there are a considerable number of players leaving the 11-a-side game for good in favour of 5-a-side football. One of the reasons stated was the shortage of referees as well as lack of discipline and respect for the referee leading to lack of respect by the players for each other. There were also complaints that referees, frightened of threats and intimidation were not punishing wrong doers many of whom came on the pitch in Sunday games after a night out on the booze either sufficiently or at all. There is later in this edition a short piece recording a survey by the Cricket authorities on cheating at youth level. Let us hope that next season we will see some considerable improvement in what appear to be depressing reports.

Finally relating to the state of playing the game is another depressing habit of either diving or going down as if pole-axed when an illegal challenge takes place. Most experienced referees will know when a foul is committed without all the histrionics and it is simply a disgrace to try to con the referee especially to get an opponent either cautioned or worse still sent off .This season it appears to me that we have seen more often on televised games which in turn as previously indicated means we see it more on the parks as well.

On a happier note hopefully many of our members will have either gained honours or plums to round off their season and those going for promotion will have secured it. Do not forget that the forthcoming Monthly Meeting is the AGM and it is essential that as many people turn up as possible and exercise their vote, which is particularly apt this year.

As this is the last Magazine of the season may I thank all who have submitted articles and in particular some of my regulars –Peter Dace, Gary Cobden, Mick Osborn Observer and Robin Jagot.

Ken Goldman
Editor

Apology

As we all know it is a great feat to officiate in 3000 games and Peter Dace not only accomplished that but wrote an article about it in an early magazine, As Editor I fell deeply into two platitudes, namely "gilding the Lilly" and following the "road to hell which is paved with good intentions". Thus I made some alterations to Peter's article which I should not have done without his consent a thing no Editor should do and I wish to put my apology to him in writing, which as can be seen, appears here. Incidentally the Society will mark Peter's feat (not feet) at a later date so watch out for that.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of North Middlesex Referees Society will be held on Thursday, 20th May 2010 commencing at 7.30 pm at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, off Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex. EN2 0RU

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To CONFIRM the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
3. To CONSIDER any matters arising therefrom.
4. To RECEIVE a report from the Secretary.
5. To RECEIVE a report from the Treasurer together with the audited accounts.
6. To RECEIVE a report from the Honorary Auditors.
7. To RECEIVE any reports from the Council and Officers.
8. To CONSIDER any change to the Society Rules.
9. To ELECT Officers and Council for the ensuing year.

The following proposals have been made in accordance with the existing Society Rules –

President	Terry Wilson		
Chairman	Tom White	Vice Chairman	Vince Yeudall
Secretary	Robin Jagot	Treasurer	Gary Cobden
Editor	Ken Goldman	Training Officer	Stan Rosenthal
Gear Supplies	Percy Brown	RA Delegate	Charles Lifford
Council Members: Martin de la Fuente, Michael Mackey Snr, Michael Mackey Jnr			
Mentoring Officer Vacant			

10. To ELECT Honorary Auditors currently T. McGowan and Jim Taylor

11. To CONSIDER the following motion –

That this Annual General Meeting places on record its thanks to the Officers and Council for their work during the past year, and express appreciation of the conduct of the affairs of the Society.

12. Any Other Business

Robin Jagot

Honorary Secretary
24 Tiverton Road
Potters Bar
Hertfordshire, EN6 5HY

Note: A quorum of at least 10 members is required in order for the Annual General Meeting to take place. Members are asked to make every effort to attend the AGM which is an important event in the calendar year of the Society.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday May 21st 2009 at the Holtwhites Sports Centre

Apologies: Mick Osborn, Terry Hayne, Tony Ward and Terry Wilson, President

To confirm the minutes of the last AGM held on May 15th 2008: Before the minutes could be signed the Secretary requested two amendments be considered and accepted by those present. In the Treasurer's report it states £300 was put aside for the forthcoming 60th Dinner Celebrations this should read £350. The proposal for President should read proposed by Michael Mackey Snr, and seconded by Michael Mackey Jnr. The amendments were accepted and the minutes signed as a true record.

Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary thanked the officers and members for their continued support over the year and felt while it was becoming more difficult to recruit new members the Society attendances had increased slightly over the year. The 60th annual dinner celebration had proved to be a huge success and thanks must go to all those who contributed and those who took part in the celebration. Secretary suggested we must have someone responsible to organise and arrange quality guest speakers for the future, as this will attract more members to attend. The Secretary informed members that he had two copies of a new design for the front-page cover of the Society magazine, which will be on display for all to see throughout and after the meeting. Feedback would be helpful from the membership, which will be discussed at the summer Council meeting in July.

Treasurer's Report: A full set of accounts for the season 2008/2009 was presented to the meeting with the Society making an overall loss of £263. This was mainly due to the 60th dinner celebration. The treasurer suggested that the Society's annual subscription for next season continues to remain the same. The accounts this year had been checked and audited by Tim McGowan and Jim Taylor. The meeting approved the accounts and thanked the Treasurer once again for his efforts over the year. It was agreed by those present that a letter of confirmation should be obtained from the Auditors. The Secretary said he would write to the Auditors for endorsement of the accounts.

Editor's Report: The editor wished to place on record his thanks to all those who had contributed to articles in the magazine over the season and trust it will continue as he wished to ensure at least a twelve page magazine for the future.

Any Other Officer's Report: None

Election of Chairman: The election of Chairman duly took place and LVP Ken Goldman asked for nominations: -

It was proposed by Lockie Bramzell and seconded by Roger Fox that Tom White be duly elected, and with no other nominations, Tom White was elected Chairman for season 2009/2010.

Election of Officers: The following officers were elected "en bloc" Proposed – Michael Mackey Senior
Seconded - Stan Rosenthal

Vice Chairman – Vince Yeudall, **Secretary** – Robin Jagot, **Treasurer** – Gary Cobden, **Editor** – Ken Goldman, **Training Secretary** – Stan Rosenthal, **Gears Supplies** – Percy Brown, **R.A. Delegate** – Charles Lifford, **Council Members** – Martin De La Fuente, Michael Mackey Snr, Michael Mackey Jnr.

Auditors Elected - Tim McGowan and Jim Taylor. Proposed – Gary Cobden Seconded – Ken Goldman

To consider the following Rule Change: Existing Rule- The Society Council shall hold at least 4 meetings a year.

Change of Rule: The Society shall hold at least 2 meetings a year. Proposed – Gary Cobden Seconded - Terry Wilson.

A vote was taken and the new rule was unanimously accepted.

New Proposal: A proposal had been submitted for a decision of the AGM for Honorary Membership of NMRS for Trainee Referees. The Proposal is attached to these minutes – Proposed – Stan Rosenthal Seconded – Michael Mackey Jnr.

Several points were raised by members on the issue of “Trainee Referees” receiving free membership with the Society.

The Chairman allowed considerable time for discussion to take place and the proposal was then placed before the AGM and was carried by 22 votes with 2 votes against.

To Consider the following motion: That this Annual General Meeting places on record its thanks to the Officers and Council for their work during the past year, and express appreciation of the conduct of the affairs of the Society.

Proposed – Peter Peters

Any Other Business: The Secretary informed the meeting that the two F A Cup Tickets from MCFA had been allocated to the Society and the lucky members were Peter Peters and Russell Brooks. Peter Dace raised a question if it would be possible to give every member in the Society an opportunity to have the chance of winning an F A Cup Final ticket. He felt this would give equal opportunity to all the membership.

A debate ensued and some members were more than happy with the present system. The Chairman stated that the issue of Cup Final tickets will be placed on the agenda to discuss at the July Council meeting.

The Secretary requested members to make a note of the Presentation Evening of Mick Osborn’s R.A. Meritorious Service Award which had been originally arranged for Thursday 10th December 7.30pm for 8.00pm. At the time of typing these minutes I can now confirm that the date has been moved forward to Monday 14th December and the event will be held at the Holtwhites Sports Centre, Enfield 7.30pm for 8.00pm.

There being no other business the AGM closed at 8.55pm and the Chairman thanked all those for being present.

The members then took a five-minute break and resumed with a General Knowledge Quiz arranged by the Secretary with valuable prizes to be won.

Chairman

Last Month's Guest Speaker

Thanks to the good offices of Peter Dace who worked so hard to get him we had as our guest speaker last month, the 1974 World Cup Referee Jack Taylor. We are pleased to say that we also had the highest attendance in the hall this season. Jack showed his love for the game throughout his initial talk followed by a question and answer session where he was joined by our own World Cup Assistant Phil Sharp who added another dimension Peter Dace introduced our speaker and pointed out that he had driven down from Wolverhampton that evening and was returning to Wolverhampton the same night and all this as he was about to celebrate his 80th Birthday in May. In a quick response Jack thanked Peter for reminding him and everyone else about his age.

Jack then went on to give a quick history of how he had grown up wanting to play but finding out that he would not make a professional turned his attention to Refereeing and had success at a very early age, with promotions following on thick and fast, including an early International call up. Many of the stories and anecdotes that followed were of great interest as well as humour but the writer was asked to keep many of these private within the room, so they will not appear here. Suffice it to say Jack was not slow in coming forward about some of the characters in the game both past and present including the media. After the opening talk Jack three open the meeting to questions from the floor and although many people pressed him on the 1974 Final he appeared too modest and embarrassed to go into it with any depth, preferring to keep it on the periphery. What he did deal with was the problems that occurred in the 1966 and 1970 World Cups including the refereeing problems, which were ironed out by the time the 1974 Finals arrived. Jack's talk also included the winding down of his refereeing career and an overall look at some of the great characters he had come across during his time in the game. He talked briefly of his time as Commercial Director of his great love Wolverhampton Wanderers and all that entailed and what he is currently doing in the game

However of great importance during Jack's speech were the little hints and tips he threw out especially to younger members of the audience. In particular he emphasised that "refereeing is still all about man-management" plus "encountering problems" and "learning from one's mistakes". The Meeting continued apace when Phil Sharp joined Jack at the front of the room and he too answered questions both from a lining perspective and his own World Cup experiences.

A wonderful evening that all who were there will not forget for many a year. The vote of thanks was given by your Editor.

NB. There is an excellent photo of Jack and Phil taken by Gary Cobden, on the Society's website which is well worth a look.

TWO REFEREES BY OBSERVER

There has been quite a bit written lately on this subject and the ideas put forward by the FIFA are based on the evidence of the two referee system were compiled by experiments in England during the Seventies under the initiation of Colonel Pip Newton, Chairman of the Army Football Association.

The most obvious advantage is the halving of physical stress, under which, at present, a referee is running more than 12 kilometres in a match, one fifth of that involving sprinting.

Equally significant, the referee is removed, in the two-referee system, from the central 'furnace' of the field, the focus of the dispute for possession.

Many other benefits derive from the two-referee system, including the comparative anonymity of the two referees compared to one.

It has to counteract the acts of violence and to improve the game".

A problem with the two-referee system is that the universality of application of the laws in some 20 million matches played annually.

For much of football, two referees would assist by reducing the number of officials from three to two, but the probability would be that major commercial football would retain the use, additionally, of two assistant referees.

The biggest resistance to the two-referee system comes, unsurprisingly, from the referees themselves, who are reluctant to lose their prestige and status as the single man-in-the-middle. Referees are no less ambitious than people in any other walk of life and their vanity is to be detected by the number of permanent wave hair styles now to be seen in televised matches throughout the world.

Statistically, it is a fact, that the older the referee, the fewer penalties and the fewer yellow or red cards that are awarded. The peak of a referee's career is considered to be between 35 and 40.

Some of us are past it before we even start a career in refereeing.

The older referees protect themselves by awarding more free kicks in favour of a defending team. There are nine offences for awarding a free kick, including mere pushing, which therefore should be penalty kicks for offences in the penalty area.

How many do you give?

There are 12 points in favour of the two-referee system at top-level football matches.

1. By removing the identity, on critical decision, from one official, by both the players and the crowd, emotion is reduced. Two referees become relatively impersonal.

Psychologically, it is more difficult for the teams and crowd to be angry with two officials instead of one.

2. The physical demand is reduced, allowing each referee to bring a calmer assessment to each decision.

3. While each of two referees has a clear, unobstructed view, two dimensionally, the third dimension is not lost because there are simultaneously two views from differing positions.

4. Because the whistle - preferably by, but not necessarily from, the nearer referee - may come from two directions, players are more conscious of 'unseen' surveillance and less inclined to attempt foul play behind the referee's back. Behind-the-referee's-back no longer exists.
5. The system allows more spontaneous decisions on offside by the referee level with breakaway play.
6. Both 'ends' of a free kick, the kicking point and the arrival point, can be simultaneously and separately controlled: one referee controlling the defensive wall, the other controlling the obstruction or fouling in the penalty area, where the proximity of an additional whistle close to play is invaluable.
7. The probability of one or other of the referees being within a few metres of any foul or free kick reduces the players' instinctive reaction that the referee could not have seen clearly.
8. The referee is removed from the central, congested area of the field, the focus of so much challenge for possession, where referees are increasingly seen to be unintentionally obstructing the play.
9. Because players instinctively move with the ball away from the referee, when two referees are positioned on the flanks players turn inwards.
10. With two referees, it is less possible for players verbally to attempt to influence the referee during play.
11. Any club attempting to bribe an official now has to include, vulnerably, two people in the 'secret'.
12. While, in the universality of the operation of the laws, officials are reduced from three to two, two referees are better able to judge touchline or goal line decisions.

SO WHAT IS YOUR OPINION GOOD OR BAD?

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Late Flag

Vince Yeudall and Lockie Bramzell represented the Society at the funeral of Shirley Davies the late wife of old friend and members John Davies.

Les Kyprianou and Keith Hiller won the raffle for the two FA Cup Final Tickets for the game between Chelsea and Portsmouth.

This Year's RA Conference will take place at Solihull on June the 4th to the 6th inclusive.

The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Let's start by recalling the events so far – here we are at pitch 165 at Hackney Marshes the teams are Cockfosters Casuals verses Reds Rovers, the match is goal less, I have cautioned the Rovers number two and sent off the Rovers number ten and oh yes we have only played ten minutes.

So here we are now in the eleventh minute and I would like to think that I am in control of things. The Rovers captain drew to my attention that the Casuals number eight had left the field of play and then returned. I thanked the player and when play next stopped I spoke to the other player. "Did you leave the field of play without my permission". "Yes" he replied. "I had a nose bleed so I did not want to bother you so I left the pitch, stopped the bleeding and returned all with out any fuss to anybody". "So you not only left the field of play without my permission but you also then re-entered the field of play without my permission plus you did not let me check to see the injury was okay and that all the blood had been wiped away. I should check everything is okay if any blood is concerned." I duly produced a yellow card then I held up the card again followed by a red card. The player was furious. "One caution I can accept but two". I explained "Two infringements of law so therefore two cautions". I knew once again that I was correct in law to do so.

A little while on I awarded a free kick to Rovers and I told the Casuals player to retreat ten yards. Only on my second request he did retreat a few more yards then he bent down to tie his shoe laces. I again requested that he should move but he continued with the laces. I produced a yellow card, "You cannot book a player for tying his laces, unbelievable"! I explained it was not for the laces but he was not listening.

After a corner was taken a player was injured. He received treatment and I asked the player to leave the field of play. "Ref, this is not the Premier league." I replied "No it is not but it is what the laws state".

Little did I realize what would happen next! Another corner kick was taken and the same attacking player and the opposing goal keeper lay on the ground injured. Both required treatment and as we all know the goal keeper is not required to leave the field of play. I knew in this instance and only this instance that the out field player is not required to go off. Dissent followed with “You are so inconsistent. One minute a player gets injured and the next minute the same player again gets injured and does not have to go off. I wish you would make your mind up Ref. You don’t seem to know what you are doing”. I duly cautioned the player for those comments.

I was hoping by now the players had realized I would not take any dissent and only wanted to apply the law fairly and correctly. On awarding a throw on to Casuals the player took the throw and deliberately threw the ball onto an opponent’s back then played the ball a second time. I gave an indirect free kick to the Rovers. “What did I do wrong?” asked the player who took the throw. I explained he had played the ball twice. “But it came off another player so I have not played it twice”. I thought about what he had said. “Okay, you are right but you threw the ball at an opponent and that is unsporting behaviour”. The player said it was okay to throw the ball at an opponent and play the rebound. I felt the player had carried on too long so I cautioned him for dissent and restarted with a drop ball. Again I knew this was a law eighteen situation again.

Well that takes us to the twenty minute mark. Was I correct for all those decisions, of course I was, and after all I am the referee so I must be correct.

Lots of discussion points for you and another seventy minutes yet to go. Bet you can’t wait to read what happened next!

Keep on Whistling

Regards

Willy ‘The Whistler’ Woodwork

March Guest Speaker

Jon Whittingham Middlesex FA – Football Development Officer for People with Disabilities

Chairman, Tom White, warmly welcomed our special guest, Jon Whittingham. Jon thanked the Chairman for the invitation to speak at the meeting and said that North Middlesex was the first Society to extend an invitation to him to speak on Disability Football.

Jon explained that prior to 1999, FA support for disability football was limited. The first football Disability Strategy came in 2003, followed in 2004 by the appointment of Jeff Davis, the FA's National Development Manager (Disability). In 2008 the National Game strategy was implemented and the FA is now the world leading governing body in the development of disability football with 6 national impairment specific pathways to access. Disability Football within Middlesex has been growing steadily since the introduction of a fulltime Football Development Officer for Disability in July 2007 and Schools and Clubs are now engaged in coaching and competitive games with the pinnacle at a County level being the FA Centre of Excellence, all of which has led to an increase in the number of non-disabled volunteers within the game. The game has been adapted to include 6 different classifications:

Learning Difficulties – eligible players must have a learning intellectual disability as defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) this is currently someone who has an IQ range of less than 70. Eligible players would have received supported or special education. There are no rule adaptations and FIFA rules are applied and games are 11 v 11. Rolling subs ensure players can take a further part in the game. There are various local, regional and national competitions held by organisations such as Gateway and the Special Olympics. The Ability Counts programme also includes regional and national competitions. The International Sports Federation for persons with an Intellectual Disability (INAS-FID) stage European Championships and World Championships every four years. Referees, and others should assess the level of understanding of players and treat them by their age, avoiding jargon and using demonstrations – repeated if necessary. Referees will need a degree of patience and understanding.

Cerebral Palsy – football is available to players who are ambulant and are within the CP classification spectrum of 5 to 8. Rules are adapted to enable two halves of 30 minutes duration with no offsides and the game is played 7 v 7. The pitch size is 55m by 75m with a goal width of 27m. Players are allowed to roll or throw the ball back into play with hemiplegia, (i.e. paralysis of one side of the body). Considerations include the fact that impairment becomes more noticeable when the individual is fatigued. Cerebral Palsy is not a disease or illness and symptom and severity ranges; the condition impairs co-ordination, tone and strength of muscle action. Also, no two people with CP are alike and impairment becomes more noticeable with fatigue.

Visually Impaired (Blind and Partially Sighted) – Partially Sighted players are classified according to their level of sight as B1, B2 or B3. Players who have B1 classification are considered blind; players who have B2 and B3 are classed as visually impaired. In Blind football (B1) the game is played on a solid surface with 3 officials for each game. Play is 25 minutes each way with 5 players in each team. Outfield players are “blind” in that they wear eye shields and blindfolds are worn during games. The goalkeeper can be either sighted or partially sighted and is not allowed out of the box. Boarding prevents the ball going out of play and the ball contains ball bearings to make a noise when it moves. “Voi” must be shouted before a challenge is made – it is a foul if not called. During play spectators must be quiet so the players can hear the ball – the referee controls this. Players may need guidance to and from the pitch, or at set pieces, and the referee should have an understanding of what is clumsy and what is intentional in challenges. Partially Sighted football (B2 & B3) use the same rules as Futsal (similar to five-a-side but the ball is allowed above head height). Games are indoors with a size 4 ball and goalkeepers are sighted. A drop ball is replaced by indirect free-kick. Consideration should be given to environmental factors that can influence communication e.g. the amount of available light and background noise. Players may wear sports spectacles in friendly games but not tournaments (FIFA guidelines). European and World Championships are held in a two-year cycle.

Amputees – outfield players are either above or below the knee single-leg amputees who play without prostheses on aluminium wrist crutches. Goalkeepers are single-arm amputees and are not allowed out of the penalty area. Play is 25 minutes each way and there are no offsides. In international competition there are seven players in each team with unlimited substitutions. Other rule adaptations include no offsides, pitch and goal sizes are different and slide tackles are not allowed. A direct free kick for handball is awarded if a player hits the ball or another player with one of his crutches. Players are not allowed to touch the ball with their stump and the goalkeeper is not allowed to save the ball with the stump – a penalty is awarded if this rule is broken. Considerations: the wearing of prosthetic limbs/devices is not allowed during match play; players are using more energy and need more drinks breaks; care for ‘stump’ and difficulty in regulating body temperature. World Championships and European Championships are every two years.

Hearing Impaired (Deaf) – all players must have hearing loss of 55% in their better ear to qualify for games specifically for deaf people. Rules are as laid down by FIFA and games are 11 v 11. Players must not wear hearing aids during the game. There are 15 deaf football clubs in England playing in non-disabled leagues at weekends and two national cup competitions annually for male and female deaf players. There are many 5 a-side competitions held throughout the year and European and World Championships are every four years. Deaflympic games are held every four years. Considerations include the need to assess the level of understanding of players and to make sure you are facing players when talking to aid those who lip-read. Don't shout and make sure your face is lit and use gestures, signals or basic signing or write instructions down. Establish quick and easy signs understood by all players and be aware of frustration/anger when things don't go their way. Use a flag as well as a whistle to stop play. If using signing interpreters, ensure they are well briefed prior to the session or match.

Wheelchair football – there are three alternative versions of the game – powered, manual and dual wheelchair football. Powered wheelchair football is the only regulated form of the game. Goals are 6 meters apart and the game is played by two teams of four on a pitch the same size as a basketball court; the ball is leather and 50cm in diameter. Tackling is footguard to footguard, no contact is allowed on any other part of the chair and a free kick is awarded if 2 teammates and an opponent are within 3m of the ball and gaining an advantage or interfering with play. Only 2 players from the defending team may enter the penalty area at any one time – playing time is 20 minutes each way. Wheelchair football is being developed through the Wheelchair FA, the FA and County FAs. A National League of 19 teams play on a central venue basis and there are friendly leagues in the Midlands and the South East. The most common disabilities in Wheelchair football are Muscular Dystrophy and Cerebral Palsy. Referees are advised not to bend down to chair level when talking to a player. Also if a player needs help then they will ask – never assume they need help. Players sometimes get cold hands, which limits their driving ability and can cause crashes.

Many disabled people play in what are known as PAN disability teams, for players with a range of disabilities. Rule changes are implemented according to the disability classification with the purpose of keeping the game as close to the mainstream version as possible.

In conclusion, we were asked why we thought disabled people wanted to become involved in football/sport. Members identified a number of reasons including: enjoyment; participation; friendship; success; self-esteem/confidence; learning how to handle pressure and stress; how to cope with disappointments and setbacks as well as success and learning how to take responsibility.

Jon Whittingham emphasised that these reasons are the same as for able-bodied players, but they are particularly important for disabled participants as they also gain greater confidence, increased fitness and mobility.

Jeff Till gave a vote of thanks to our Special Guest, who, he said, had expertly given the members present a completely new outlook on disabled people involved in sport, and football in particular.

Terry Wilson

ASSESSORS AND REFEREES by OBSERVER

REFEREES

What does an assessor look for in a referee?

Is he smart?

Does he look the part?

Does he look neat and tidy?

Has he clean boots?

Does he inspire confidence?

Players notice this and remember, you never get a second chance to make a first impression."

Once the game has started, the first factor that the assessor looks for is whether and how the referee controls the game. There are different ways of refereeing, some are loud, and some are quiet. The method doesn't matter as long as they have control.

The first ten minutes of a game are absolutely vital, be careful if you apply the advantage clause early on. If you take chances in the early part of the game, the players may see it, as you, not penalising certain offences. Also, early in the match, let the players know that you are there.

Take the first opportunity to maintain your control. Use your cautions wisely. If you start your cautions at too low a level of offence, you can have problems later on. You could end up with a book full, in a game that didn't really merit it.

But, at any time in the match, if the law is mandatory and says 'he shall be cautioned', caution him.

At an injury situation have a word with the players, you can learn a lot about players by their facial expression and reaction to an injury. If the player is aggressive, you may have to try an aggressive approach later on.

An assessor will watch at set pieces, he will check that the referee can see the linesman from the position that is taken up. He will want to see if the referee can 'read ' the game':

Does he vary his position at corner kicks?

Where does he stand for throw-ins?

Does he vary his running area?

Does he keep his linesmen in view?

Is he within reasonable proximity of an incident?

Can he run backwards when necessary?

Does he have a glance at the goal area after the scoring of a goal? (Very important)

Referees on the local parks must ask themselves are they are still as active in the last minute as the first.

It was not necessary for the man in black to be an Olympic athlete; he has, however, to be able to be close to an incident. An incorrect decision from 10 yards is often received better than a correct decision from 45 yards. An assessor will ask himself if the referee was up with play or 'continually behind the play'.

If you shirk your training you become less fit. It's that simple.

When the whistle is blown let everyone hear it. Let it speak for itself, a long hard blow for a serious foul, a shorter blast for a more technical offence.

The assessor will also give his opinion on whether the voice is authoritative?

Does it exercise control?

Don't worry about playing the advantage. Sometimes it works; sometimes it doesn't, but if you're playing it, let everybody know.

When it comes to stoppages it is imperative to get the game moving as quickly as possible. You will find that you do get trouble when the ball is moving, only when it's stationary.

Always remember to play the full amount of additional time. If there is six minutes additional time because of time wasting and injuries, then play the full amount. You have no right to deprive players of their correct allowance.

What a referee must be aware of is the ever-increasing amount of gamesmanship in today's game. They must be aware of time wasting tactics (throwing the ball away or deliberately going offside) and other tactics designed to delay the game.

You should always treat players with respect at all times.

ASSESSORS

Assessors are guardians of referees' standards at any level. It doesn't matter whether the man in the middle is at the top of the tree or in his first season on the local park.

The purpose of assessments is two folds: -

- 1) As a means for leagues to decide who should be retained (or removed) from their list.
- 2) For the purpose conveying of advice to younger referees. The job has to be done fairly, both for the league or competition, and most importantly for the referee himself.

A young referee is going to be tested as soon as he enters the field of play whether it is the first match or the one hundredth. If the game is to keep these referees, should they not be assessed in their first five or six games? Statistics show that it is in the early days, which are the difficult ones and that, is when they need help. The assessors must help the new recruit as much as possible.

Why not give the newly qualify referees name to the Area Assessing Secretary to see if he can be fitted into being watched on his first match?

A Class 2 referee can adequately assess a Class 3 colleague, though higher up the scale an assessor should have at least had experience at the level he's assessing.

The assessor must be at the ground early, to see how the referee enters the field of play. It might seem obvious, but check you're at the right ground and looking at the right referee. He must find the home club secretary, to check that the referee is the correct one.

If however, it's a different referee, you can still do a progress report. The County Football Association and the referee himself will appreciate it. Keep out of the way and try not to advertise your presence. The assessor would like to see the referee as he is and not him performing for the assessor.

Above all, don't approach the referee, during the match.

If you have a need to, in the case of a Class 3, if it is his first assessment, make yourself known after the game.

You will have walked round the pitch several times, but don't watch the game, watch the referee. Make notes in a notebook, have it already mapped out with the sections of the pitch and use the sections. It will help create a picture.

Be objective, there are more ways of killing a pig than slitting its throat.

The fact that the referee doesn't do something the way you do isn't important.

Another trap that the assessor sometimes falls into is not giving the referee credit when it has been an easy game. Credit must be given to the referee at all time.

Don't sit on the fence if it's been an easy game to handle and if the referees had a good game, give the referee a good mark.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY
Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 March 2010

2009	INCOME	2010		2009
1,165.00	By Subscriptions (99 Full Members; 6 Associate Members)	1,039.50	-10.77% Worse	(125.50)
342.12	.. Bank Deposit Interest	96.74	-71.72% Worse	(245.38)
105.80	.. Donations	95.90	-9.38% Worse	(9.90)
108.00	.. Raffle Proceeds	11.00	-89.81% Worse	(97.00)
160.00	.. Advertisements	160.00	0.00% No Change	0.00
123.00	.. 100 Club	125.40	1.95% Better	2.40
24.32	.. Gear Sales Surplus	62.04	155.12% Better	37.72
42.24	.. 50th Anniversary Book	20.59	-51.25% Worse	(21.65)
64.37	.. Miscellaneous Income	31.20	-51.53% Worse	(33.17)
<u>2,134.85</u>		<u>1,642.37</u>	-23.07% Worse	<u>(492.48)</u>
 EXPENDITURE				
877.93	To Normidian Expenses (including Postage)	684.89	-21.99% Better	(193.04)
14.71	.. Postage/Telephones/Stationery/Misc	28.37	92.86% Worse	13.66
360.00	.. Hire of Meeting Halls	360.00	0.00% No Change	0.00
75.98	.. Guest Speaker Expenses (inc NMRS Books)	47.40	-37.62% Better	(28.58)
0.00	.. RA Conference Delegate	69.00	100.00% Worse	69.00
213.00	.. Life Vice Presidents	231.00	8.45% Worse	18.00
551.66	.. 60th Anniversary Dinner	0.00	-100.00% Better	(551.66)
50.42	.. Miscellaneous Expenditure	13.00	-74.22% Better	(37.42)
137.64	.. Presentation Expenses	248.48	80.53% Better	110.84
<u>2,281.34</u>		<u>1,682.14</u>	-26.27% Better	<u>(599.20)</u>
(146.49)	GROSS EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	(39.77)	-72.85% Worse	106.72
 DEPRECIATION				
36.35	Internet Domain Name	51.22	40.91% Worse	14.87
49.75	Training School Stocks	0.00	-100.00% Better	(49.75)
12.69	Social Stocks	0.00	-100.00% Worse	(12.69)
98.79		51.22	-48.15% Better	(47.57)
21.57	Provision for Corporation Tax (Note 1)	(9.25)	-142.87% Better	(30.82)
(266.86)	EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME	(81.74)	69.37% Better	185.12
<u>(266.86)</u>		<u>(81.74)</u>		

Note 1:- The Provision charge is an adjustment to the existing provision.

Prepared By
G. J. Cobden ACIB
Hon. Treasurer
07 April 2010

Audited and Found Correct
T. McGowan
FJ Taylor
Hon. Auditors

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2010

2009	LIABILITIES	2010
GENERAL FUND		
11,297.50	Balance as at 1 April 2009	11,030.65
-266.85	DEFICIT for Year	81.74
331.56	Provision for Corporation Tax (See Note 1)	322.31
11,362.21		<u>11,271.22</u>
3,247.88	BENEVOLENT FUND	3,247.88
<u>14,610.09</u>		<u>14,519.10</u>
 Represented By:		
INTANGIBLE ASSETS (At Cost, Less depreciation over life)		
5.87	Internet Domain and Webpace	65.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
BANK:-		
1,351.87	Current Account	1,157.80
302.09	Deposit Account	0.00
88.88	Benevolent Fund (See Note 2)	0.00
3,201.49	High Interest Account	3,203.33
8,823.42	Bonus Saver Account (See Note 2)	9,307.20
75.09	PayPal Account	166.15
45.37	Cash/Cheques in Hand	123.04
13,886.21		<u>13,957.52</u>
STOCKS		
933.24	Gear	938.10
847.57	NMRS Book	828.16
67.34	Magazine	19.52
1,848.15		<u>1,786.18</u>
169.99	Payments in Advance (See Note 3)	94.40
14.37	Debtors (See Note 4)	26.00
184.36		<u>120.40</u>
		<u>15,864.10</u>
Deduct CURRENT LIABILITIES		
838.50	Subscriptions in Advance	877.00
478.00	Accruals and Other Creditors (See Note 5)	533.00
1,316.50		<u>1,410.00</u>
<u>14,610.09</u>		<u>14,454.10</u>
		<u>14,519.10</u>

Note 1:- The Provision charge includes an adjustment to the pre-existing provision. (2009 - same).

Note 2:- The Balance for the Bonus Saver Account includes £3,247.88 relating to the Benevolent Fund. (2009 - £3,159)

Note 3:- Payments in Advance represent accruals for Normidian Postage and Hall Hire. (2009 - Normidian Postage and Stationery, and Hall Hire).

Note 4:- Debtors relate to monies due from Gear Sales and EoF Rally ticket. (2009 - Debtors relate to commission due from Web Site).

Note 5:- Accruals and Other Creditors relate to 100 Club prepayments, and Advance Donations received. (2009 - same).

Prepared By
G. J. Cobden ACIB
Hon. Treasurer
07 April 2010

Audited and Found Correct
T. McGowan
FJ Taylor
Hon. Auditors

Treasurers Report – Season 2009/2010

Printed elsewhere within this months Magazine, you will find a copy of the Society Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2010. These record that the Society – in my 21st year as Treasurer - made a small loss for the year of £81.74 against a loss in the previous year of £266.86.

The main reasons for these losses have been the fact that the Society has subsidised functions for the last two seasons – this season the LMSA Presentation to Mick Osborn, and the previous year the Society 60th Anniversary function and Brian Langstone's FA 50 Year Award presentation.

Additionally, the deficit this year can be partially attributed to the fall in membership – we were fifteen full members down on season 2008/2009, and because of the fall in interest rates over the past eighteen months, our interest income has reduced by £245.38 year on year. Raffle proceeds were also down for the year due to lower numbers in attendance at monthly meetings which generally make the running of raffles uneconomic.

On the expenditure side, we have made savings in the production of The Normidian as we no longer have the covers printed in advance at the beginning of each season, as this continually left us with surplus – unusable - stock. Reduced magazine print runs – both in pages per issue and the fact that we now only print the exact number required - coupled with a few more people receiving their magazines by e-mail, have also helped with the cost reduction. The increase in members taking their magazine by e-mail has meant that the postage costs incurred have not increased by as much as expected.

The Society cannot continue to subsidise functions to this level, especially with a dwindling membership, as certain costs cannot be reduced, and our main income stream is that from membership fees. At the time of writing, sixty-six out of a total of one hundred and five members from last season have rejoined the Society. The Council will be considering holding a Social Function during the forthcoming season which it is hoped will supplement our income and therefore prevent the need for an increase in subscriptions for Season 2010/2011. It is therefore hoped that you will support this function, when arranged.

You will note that on the Balance Sheet two of our accounts are showing nil balances; these accounts have been closed, and the balances transferred to other Society accounts as they had not been used in over a year. We also still have high stock levels, some of which it would be prudent to write down to more realistic levels; however, as the Society again made a loss this year, this will be deferred until the Society returns to a profitable status.

Should you have any questions on the accounts, or any other financial matter connected with the Society, please contact me in advance, or see me at the Annual General Meeting on 20 May.



North Middlesex Referees Society One Hundred Club - Season 2009/2010

The results for the April draw are shown below. With 43 shares subscribed, the total amount payable is £31.30.

1st 38 Steve Palmer £17.20 2nd 23 Stan Szplit £8.60 3rd 4 Arthur Stewart £4.30

If you would like to join the 100 Club for season 2010/2011, please indicate on your Membership Form; if you have already sent your form, please forward remittance of £12.00 per share to cover the whole season.





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**Are once again pleased to support the North
Middlesex Referees Society in Season 2009/2010**



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Final Reminder before the start of Season 2010/2011- Membership Fees are due!

To those of you who have already paid your subscriptions for the coming season – and that represents almost over fifty percent of our membership - thank you for your prompt payment. Your Membership Cards for the new season will be available for collection at the AGM; will be posted to you if you normally receive your magazine by e-mail; or will be sent with the first issue of the Normidian next season.

To those of you who have yet to pay – apologies if you have paid in the last couple of weeks - your fees for Season 2010/2011 became due at the beginning of April. Everybody will – by now - have received two Membership Forms, either by e-mail or enclosed with the magazine. For those members who have yet to pay, where the Society has an e-mail address on file, and you normally receive your magazine by this way, a further Membership Form will already have been sent to you; for the remainder, a further Membership Form is included with this month's Normidian.

The NMRS Membership Fee is again being held at £10.00 for those who elect to receive their magazine by e-mail, or £12.00 if you receive your monthly magazine by post. This is the tenth consecutive season that the basic society membership fee has remained at £10.00 – the last increase being at the commencement of the 2001/2002 season. The Referees Association has also held its subscription to £15.00 again this year.

Membership Fees payable are as follows:-

- **Full Members**

- **£25.00 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£27.00 if magazine received by post.**

This includes your Referees Association fee of £15.00 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.

- **Associate Members**

- **£10.00 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£12.00 if magazine 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 on the Membership Form.

- **Junior Members**

- **£14.50 if magazine by e-mail.**
- **£15.50 if magazine received by post.**

For Members under 18 years of age, and includes your Referees Association fee of £9.50.

Individual fees payable are shown on your personalised Membership Form. You are reminded that you are not covered by the R. A. Insurance after 31 May 2009 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.

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 fee.

It would be appreciated if you could check your details shown on the Form, and amend any information that is shown incorrectly. Please also specifically check e-mail addresses shown carefully, as some that we have on file are resulting in rejections. 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.

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer

To our Advertisers

North Middlesex Referees Society would like to express its thanks to our Advertisers this season; Ackerman Group plc and Henry Tilly Ltd.

We hope that they will continue to support the Society next season.



Where do you pay your Membership Fee?

Your Treasurer is, of course, happy to receive your fees at any time or place. But, for the last two seasons one member has made his annual payment to the Treasurer on the western concourse outside Wembley Stadium!!



World Cup Promotional Material

On the occasion of the previous two World Cups, the Society has provided one company with an 'Armchair Referees Kit' consisting of a Referee Wallet with Red and Yellow Cards and a Whistle to provide to its clients.



Should you be involved with a Company, and consider this something you might like provide for your customers or clients, we can supply these – and other - items for you. For further information, contact Society Treasurer, Gary Cobden – e-mail:- treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk or telephone 01992 469153.



INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

The Referees' Association (RA) is the national body for referees and delegates its operational powers to the Referees Association of England (RAE). The RAE 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 Society send a representative to AFA CRA who meet as requested locally. The RAE hold Area Liaison Meetings each year, generally in December. The Referees' Association Board meets four times a year. All delegates and officers of NMRS, together with those of the County and Referees Association Committees 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 RAE, and, in turn, the RA

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

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

What are the Benefits of RA Membership?

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

take up these benefits. Additionally, active referees who are over the age of 75 can now be covered by the Insurance subject to an additional premium being paid.

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

Refereeing is a joint publication of the Football Association and the Referees Association. It is published four times a year, and is mailed direct to all registered referees by the Football Association. The magazine includes features and updates from the Football Association and items of FAMOA 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. This registration automatically enrolls you in the Match Officials Association run by the Football Association - FAMOA. However, the CFA's and FAMOA 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
FAMOA	Football Association Match Officials Association
LFA	London Football Association
MCFA	Middlesex County Football Association
R.A.	Referees Association
RAE	Referees Association of England

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except December 2009 - second Monday),
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 2009/2010:- September 17; October 15; November 19; December 14 2009; and January 21;
February 18; March 18; April 15; May 20 2010



*The venue is passed by Bus Route W9 direct from Enfield Town, and Enfield Town;
Enfield Chase; and Gordon Hill Rail Stations are only a short distance away. For fuller directions and
how to get to the venue, see our website. See also www.tfl.gov.uk;*

www.nationalexpresseastanglia.com; and www.firstcapitalconnect.co.uk.

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

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