

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2012/2013*



November 2012

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 15th November 2012 when the guest speaker will be John Moules former Conference Chief Executive and Match Assessor.

EDITORIAL

On the 27th of October I started writing this Editorial and advanced the proposition that **“At the time of writing this I am pleased to say that there appear to be no real controversies surrounding our top line referees”**. Then the next day came the problem in the match between Chelsea and Manchester United whereby Evans went to ground feet first as Torres knocked the ball between his legs and there was definite albeit minor contact and Torres fell over. Instead however of giving a foul and a possible caution to Evans, referee Clattenberg cautioned Torres for simulation and it being his second caution dismissed him from the field of play. And therein lies the most modern of problems for referees at the highest levels and occasionally at grass roots whereby some players are prepared to cheat whilst others fall down genuinely when challenged. The two answers which currently tend to be given at the point of impact, or otherwise, are either to ignore it or to caution. Unfortunately not enough work, study or teaching is going on together with officials and the professional game to help the former to make their judgments either right or credible. Whilst the elite Referees study match incidents they do not so far as I am aware have the benefit of the coaches from the top clubs coming in and working through typical examples of foul play and more importantly the techniques of defenders so that they can study and learn from them. There is one caveat to this in that defending now is very poor compared to that of say 20 years ago but is therefore also very likely to throw up more incidents of mistimed tackles and bad technique. In the Evans tackle the shape of it showed a potential foul, whilst say in a one on one with a keeper where the keeper goes down with an outstretched arm that can easily lead to a penalty, whereas a short armed dive is less likely to be a foul. Similarly both a front sliding tackle and one from the rear are invariably likely to be fouls whereas a sideways sliding tackle if timed correctly is not so likely to be one. In the both the keeper and the sideways sliding tackle situations referees should look for the direction and speed that the ball subsequently proceeds. Either a deviation of its path however limited or an increase in its speed will almost certainly mean that the defender has tackled the ball which after all is what it is really about since a proper tackle is on the ball and not on an opponent. However there is one thing that everyone but the most dishonest in football agrees upon and that is that simulation in all its forms especially diving and feigning injury should be completely eradicated as quickly as possible. Nevertheless we also do not want to see is the injustice of players being punished when they have not broken the Laws of the game.

Incidentally I am anxious to try to get a section in the magazine devoted to match incidents. We usually have these at the monthly meetings but on occasions time does not allow it, so here is the chance to share with others what happens at grass roots levels. There was a lively discussion at the October meeting concerning something mentioned in my last Editorial, namely what is happening with roll-on roll-off substitutions and what problems are occurring. Since the numbers at meetings are not what they used to be and Council would like to think they can improve, why not write in and share your thoughts with your fellow referees. As is stated in the Minutes of last month's meeting, to that time Stan Rosenthal had received 48 emails on the subject of the rollers on and off, so why not send some to the Editor here for publication.

Would all members and readers please note that the December meeting on the 14th of December next will be a social event.

Ken Goldman

Editor

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BOOK REVIEW

THE BOYS FROM WHITE HART LANE by Martin Cloake & Adam Powley

Published by VSP @ £9.99

This large sized paperback book is with and about several of the players who graced the Spurs era of the 1980's during which they won the FA Cup twice and UEFA Cup. Tales from the training ground as well as the pitch both on and off it, abound in the memories of the players with and about whom we read. Thus highlighted are Steve Perryman who had a great deal of input in the writing of this volume, Ossie Ardiles, Ricky Villa, Graham Roberts, Tony Parks, Paul Miller, Garry Brooke, Tony Galvin, George Mazzon and last but in no way least because of his immense influence on the playing style of the team Peter Shreeves. A record of what players feel about the game, their way of living and general behaviour are insights for not only Spurs supporters who will love this book but for all those interested in the game. 245 pages with a colour and mono photo section but no index.

Last Month's Guest Speaker

Neutral Assistants

Chairman Tom White asked the meeting to give a warm welcome to our special guest and old friend, Ed Stone. Ed thanked Tom for his kind remarks saying he was happy to have been invited once more to North Middlesex and to see so many familiar faces again.

Ed passed the basic referee's course in 1990 and started refereeing in the Reading League and Reading Sunday League. He moved to Coventry in 1992 joining Birmingham County FA and achieving Class 1 in 1996. He quickly moved onto Contributory Leagues as an Assistant and Supply League as a referee and became an Instructor in 1997 running training courses in Coventry. He was appointed County Training Officer for Birmingham County FA, responsible for the training programmes for over 2000 referees and when The FA announced the setting up of ten new Regional Development Officers posts to coordinate and advance the standard of referee training in the country, he was appointed to one of the posts. During his time at The FA, he was a staff member on the National course for eight years as well as the annual re-licensing programmes. He became responsible for GTT (Generic Tutor Training) to all referee instructors to develop their skills and bring in line with other FA Tutors. He has represented the FA abroad and at national events as well as at a variety of training events and shows. Ed left the FA in 2009 when the existing ten RDO posts were reduced to three, for financial reasons. He now works in Further Education lecturing in engineering in addition to managing the full-time programmes of study. He is still active as a Level 5 referee in AFA football and as an Assistant on a Supply League. He also remains a Level 4 referee tutor, delivering basic courses and in-service training. Having become an assessor in 1997, he assesses at both Contributory and Supply League level.

Ed explained that the topic for the evening was "Working with Neutral Assistant Referees" and asked the meeting to form six groups. Each group was then given a particular scenario from those listed below and asked to consider how they would best manage the situation presented to them as the appointed referee.

The Late Arrival

Insisting not Assisting

The Old Hand and the Newbie

Referee's Call

Living in the Past

Tolerance Levels

After discussing their own scenarios, each group shared their thoughts and ideas with the other members present in a general debate.

After summarising all the contributions and making further suggestions as necessary, Ed rounded up his presentation by thanking everyone for their participation and support.

Society President, Gary Cobden, gave a vote of thanks to Ed for an excellent evening and presented him with a bottle of wine as a memento of his latest visit to North Middlesex.

WIDER AND DEEPER - BY OBSERVER

HOW MANY TIMES HAS A PROMOTION CANDIDATE HEARD THIS?

The encouragement to move wider and deeper is usually given by Assessors to those referees who tend to adopt a restricted diagonal path of patrol and thereby create problems for themselves by not being in a position to see all THAT they might.

This refers particularly to those times when an attack is developing and there is a need for the referee to be able to adjudicate on whether an offside situation has arisen or not, and eventually of course whether the ball crosses the goal line or not. If there is a neutral linesman, there will invariably be much help regarding offsides, but the referee needs to be able to see him AND the action quite easily. By ensuring he is 'OUT WIDE' the referee will find he has play between himself and his operative linesman, a situation which he should endeavour to create as often as possible.

Particularly if he is operating without linesmen, will the referee find it useful, by means of good acceleration and sprinting, to position himself out wide so as to be able to look across the line of play to judge offsides.

By going deep towards the goal line, the referee operating alone will be favourably positioned to judge if the ball crosses the goal line, for a goal or a corner-kick.

Hence, if the referee works hard at going wider and deeper he will penetrate areas like the penalty area and that area alongside it near to the corner-flag and all this during open, or dynamic, play.

You will need to be fit if you are to come into the category of referees who are invariably in the ideal position.

Note: - ASSESSORS. When advising a promotion candidate to go wide and deep, which is UTOPIA.

PLEASE take into account as to whether the referee is fit enough to do what you are suggesting. Remember that if he is not fit enough to go 'wider & deeper', can you suggest any alternative method to meet his requirements?

The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Part 20 – Spare boot laces

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
Venue: Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Weather: Changeable
Time: 77th minute

Before every match it is important to prepare. To arrive at the venue only to realize you had forgotten your socks is not good. This has never happened to me because for a match at the week end I always pack my football bag on the Wednesday before. That way all I need is a quick check prior to leaving home. I also always leave early for all my matches and prepare my journey. An A-Z is always packed in my bag. Other refs may laugh at me preparation but I also carry a spare pair of boot laces just in case. You may be smiling now but just wait and see this weekend as you go to tie your laces and they break and you have no spare ones.....you won't be laughing then!

Meanwhile back to the matchCasuals attacked the Rovers goal and there was no doubt the Casuals forward was in an offside position. The player did not move and held both his hands above his head which clearly indicated he was making no attempt to play the ball and in my mind was not active in play. This enabled the defender to run to the ball unchallenged. For whatever reason the defender then decided to pass the ball back to his goal keeper. The forward being alert then sensed an opportunity and run towards the ball. He got there before the goal keeper and kicked the ball into the goal net. This seemed a perfectly good goal to me but the Rovers players were incensed as I awarded the goal and pointed to the centre mark.

“How can you give the goal, their player was clearly offside and you know it!”

That was one of the many comments I received. I always find it amusing that in moments like these the players ask questions and as soon as you start to reply they keep asking more questions and the only voice they want to hear is their own!

I told to players to calm down and then blew my whistle a few times which did the trick. I knew it would make no difference but I attempted to explain anyhow. I told the captain if I hear any more dissent the players would be cautioned. Surprise, surprise.....my warning was not heeded and I had to show two players a yellow card. Eventually silence (if only they listened to me in the first place!) and I went on to finally explain my decision.....The Casuals player was in an offside position but by not playing the ball he was not active. The defender attempted to play the ball back to his goal keeper and that was clearly another phase of play and now the player was clearly on side. One of the Casuals players said “But surely he has gained an advantage by being where he was in the first place?”

That did seem fair point but I repeated my comments about the next phase of play and that the game had moved on.

I could tell by the player's reactions they were not happy with my decision but I knew I was correct.

When a goal is scored it is important to watch all around you and to be aware. Do not automatically take out your note book to record the score. It only takes a second for an incident to happen. My advice to you is to award the goal and walk backwards towards the half way line. This enables you to observe and if any player is displeased with your decision they will have to shout or run after you which would produce a yellow card if they are not careful. On my arrival at the half way line I recorded the score and noticed the amount of players that had been cautioned and sent off. Previously each caution was a separate report but thankfully all that is needed is a single report for all the cautions using a template on the computer. Mind you with all the yellow and red cards from this match I reckoned it was still going to take a good few hours to sort out!

Whilst on the subject of red and yellow cards the Casuals captain approached me and queried why the Rovers player that I had sent off a few minutes ago was now playing on the adjacent pitch. Being totally focussed as all good referees should be, but this was certainly not apparent to me. The Rovers captain could see us talking and looking over to the next pitch. "There's not a problem is there?" he asked. "You may have sent him off Ref from this match but that does not mean he cannot play for our reserves on the next pitch. He was named in our starting eleven but also named as a substitute for the reserves as well. They only had one substitute so we actually gave them two other names from our first team. This was straight forward for me to deal with as a player is entitled to be named in one team and as a sub with another even though they are playing at the same time. For me it was irrelevant that he had been sent off from one of the matches as that was for County to deal with and not me.

Would you have allowed the player to play for the other team even though he had been sent off?

What did you think of my decision to allow the goal when the player was initially in an off side position but then went on to score a goal when the defender attempted to play the ball back to his goal keeper?

Let me know what you think,

See you soon,

Willy Woodwork

Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

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

The first draws for the new season were made at the October meeting. The winners are as follows, and cheques are either included with this magazine, or will have been sent to you by post if you receive your magazine by e-mail.

September			October		
7	Charles Lifford	£16.00	37	Alex Bedwell	£16.00
3	George Basten	£8.00	26	Bob Martin	£8.00
12	Mike Sibley	£4.00	9	Dave Chapman	£4.00

If you have already rejoined the Society and would like to join the 100 Club for Season 2012/2013, please complete and forward the form below. If you have not yet renewed your membership, and would like to join the 100 Club, you can do so by indicating on your membership form. There is now one new member for the November draw – 41 – John Fowler.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB

I wish to purchase.....share(s) in the NMRS 100 Club at £10.00 per share for the remainder of the season.

Please find enclosed my cheque/postal order for £...00 to cover the subscription for 10 months.

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

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



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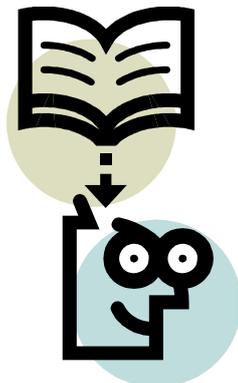
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Dilemma

Like me, you were all probably horrified at the incident that occurred during the recent Sheffield Wednesday vs Leeds United Championship match on Friday 19 October.

Fortunately Sheffield Wednesday goalkeeper Chris Kirkland was well enough to finish the match. But what would you have done if you had been involved in a match with similar circumstances where the team whose goalkeeper had been attacked was unable to continue; and they either had no substitute goalkeeper or had used all of their allotted substitutes. Whilst I would abandon the match, I am keen to hear what others might think and do – especially Willy the Whistler.



The **North Middlesex Referees Society Quiz Nite** is back. Get your thinking caps on again, as its time for the 2012 Quiz – which this year will take place on Friday 22 March 2013 at Old Owens Association, Coopers Lane, Northaw, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 4NE.

Tickets cost £10 each inclusive of a hot buffet

Teams to 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.



This and That

For those of you who may not have noticed, former Bolton Wanderers player Fabrice Muamba – who nearly died on the football pitch at White Hart Lane just seven months ago, recently married his fiancée Shauna Magunda. Their three year old son Joshua was Page Boy, and one of the men who saved his life, Dr Sam Mohiddin from the London Chest Hospital was a guest at the ceremony. Fabrice has also revealed that his forthcoming autobiography will be titled “I’m Still Standing”.

David Barber - the FA's historian and publications editor - was taken to his first football match, aged nine, on Nov 5, 1960. "Crystal Palace versus Hitchin Town in the FA Cup. Palace won 6-2," he recited from memory, "and I couldn't fail to be hooked." He once he acted as liaison officer for visiting international teams and that led to one of the most unusual games he has ever seen. "Uruguay came over for a friendly just before the 1990 World Cup. As soon as they arrived they said they wanted to play a friendly the following day and they didn't mind who they played. Well, it was the end of the season, the posts were down at most grounds and the pitches were being reseeded." In the end he managed to get hold of a police team made up of officers from Wandsworth, and it was difficult to get them to take it seriously - imagine someone phoning to say, 'Would you like to play Uruguay?' Eventually, they played out of their skins and matched Uruguay for much of the game and only lost 3-1, Carlos Aguilera, who played for Roma, scored a hat-trick. It was a fairly exclusive crowd at Roehampton with just 10 spectators. They then went on to beat England 2-1 at Wembley." David has now seen 67 matches so far this season and 6.362 in total over the years since. His adventures can be seen each week on <http://www.thefa.com/Leagues/TheBarber> - an interesting read.



North Middlesex Referees Society
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 18 October 2012 at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club

Apologies for Absence:- Received from Secretary, Robin Jagot; Magazine Editor, Ken Goldman; and John Fowler; together with those recorded in the Attendance Book.

Chairman's Welcome:- The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed our Guest Speaker, Ed Stone who is a former FA Referees Development Manager. The Chairman also welcomed new member Giorgio Ryan who was attending his first meeting since completing the recent course, and Ed Stone presented him with a whistle.

Minutes of the Last Society Meeting:- The minutes of the meeting held on 20 September 2012 held at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club were agreed as a true record, and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:- There were none.

Secretary's Report:- In his absence, the following report had been provided by the Secretary:- Letter received from Steve Wildgoose thanking the Society for their support at the MCFA Commission and for Bart O'Toole's expert assistance in this Case.

RA Board of Enquiry - It was decided to await the outcome of the Enquiry and decide where we stand with regards to remaining in membership with the RA. You may recall that it was agreed at the **Society AGM** that we would write to our members to seek their views. At a recent Council meeting it was agreed unanimously that we would send out a Society letter to all members for them to have the option of: **a) Remain a member of the Society and the Referees Association** or **b) A member of the North Middlesex Society only**. This will constitute a change of Society rules and an **EGM** being arranged to allow this to be introduced for season 2013/2014. The letter will be sent out by either email or standard post to members and returned to the **Secretary within 21 days**. A full discussion and debate on this important issue will take place at the **EGM** to be arranged in the early part of the New Year

On a more lighter note the Society will be arranging a **Quiz evening on Friday 29th March 2013** (teams of six maximum please) at Old Owens Sports Club, Potters Bar. The meeting was advised that this was Good Friday – the Secretary to be asked to rearrange the night for an earlier date in March.

Treasurer's Report:- The Treasurer reported that membership stood at 76 Full members, and 8 Associate members. There are 10 Members have still not rejoined from last season, including our Training Liaison Officer. Final reminder letters will be sent to all those still to rejoin at the end of October.

Magazine Editor's Report:- in his absence the following report had been provided by the Magazine Editor:- I am working on the next edition of the magazine and would like contributions by the end of the month if possible. I would like also to include a match incidents section if members would submit them especially if any of them are involved with the new roll-on roll-off substitutions. (Note – Stan Rosenthal had already told the meeting he had so far received 48 e-mails on this subject). Apologies were also expressed to those who receive a hard copy magazine as it was delivered late because the new printer was on holiday.

Any Other Officer's Reports:- There was nothing of note, however, Stan Reed advised that the MCFA County Training Team was due to meet during the coming week, and it was anticipated that an additional Training Area would be created which he would be running jointly with Andy Taylor.

Match Incidents:- There were none.

Any Other Business:- There were none.

The Chairman then briefly introduced our Guest Speaker, Ed Stone who kept members entertained with audience participation. A Vote of Thanks on behalf of the Society was proposed by Society President, Gary Cobden.

Chairman.....

Is This an Alternative Diet And Nutrition For Referees?

Q: Doctor, I've heard that cardiovascular exercise can prolong life. Is this true?

A: Heart only good for so many beats, and that it... Don't waste on exercise. Everything wears out eventually. Speeding up heart not make you live longer; it like saying you extend life of car by driving faster. Want to live longer? Take nap.

Q: Should I reduce my alcohol intake?

A: Oh no. Wine made from fruit. Fruit very good. Brandy distilled wine that means they take water out of fruity bit so you get even more of goodness that way. Beer also made of grain. Grain good too. Bottom up!

Q: How can I calculate my body/fat ratio?

A: Well, if you have body and you have fat, your ratio one to one. If you have two body, your ratio two to one.

Q: What are some of the advantages of participating in a regular exercise program?

A: Can't think of one, sorry. My philosophy: No pain...good!

Q: Aren't fried foods bad for you?

A: YOU NOT LISTENING! Food fried in vegetable oil. How getting more vegetable be bad?

Q : Will sit-ups help prevent me from getting a little soft around the middle?

A: Oh no! When you exercise muscle, it get bigger. You should only be doing sit-up if you want bigger stomach.

Q: Is chocolate bad for me?

A: You crazy?!? HEL-LO-O!! Cocoa bean! Another vegetable! It best feel-good food around!

Q: Is swimming good for your figure?

A: If swimming good for figure, explain whale to me.

Q: Is getting in shape important for my lifestyle?

A: Hey! 'Round' is shape!

Well... I hope this has cleared up any misconceptions you may have had about food and diets.

And remember:

Life should NOT be a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving safely in an attractive and well-preserved body, but rather to skid in sideways - Chardonnay in one hand - chocolate in the other - body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "WOO-HOO, what a ride!!"

BOOK REVIEWS

GET IN THERE BY Barrie Williams & Tom Lawton Junior published by VSP @£16.99.

A fine biography of Tommy Lawton (written once more by a journalist and a family member) about one of the best centre-forwards ever. That is born out simply by the statistics which show he netted 44 goals in 43 internationals for England and in all scored 635 goals in 731 games for 6 clubs. This is the biography of those goals, those internationals and the rise to fame of a precocious youngster followed by a fall probably greater than the elevation. One of the poignant pieces comes in the chapter entitled "Mr. Hitler Intervenes" in which the young Lawton who was building up an exciting career realises that with war it could all be over and thinks that having played for England he now has to fight for England and if he had to would die for England. A scenario that was at the heart of the matter for so many players at the time. Things worked out well for Lawton for many years either during or post war but gradually things changed and there were moves from Everton Chelsea and then unhappy times at Notts County, with also transfers to Brentford as player-manager and finally to Arsenal where he left after a short stint to manage non-league Kettering Town whom he led to the Southern League Championship. Returning to Notts County he took them into relegation and was promptly sacked and his club house withdrawn. It was the start of what the book calls "the dark years" and dark indeed they were. Taking over a pub, he drank too much the wrong side of the bar it is alleged and there followed a series of business and job failures which landed him literally on the dole. Depression set in and after a brief revival he formed a company which failed with debts including cheques that "bounced". A prosecution followed that left him on 3 years probation. Football rallied round him with a testimonial game, but he was in and out of court several more times before receiving a 3 month prison sentence which thankfully he did not have to serve. Redemption finally came and he worked in journalism until his death aged 72. Clearly a book for all emotions, with several mono and colour photos and some neat drawings but no index. 338 pages.

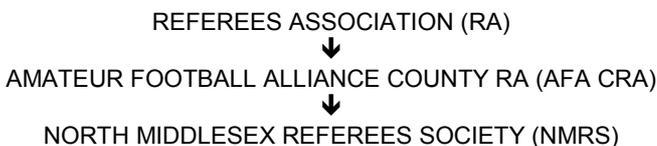
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

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.

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