

October 2004

This season's second meeting of the North Middlesex Referees' Society will take place at the usual venue – Cockfosters FC, Chalk Lane, Cockfosters, Barnet, on Friday 8th October. Special Guest is FIFA Assistant Referee and long time NMRS member, Phil Sharp, who will enlighten us on his exploits at EURO 2004 and the Olympic Games – not a bad couple of subjects – bring your own chair and come early!

Hope you all started the season on a high note! I am writing this editorial before the first meeting of the season – I will be away on holiday, if you can call playing table tennis with the Sphinx and Pyramids a holiday! I hope you all enjoyed our special guest, Bob Wilson, and we had a full house.

Gary Cobden will do the honours and field all your contributions for this edition of the Normidian – I trust you let him have some good stuff, as usual. I enjoyed reading Mick Osborn's "Cads, Bounders and Law Changes", in the September magazine and was also pleased to read Peter Dace's reminiscences; Martin de la Fuente's piece on FAMOA; Robin's Conference stuff and of course, all Gary's bits – well done, all! If you would like to air your views, vent your spleen, or give us all a smile, why not write to the editor and see your name in print!

Peter Dace often sends me articles from the press; one such article which particularly caught my eye was one on retired referee, David Elleray. David has written a book, "The Man in the Middle", published by Time Warner, which should make interesting reading.

Another of my usual columnists sent me an extract from the Daily Express, written by Mick Dennis, whom regulars to our meetings will remember was one of our guest speakers last season – and very good he was too. In his article, Mick refers to the new system of recording 'bookings' – the referee now merely details the miscreant's name(s) and does not have to do anything else, such as say what he/she said or did and at what time etc; plus not having to return a form to a County FA in duplicate – and it can be sent on-line! Mick hints that this is bad news for amateur footballers as officials may be inclined to book more often and says, as a practising referee, "I can feel my card-brandishing arm twitching already". Have you changed your habits on 'bookings'? And do you think Mick is right and we will book more often?

For all those wishing to read the continuing story of Ken May's "Is There Life After Refereeing", we hope to feature another episode of Ken's past life as a referee in next month's edition and thereafter.

Did you know that for a footballer to record a hat trick in Germany, he must score all the goals in one half with no one scoring in between?

Arnold Rouse, long-time Editor of the Leamington and District RA Magazine has decided to hang up his pen after a number of years – and asks to be sent a regular copy of Normidian, as usual. Consider it done, Arnold! We in North Middlesex wish you a happy retirement from the sweat of the 'press room' and we hope to continue to use the occasional piece from the always-interesting Leamington & District RA magazine.

Contributions for next month's magazine by 18th October, please – over to you Gary.

Your deputy editor writes: - Many thanks to Peter Dace for the only contribution received this month – apart from Terry's editorial. Apologies to everyone for the slim magazine – remember, this is your magazine, and it can only continue to thrive with your contributions!!

Gary Cobden

Peter Dace reminisces – the Normidian of October 1994

Dave Ackerman bemoans a FIFA decision requiring Match Officials to wear kits in colours other than black. Apart from all else Dave says 'who's the b.....d in the black' has a better ring to it than 'who's the b..... in the Pink'.

Adrian Bland asks what The Diadora Football League and the Hungarian Second Division have in common? Both leagues will be 'experimenting' with the kick-in/throw-in option i.e. when the ball crosses the touchline for a throw in the other team will now have the option of kicking in from behind the touchline having given an appropriate signal to the Referee. Whilst Adrian is not too happy with recent law changes he says the two games he has witnessed this season under the new rulings have been good.

'So you want to be a Referee Instructor' says Mick Osborn and recalls his stays at the Bishop Grosseteste College in Lincoln in July 1993 and July 1994. The accommodation was Spartan but the food excellent while the army of Instructors fed (and drained) the mind. In year 1 most presentations made by Mick were of 7 minutes duration and included goal-kicks; the duration of the game; neutral linesmen; and competition rules. Year 2 talks increased up to 18 minutes and included The spirit of the game and Positive approaches. Mick says memories remain of the comradeship of Referees from all over England and for the support in obtaining his qualification from wife Grace and Robin Jagot who got him involved in the first place – also to dear departed Dave Dickinson whose cheerful encouragement seemed to be with him through both magnificent weeks.

Ken Goldman's editorial is combined with his report on last month's speaker Ken Aston. Ken talked about his own involvement in devising a black uniform for Match Officials; producing red and yellow flags for Linesmen instead of the originals made in club colours; and later of introducing red and yellow cards to explain to players of different languages that they were being cautioned or sent off.

Guest Speaker – Terry Burton, Assistant Manager of Wimbledon FC

North Middlesex Referees Society

present their

Annual Quiz Night

on

Sunday 24 October 2004

at

Old Finchleas Football Club
Southover, Finchley, London, N12

Commencing at 7:30pm
Teams of Six

Ticket £6.00

Including Buffet

Please contact Gary Cobden for tickets

Telephone 01992 469153

E-Mail treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk



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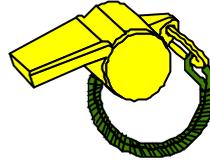
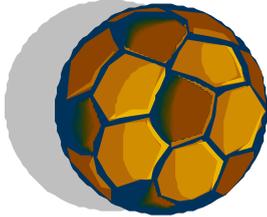
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Contact us for all your sporting requirements
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Plum Appointments

If you receive a 'Plum Appointment', don't forget to let Charles Lifford know, as he needs this information to ensure that the Society records are kept up to date. Charles compiled the book published by the Society to commemorate its 50th Anniversary in 1999, and this included details of many members 'plums'. Charles can be contacted on 020 8204 3123 or e-mail charles@the-liffords.freemove.co.uk

MCFA Senior Youth Cup – Round 2

Referee Peter Smith Assistant Referees Nicolas Andrea and Roger Barnes

North Middlesex Referees Society – Special Draw 2004

The 'Special Draw' announced in last month's Normidian is progressing well, although we still need to sell some more tickets to help offset the loss incurred on the cancelled Dinner and Dance. There is still an opportunity to purchase a ticket or two for the Draw which will take place at the October meeting, and will be drawn by our guest speaker for the evening, Phil Sharp.

This is a Members Only draw for a Chelsea FC football shirt, signed by most of the 2003/2004 first team squad. If you have mislaid the ticket enclosed with last month's Normidian, or would like to purchase additional tickets, please get in touch with me as soon as possible. Tickets are priced at £2.00 each, a small price to pay, as there are currently similar shirts trading on E-Bay for in excess of £75.00.

You can purchase as many tickets as you like; however, to ensure that we comply with the provisions of the Lotteries and Amusements Act 1976, the counterfoils must be completed in the name of a Society Member.

Gary Cobden

Honorary Treasurer

e-mail treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

telephone 01992 469153



NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB

I wish to purchase.....share(s) in the North Middlesex Referees Society 100 Club at £1.00 per share per month

Please find enclosed my cheque/postal order for £...00 to cover the subscription for 12 months.

Renewal information will be included with next seasons Membership Form

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

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

Gary Cobden

Honorary Treasurer



Talking Points (1)

There have been a number of 'Talking Points' which have hit the headlines from the professional game over the last couple of weeks, and which could have a serious impact. Let's have your comments and feedback.

In the Aston Villa v Chelsea match recently, Referee Rob Styles cautioned Chelsea's Drogba for 'simulation' when he considered the player 'dived' in an attempt to obtain a Penalty Kick. Subsequently, the referee rescinded the Caution, saying that he did not feel the player had attempted to deceive him. Does this now mean that the referee interpreted the challenge as unfair, and that a penalty should have been awarded? Opinions!



October's Guest Speaker – Phil Sharp



The Society's own Phil Sharp will be our Guest Speaker in October. Phil has a whole string of top appointments behind him after he started off in local Sunday morning football with the Barnet Sunday League, progressing to the Hertfordshire

County League and the Mid-Herts League, before reaching the Football League and then the Premiership. Culminating with officiating on the World Cup Final in 2002, Phil has also officiated in a considerable number of international matches, including the Euro 2004 in Portugal this Summer;

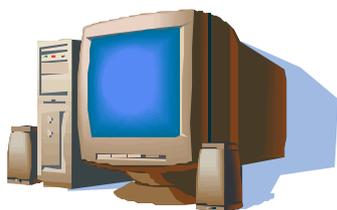


the men's football final at the Olympic Games in Athens at the end August; and at Euro 2000 in Holland. Phil has also officiated at the World Youth Championships in New Zealand. Apart from representing his country in numerous International Matches and European Club Matches, closer to home, Phil had the domestic honour of being appointed to officiate at the FA Cup Final in 1999, and in 2004 he was awarded an award for excellence from Hertfordshire County Football Association during last season.

For an evening not to be missed, make sure you take your seat early at Cockfosters FC on Friday October 8. However, the weekend of October 9 is the next round of scheduled qualifying matches for the World Cup 2006. At the time of writing, Phil was unaware of whether he was to be appointed to any of the matches scheduled for that weekend. You are therefore advised to keep your eyes on the Society website - www.northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk - for up to date information relating to the meeting. An e-mail will also be sent out to all Members for who we have an up to date e-mail address. If you do not have access to the internet, or do not have an e-mail address, and are planning to attend the meeting, please contact one of the Council Members listed on the cover of the Normidian.



DO YOU HAVE A COMPUTER PROBLEM?

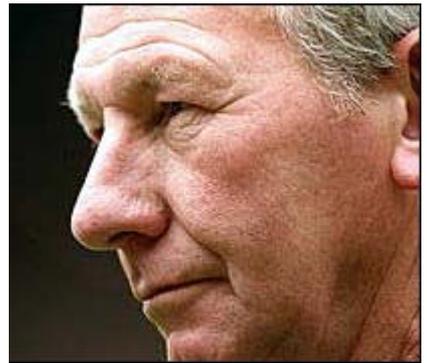


Has your PC stopped working? Does it need upgrading? Do you need a program or database written to help you carry out a task? Have you some new software that you do not know how to install? Your worries may be over. Give Gary a call on 07760 422223 for assistance. Reasonable rates.



September's Guest Speaker – Bob Wilson

At last month's Meeting, we were privileged to have former TV Presenter, Arsenal and Scotland Goalkeeper Bob Wilson as our guest speaker. After an introduction by the Society Vice Chairman, Vince Yeudall, Bob presented medals to all those Referees who had officiated at the Arsenal Charity Shield events held during the summer months. He also presented those newly qualified members present and attending their first meeting with their whistles.



Bob began his talk by highlighting some of the changes in the equipment that has come into the game over recent years. He started off by comparing the ball used in the modern game with the 'real leather one with laces'. The old leather ball, for all its faults, could be picked out in flight by the goalkeeper with a certain amount of ease; however, the newer, lighter, balls were subject to a greater amount of fluctuation of flight in the air. Boots – Bob showed a pair of those designed by Craig Johnston a few years ago, which were developed with a 'serrated' front to assist the striker in putting more spin and swerve on the ball. He circulated a recent pair of Thierry Henry's boots, which were so incredibly light. Neither of these pairs of modern boots had much ankle protection. He then showed a pair of his original boots, which had protection to the ankle, and also toes that, if you were kicked, you would certainly know it. Finally Bob displayed a number of goalkeeping jerseys, including his from the early seventies, which was plain in colour, and simple in texture, to one of the England jerseys worn by David Seaman – which was multicoloured in design and of a far greater texture so as to try and confuse the attackers! He also produced his original England Schoolboys goalkeeping jersey! One of Bob's first pair gloves also bore no comparison to the gloves worn by today's goalkeepers. Bob then went on to recount some of the 'highlights' from his TV Career, during which he presented Football Focus for around 20 years. He recalled some of the moments when he had to 'think on his feet'. Just three weeks into his TV career, he received notice of a team change through his ear piece, and promptly recounted to the watching millions that "Joe Jordan had pissed a late fatness test". Bob recounted that he always used to wear a Lucky Jacket, and, on another occasion - one of Arsenal's fateful European matches – the match seemed destined for extra time. Bob removed his lucky jacket, and, hey presto, it was "Nayim – from the halfway line!!!"

Bob also highlighted some of the financial aspects of the game – in the Arsenal Double Season in 1970/1971, George Armstrong was the club's best paid player. In that same season, for 64 competitive matches, and ten friendlies, Bob earned the princely sum of £17,500 – a drop in the ocean compared to the wages eared by today's players. Over the weekend of 17 August 1960, the entire Liverpool squad of 29 players and five coaching staff earned a salary of £517 13s 6d. During the evening, Bob also talked about the Charity which is dear to his heart, the Willow Foundation which prides itself on providing 'days out' for terminally ill people, and, over the few years it has been in existence, has gone from strength to strength.

Following a length question and answer session, with Bob talking and answering questions for over ninety minutes, a Vote of Thanks was proposed by Society President, Ken Goldman, who also presented Bob with a copy of the Society's 50th Anniversary book.



Do you need any new equipment? Complete the Gear Order Form which can be found elsewhere in the magazine, and then contact the Society Gear Supplies Officer, Percy Brown, with details of your requirements.



Treasurers Request

Membership Fees due!

There are still nearly 120 Members from last season who have yet to renew membership for the current season. Membership Cards are enclosed for all those who paid their subscriptions since early August. If you have not received your Card, and you think you should have done, please get in touch with me. Accompanying your Membership Card will be a copy of the Summary of Cover available under the Referees Association Personal Accident Insurance Policy. If you are one of the 120 who have not yet rejoined, a final opportunity is given this month, and a further Membership

Form is enclosed. Remember, the longer your fees go unpaid, the longer you will be without cover under the RA Personal Accident Insurance Policy, and it could cost you dear. Fees now payable are as follows – Full Members £21.85; Associate Members £12.00 (your Referees Association fee must be paid through another Society, and must be shown on your completed Membership Form). Junior Members (Under 18) - £12.35. Should you not renew, it would be appreciated if you could let the Society know the reasons why. Also, if you do not rejoin this month, this will be the last copy of the Normidian that we are able to send you.

The 100 Club

The Society also runs a 100 Club to assist in raising funds, and, for a contribution of just £1.00 each month, (£12.00 a season), you could win a cash prize. The number of Members is again in the forties, and there are still some members from last season who have yet to rejoin for the current campaign. So come along, sign up, and increase the numbers – it would be nice to have more members, so that the monthly prizes can be increased in cash terms. Each month we pay out 70% of the contributions, with 40% as First Prize; 20% as Second Prize; and

10% as Third Prize. In February and August, the full 100% of contributions is paid out, with the prizes being increased accordingly - 55% as First Prize; 30% as Second Prize; and 15% as Third Prize. You will find an application form elsewhere in the Magazine, or, alternatively, if you still have to pay your Membership Fees for the season, just fill in the details on the Membership Form, and include £12 per share to cover the season. The September and October draws will be made at the October meeting, and, to be included, I must receive your monies before or at the October Society meeting.

The 100 Club Winners and Numbers for 2004/2005

The August draw - where we payout 100% of the monthly income – was made at the September meeting by our Guest Speaker, Bob Wilson. Winners cheques for the following are enclosed:-

| First Prize | Second Prize | Third Prize |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 30 – Peter Smith - £26.40 | 40 – Stan Rosenthal - £14.40 | 38 – Robin Jagot - £7.20 |

Unfortunately, some of the numbers reported in last months Normidian for the current season were incorrect; an amended list is shown below.

- | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Dave Ackerman | 13. John Faithfull | 25. Stan Rosenthal | 37. Terry Hayne |
| 2. Peter Allen | 14. John Faithfull | 26. Mike Sibley | 38. Mick Osborn |
| 3. Peter Allen | 15. Robin Jagot | 27. Mike Sibley | 39. Mick Osborn |
| 4. Peter Allen | 16. Robin Jagot | 28. Arthur Stewart | 40. Tom White |
| 5. Daniel Barnett | 17. Les Kyprianou | 29. Arthur Stewart | 41. Tom White |
| 6. Vince Yeudall | 18. Max Lea | 30. Arthur Stewart | 42. Dave Gardner |
| 7. Gary Cobden | 19. Charles Lifford | 31. Stan Szplit | 43. Ian Breeze |
| 8. Gary Cobden | 20. Bob Martin | 32. Kevin Millett | 44. Simon Bullock |
| 9. Peter Smith | 21. Frank McNeil | 33. Steve Wildgoose | 45. Robin Willis |
| 10. Dave Chapman | 22. John Metselaar | 34. Andrew Withams | |
| 11. Dave Chapman | 23. Peter Peters | 35. Steve Wildgoose | |
| 12. Trevor Crouchley | 24. Peter Peters | 36. Terry Hayne | |

E-Mail Communication

A number of Members have elected to receive their Magazines by e- mail; this enables the Society to save on production and postage costs. If you have not elected to receive your copy of the Normidian by e- mail, and wish to do so, please let me know.

Additionally, if you do have an e-mail address that you have not yet advised to the Society, it would be of great help if you could let me have that information, as it will enable the Society to contact you much quicker and easier – especially for example if we have to change the date of a Society meeting – as may happen this month.

Gary Cobden

Honorary Treasurer

e-mail treasurer@northmiddlesexreferees.org.uk

telephone 01992 469153



Talking Points (2)

In the West Bromwich Albion v Fulham match, Fulham players continually surrounded referee, Mike Dean, following the award of a Penalty Kick – for which I understand they are to be reported to the Football Association. Edwin Van Der Sar, the Fulham goalkeeper was then subsequently cautioned for ‘delaying the restart’ by continually wandering around the Penalty Area. The referee then signalled for the Kick to be taken with the Fulham goalkeeper almost five yards forward from the goal line, thus considerably narrowing the angle for the kicker, Robert Earnshaw. Should he have refused to take the kick? How is it possible for neither the Referee or Assistant Referee not to see that the goalkeeper was not ‘on his line – between the posts’? Discuss!

In a further case of ‘simulation’, referee Mark Clattenberg has requested that the yellow card for simulation shown to Portsmouth’s Ricardo Fuller in the recent Blackburn Rovers v Portsmouth match.

Is it just me, or do I sense that many of the ‘top’ referees are opting out of giving Penalty Kicks, and taking the somewhat safer option of the easier way out by giving a free-kick against the attacker for ‘diving’, when, given the same offence anywhere else on the field of play, a free-kick to the attacker would be awarded.

Let us have your views for publication in a future edition of the Normidian. Names of the guilty will be withheld if requested.



What would you like to see in the Normidian that you don’t get now? What type of articles are missing from last season that you would like to see return? Come on you younger /newer members who have recently gone through the Training School. Drop us a line about your experiences at the Training School – what were your likes/dislikes about the way it operates? Could it be improved? Tell us about your first few experiences once you got your whistle in hand, and went out on the pitch and refereed. What was it like? How did you cope? Did you ask for any of the Society Officers or Senior Members to come and watch your first few games to lend you a bit of a hand and offer some guidance? If not why not, as we are all here to help you. Names withheld to protect the innocent if requested.



North Middlesex Referees Society – Gear Price List/Order Form – Season 2004/2005

Referees Association Kits

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|---------|-----|-----|---------|
| Shirts | S | M | L | XL | XXL |
| | 36" | 38"/40" | 42" | 44" | 46"/48" |

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Shorts | S | M | L | XL | XXL |
| | 32" | 34" | 36" | 38" | 40"/42" |

| | Size | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|-----------------------------------|------|----------|--------|------------|
| Long Sleeved Shirt | | | £19.50 | |
| Short Sleeved Shirt | | | £19.50 | |
| Shorts | | | £13.00 | |
| Embroidered Badge (RA or County) | | | £7.50 | |
| Embroidered Badge (RA and County) | | | £15.50 | |
| -County..... | | | | |

Umbro Kits

| | | | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Shirts | M | L | XL | XXL | XXXL |
| | 38"/40" | 41"/43" | 44"/46" | 47"/49" | 50"/52" |

| | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Shorts | S | M | L | XL | XXL | XXXL |
| | 32" | 34" | 36" | 38" | 40" | 42" |

| | Size | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|----------------------------|------|----------|--------|------------|
| Dallas Long Sleeved Shirt | | | £33.00 | |
| Dallas Short Sleeved Shirt | | | £32.00 | |
| Dallas Shorts | | | £23.00 | |
| Primo Long Sleeved Shirt | | | £31.50 | |
| Primo Short Sleeved Shirt | | | £30.50 | |
| Shorts | | | £22.00 | |
| Embroidered Badge | | | £7.25 | |
| -County..... | | | | |

Socks

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------|------------|
| White Topped | | £4.75 | |
| White Topped (reinforced soles) | | £5.50 | |
| Three Ringed (Hooped) Topped | | £4.75 | |
| Diamond (Umbro) Topped | | £5.50 | |
| All Black | | £4.75 | |
| Sock Ties | | £1.50 | |

Assistant Referees Flags

Touchline Flags

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|------------------------------------|----------|--------|------------|
| Premier (Full Set) | | £27.00 | |
| Super Quartered (Full Set) | | £26.00 | |
| Super Plain (Full Set) | | £24.00 | |
| Quartered (Full Set) | | £24.50 | |
| Plain (Full Set) | | £23.00 | |
| Premier (Flags and Sticks) | | £25.00 | |
| Super Quartered (Flags and Sticks) | | £24.00 | |
| Super Plain (Flags and Sticks) | | £23.00 | |
| Quartered (Flags and Sticks) | | £22.50 | |
| Plain (Flags and Sticks) | | £21.00 | |
| Premier (Flags Only) | | £15.00 | |
| Super Quartered (Flags Only) | | £14.00 | |
| Super Plain (Flags Only) | | £13.50 | |
| Quartered (Flags Only) | | £13.00 | |
| Plain (Flags Only) | | £11.00 | |

Touchline Flag Accessories

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|----------------------|----------|--------|------------|
| Flag Bag | | £5.00 | |
| Flagsticks (pair) | | £14.95 | |
| Flagsticks (single) | | £8.50 | |
| Endcaps (pair) | | £2.00 | |
| Brass Inserts (pair) | | £1.00 | |

Referees Association Flags

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|-------------------|----------|-------|------------|
| Flags (plain) | | £5.00 | |
| Flags (quartered) | | £7.50 | |
| Flagsticks (pair) | | £3.50 | |
| Flag Bag | | £5.00 | |

Matchday Accessories

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|---|----------|--------|------------|
| Plastic Wallet with Red & Yellow Cards & Pencil | | £2.30 | |
| Plastic Wallet with Red & Yellow Cards | | £2.00 | |
| Plastic Wallet | | £0.90 | |
| Set of Red and Yellow Cards | | £1.50 | |
| Pencils | | £0.10 | |
| Match Record Pads | | £0.90 | |
| General Purpose Postcards (25) | | £1.10 | |
| Write-On/Wipe-Off Red / Yellow Cards (inc marker) | | £5.25 | |
| Plastic Whistle with Grip | | £1.75 | |
| Plastic Whistle | | £1.50 | |
| Plastic Finger Whistle | | £1.75 | |
| Metal Whistle | | £3.40 | |
| Pealess Whistle | | £1.75 | |
| Fox 40 Cassic | | £4.95 | |
| Fox 40 Cassic with cushioned mouth grip | | £5.95 | |
| Fox 40 Triple Colour Pack | | £13.50 | |
| Elasticated Wrist Coil | | £2.10 | |
| Traditional Wrist Lanyard | | £2.10 | |
| Traditional Neck Lanyard | | £1.75 | |

Other Accessories

| | Quantity | Price | Total Cost |
|---|----------|--------|------------|
| Referees Association Kit Bag | | £17.50 | |
| Middlesex County FA badge | | £3.00 | |
| Referees Association badge | | £3.00 | |
| Laws of Association Football | | £4.00 | |
| FA Diary | | £4.00 | |
| Refereeing Today magazine | | £0.90 | |
| North Middlesex Referees Society Tie | | £6.00 | |
| North Middlesex R.S. 50th Anniversary Tie | | £7.50 | |
| A History of North Middlesex Referees Society | | £9.99 | |

All Prices subject to change without notice.

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Address..... E-Mail.....

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I enclose the sum of £..... to cover the items ordered above

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 Percy Brown, NMRS Gear Supplies Officer, 33 Cotton Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire, EN6 5JT
 Telephone:- 01707 851365

If you require anything that is not shown above, please contact Percy Brown