

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2012/2013*



THE
**REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION**



October 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 18th October 2012 when the guest speaker will be Ed Stone former Referee Development Manager for London, AFA and Middlesex.

EDITORIAL

It has been a busy time for the FA Disciplinary body what with the John Terry ruling (subject to appeal as we go press) but more especially with the decision to give only a minor punishment to Newcastle Manager Alan Pardew for pushing an Assistant Referee in a Premier league game. In the event Newcastle have rewarded him with a long extension to his contract but we should all be grateful to Patrick Barclay who in one of his excellent columns in the Evening Standard newspaper in the extracts that follow, spoke on behalf of all referees when he wrote – “It sent out the most unhelpful message to every level of the game. It proclaimed that physically taking out one’s frustrations on the nearest body even if he is a match official is a bit naughty rather than unthinkable.[There is] the necessity for a match official to be able to conduct his function free of pushing and shoving. For the FA commission to turn its back on this principle is almost unforgivable dereliction of duty and a spit in the lifeless face of the organisation’s own Respect policy which died on its feet almost instantly because it was based on the ludicrous principle of a trickle up effect. Goodness knows what children of five will make of Pardew’s slap on the wrist but he is not now the villain of this piece- decency is the victim.”

Many of our brethren (ladies included) will be facing for the first time the novel concept of roll-on, roll-off substitutions. This can be very complicated especially if a club names five substitutes from whom only three can be used. A subtle Law change this season has complicated the matter even further where a named substitute starts the match in lieu of a player who was intended to start. Referees therefore will have to be very vigilant especially where an original player is substituted and comes back on the field later. One essential is that the referee must ensure the rule is followed that no substitute shall enter the field until the player leaving has crossed the proverbial white line. Otherwise chaos can reign and cheating (heaven forbid) could occur. The statement seems obvious but a sub going off is usually reluctant to depart and moves slowly whilst a sub coming on becomes anxious to enter the field and will usually rush on. Managers of teams must be instructed that this aspect of the Law is paramount and that it must be strictly followed.

Ken Goldman

Editor

The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Part 19 – Stormy weather

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
Venue: Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Weather: Very windy
Time: 74th minute

It had to be a goal but as the Rovers forward moved his foot to kick the ball into the empty goal the Casuals defender stumbled and fell over his own goal keeper and in the same movement collided into the Rovers player. The Rovers player through no fault of his own missed the ball completely and ended up on the ground with the other two players. I instinctively blew my whistle and pointed to the penalty spot. To award the penalty seemed the easy part and I knew this was clearly an obvious goal scoring opportunity. Normally this would be a red card but I had an excellent view of the incident and knew what had happened was an accident. It was certainly neither excessive force or reckless and it was not even careless, it was an accident and this was my dilemma. Again I knew the penalty was the right decision and not one single player had questioned my decision but I walked over to the defender and showed him a yellow card. Rovers felt I was being inconsistent as I had previously shown a red card for a player denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity but this was another exception to the rule and a red card in these circumstances I believe would have been unjust. Would you agree with that decision?

Rovers duly scored from the penalty and we continued with the match. Shortly afterwards the Rovers goal keeper took a goal kick. By now the extremely windy conditions had returned and the ball left the penalty area. Then the ball seemed to have a mind of its own and the wind then blew the ball back into the penalty area. With a Casuals player running towards the ball the Rovers goal keeper collects the ball into his hands and rolls the ball to the nearby team mate. I blow my whistle and run back from my position by the half way line. It seemed that most players had taken the same action and also converged by the penalty spot. Casuals claimed 'handball' and a penalty whilst others wanted the goal keeper sent off for denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity.....Yes I know that one again!.....and the Rovers just wanted the goal kick retaken. To me or even you this was surely an easy decision to make. It had to be an indirect free kick to the Casuals because the Rovers goal keeper had clearly played the ball twice which is not permitted in law. I know I have mentioned this previously and I am sure you can see the importance of knowing the law and the restarts and applying the law in a firm but fair manner.

Just when you think how easy it is to referee if you read and apply my good advice into your own game but then along come the players who generally have no idea on the laws of the game! A minute later a Rovers defender is carelessly fouled by an opponent in his own penalty area. This is an area I would not play 'advantage' in

so I duly awarded a free kick in favour of Rovers. The Rovers goal keeper places the ball where the foul occurred and rather than attempt a kick with the wind still blowing strongly he kicks the ball to his team mate who is standing about five metres away but is standing also in the penalty area. I blow my whistle and the goal keeper asks “What’s wrong this time? I haven’t played the ball twice and it was taken from the correct position!” I explained what he said was correct but the ball must leave the penalty area the same as a goal kick. The goal keeper told me “I have never heard of that one before and does it really matter for a Sunday league match.” In an attempt to help the goal keeper I informed him that a free kick awarded to the defending team inside its own goal area may be taken from anywhere within the goal area. He looked at me as if I were insane and just said “Yeah, yeah, yeah”. As you can probably surmise he continued to show dissent and was duly cautioned.

The following minute the Rovers defender being pursued by an opponent decides to kick the ball out of play. With a strong kick the ball hits the corner flag which promptly falls to the ground and the ball goes out of play. Almost simultaneously the goal keeper shouts “Throw in” and the forward shouts “Corner”. What was I to award.....a throw in to Casuals or a corner to Casuals? What would you do? In this instance I felt the award of a throw in would be safer but I suppose either would have been correct!

Let me know what you think,

Regards



Willy ‘The Whistler’ Woodwork

Willy Woodwork

‘PLEASE’ AND ‘THANK YOU’ IS THERE A CONNECTION?- BY OBSERVER

Can you see a connection in these three separate incidents concerning referees who may have caught your eye recently?

- a) A club linesman head butts a referee when he heard the referee "bad mouth" the young players he was supposed to be controlling.
- b) A referee is disciplined by his County Football Association for using foul language during a match.
- c) A referee head butts his club linesman after telling him to "shut your gob."

The connection is that all three officials, on the occasions mentioned, were unmindful as to how to compose themselves in that vital and necessary part of refereeing, verbal communication with players and club officials. These incidents probably reveal more about a referee's character rather than the ability to use the spoken word. Some men have the happy talent of being able to speak fluently when under pressure.

The best way to say something that would be listened to, would be to compile a set of "speeches for every occasion" that could be rehearse at home, in advance of any match, so that they would come over quite naturally during the game.

- 1) How to introduce myself as a referee to both club secretaries.
- 2) How to issue brief, easy-to-understand instructions to club linesmen; and get them on my side for ninety minutes.
- 3) How to talk to the two captains and all this before a ball is kicked.

When refereeing, always be ‘a please and thank you’ man and there is nothing wrong with using either word during a match. While they are not always noticed, there are as many times when they register with the player(s).

- 4) How simple it is to ensure that the throw-in is taken from the proper place if you stand at right angles to the touch-line, extend an arm and say, "From there, thank you, player."
- 5) How easy it is to prevent encroachment if, when the first free kick is awarded, an opponent of the kicker stands in front of the ball, to call out. "Give it ten yards, if you please, Blue 8 (or whatever)."

Most players will respond to an instruction or command, which, because it includes a ‘please’ or ‘thank you’, sounds like a request. Not all players of course respond and that is when you have to take firmer action to maintain control.

One of the most frequent pressure situations that confronts an inexperienced referee is that which happens when two opposing players fail to control the ball. Both claim they were fouled and hearing the cry of "play on", decide to settle it between themselves. There is a bit of the ‘old eyeball to eyeball’, a spot of chest heaving and if the game is not stopped, then all hell can break loose.

Faced with this situation, what would you do and what would you say?
Assuming that nothing more than a "talking to" was required, trot out one of the prepared speeches, which thanks to being rehearsed, would hopefully sound as being made up on the spot, and it goes as follows:-

"Lads, I find it hard to believe that this is the way you normally conduct yourselves on a Sunday morning, but if it is, then let me tell you that today you have picked the wrong referee. This game will be played according to the Laws and will be played under my control, not yours, and not yours (to each player). If either or both of you cannot accept that, then there is every chance that either or both of you will not get your ninety minutes in. I hope that both of you take my point because I will not repeat it. Now the rest of us would like to get on with the game, so take up your positions, please."

Has enough been said or too much?

Whichever, you can see the point that is being made.

The art of match control is very much an individual matter. What works for one may not be effective for another and nowhere is this truer when referees have to speak to players and club officials. Almost all the players will respond in the proper manner if spoken to in a way they can accept.

So to sum up, choose your words carefully.

Never use foul language as this merely gives the players licence to do the same.

Never issue a command or instructions unless you mean it.

Never shirk your duties, always be prepared to take action to enforce what you have said if it is disregarded.

Never forget to say 'please' and 'thank you'.

Referees - Are we all crazy? –Asks Stan Lover

Look at the facts. We are an endangered species. More than half million of us worldwide; dying out like dinosaurs of a bygone age. Our demise is largely due to our own folly for we suffer the cruelty of human nature from the very people we help add sunshine into dull lives. We put up with insults, abuse, threats and assaults. We are spat upon, ridiculed, shot at, and sometimes murdered.

Trained experts in our field, we are the targets for the masses who protest, contest, accuse us of corruption, racism, being pawns of the mafia, power crazy despots, and worse.

No, we are not politicians. We are football referees.

According to verbal taunts from the touchlines we are the lowest form of human existence, illegitimate offspring of unmarried parents, fair game for insults and humiliation. Surely no intelligent person would want to be so despised by fellow citizens. So, why do we do it? Can we be so dumb? Are we all crazy?

Who are we? Doctors, engineers, teachers, lawyers, scientists, experts in our chosen occupations which demand personal commitment, study, hard work, formal training and responsibility. All require effective management and communication skills. Experience of life, maturity and integrity are other qualities evident whenever referees meet.

These are intelligent and successful people, hardly compatible with the 'mental defectives' targeted by moronic verbal missiles launched from touchlines.

They are also the most visible officials. The real heroes in sport are the thousands of solitary guardians of discipline at grassroots level who have little chance of reaching the top. Such men and women, who devote a large slice of their lives in a referee's role, contribute an invaluable service to the community. So, why aren't we loved?

New recruits to refereeing football games face a steep learning curve. The law book only scratches the surface of a real game; played at speed with tough physical contact between competing athletes. It delegates responsibilities and supreme powers to the referee. He is a complete judicial system on legs. He detects the crime, makes the arrest, deliberates as the jury, announces the verdict, passes sentence as the judge, and carries out execution – all in a split second – hundreds of times in ninety minutes. Some task!

With this job description a football referee needs the ability to think fast on his feet; make quality judgements and correct decisions in emotionally charged situations; plus streetwise wisdom to apply justice with tact and diplomacy. Hard experience of officiating many games at various levels hones the desired qualities for a disciplined and fair interpretation of the rules of play on the field.

Reflecting on my own commitment to football, the questions flow. Why did I choose to officiate as a referee? Why have I exposed myself for years to the ever present atmosphere of grudging acceptance; to ridicule

and humiliation; bearing the incessant verbal, and sometimes physical, abuse of players and fans; enduring the minimum of facilities, washing in buckets of icy water on a bleak winter's day?

Why have I devoted an important part of my life trying for perfection as an arbiter; working hard to achieve a good level of fitness; accepting the inconvenience of time away from home and career? Why? What was the purpose?

Why do others indulge in a hobby where we blow whistles and wave tiny coloured flags. Are they crazy, too? Is it for the money? How many have made a million as a football referee?

Common answers include "I do it for the love of the game." "I want to give something back." "I enjoy being involved."

For me it goes deeper than that. Yes, a major attraction was to be active inside the play, the next best thing to actually kicking the ball. I was part of the theatre of sport, playing a role which was positive and satisfying.

But, I realize now that, during 25 years serving as an official on the field, I was hoping for a dream to come true - a dream where every match is played to the highest ideals of fair play: where the players, guided by moral and physical disciplines written into wise rules, combine individual skills in an athletic ballet of spectacular movement and color; where they express emotions of excitement and joy for themselves and for those who watch.

I wanted to relive all of those wonderful moments of elation I felt as a boy with a ball at my feet.

In reality, every cynical foul, every attempt to cheat, every act of disrespect for the game and its disciplines, spoiled that dream; felt like a knife in my flesh, drawing blood and staining my vision of the purity of sport. I know that dream was naïve but, together with fellow referees, I tried to limit the degradation of a healthy sport by thoughtless players and fans who do not share my degree of passion.

Although my dream has rarely been realized I look back on my years as an active referee with satisfaction. I learned much about myself; about latent convictions; accepted responsibilities and developed attributes which served me well through life. In my own country, and many others in the six confederations of FIFA, I learned much about people and feel privileged to have met, and shared my love of a special sport with a unique brotherhood of honest men and women from all walks of life.

An endangered species we might be but we'll never be extinct. We can never be replaced by robots which could possibly impose the rules of play by computers. But without human heart judgement and streetwise justice our sport would become an arid emotional desert.

Referees will continue to rock on an emotional see-saw, one day ready to pack it all in, and then feeling an irresistible surge of adrenalin before the next match. It is an obsession which yields more satisfaction than frustration.

After this heart searching and mental agonizing I ask myself the final question, 'Would you do it again?'

Without hesitation I get the stupid answer 'YES, SIR!

OK, so I'm crazy, too!

@@

All our Yesterdays- By George Basten

It was after reading an article by Jimmy Greaves that prompted me to put pen to paper. He was asked whether he was glad to see team GB back at the Olympics. His answer was "I'll have to be honest and say no". He went on to say that its been 52 years since the Great Britain football team last played at the Olympic Games and those players were then described as amateurs.

One of the best known players of that last GB side was Jim Lewis a title winning Chelsea centre forward or winger who played at 3 Olympics in all. Jim was a fine player and Chelsea team-mate of Greaves when the latter made his League debut at White Hart Lane. Lewis also scored 423 goals in 522 appearances for Walthamstow Avenue who were then one of England's top amateur sides in a stint either side of his spell at Chelsea.

I approached Walthamstow Avenue Manager Jim Lewis senior to enquire if I could train with the players pre-season and also on Tuesday and Thursday evenings on my own and Jim readily agreed. In time I was asked whether I would be interested to referee a public trial game and I was delighted to do so. Following that game I refereed 5 more games for the club which were all friendlies against Leyton Orient; Brentford; Queens Park Rangers and West Ham United. In the West Ham side there was a young player called Harry Redknapp who played on the right wing for them. I also went on to referee the Young England team behind closed doors. I believe that that team went on to win the World Cup for Under 21 players and I also believe that Jim Lewis played in most of those games.

To any aspiring young referees I would say see if you can train with one of the senior clubs and you just never know what could transpire from such a move.

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North Middlesex Referees Society - One Hundred Club - Season 2011/2012

The final four draws, for May; June; July; and August were made at the September meeting. The winners are as follows:-

May

3	George Basten	£19.60
26	John Faithfull	£9.80
37	Peter Allen	£4.90

July

16	Phil Bowman	£19.60
47	John Metselaar	£9.80
48	Terry Flack	£4.90

June

5	Cos Fernandes	£19.60
22	Terry Hayne	£9.80
26	John Faithfull	£4.90

August

25	John Faithfull	£28.00
24	Peter Allen	£14.00
37	Peter Allen	£7.00

Below are the initial Membership Numbers for the forthcoming season which runs from September 2012 through to August 2013. We still have several members from last season who have not subscribed again this season, so we would welcome you rejoining.

- | | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Gary Cobden | 15. Steve Wildgoose | 29. Robin Jagot |
| 2. Gary Cobden | 16. Tom White | 30. George Basten |
| 3. George Basten | 17. Tom White | 31. Peter Allen |
| 4. Steve Palmer | 18. Terry Hayne | 32. Adrian Bland |
| 5. Cos Fernandes | 19. Peter Allen | 33. Peter Allen |
| 6. Cos Fernandes | 20. John Faithfull | 34. James Morris |
| 7. Charles Lifford | 21. John Faithfull | 35. David Page |
| 8. Daniel Webster | 22. Peter Peters | 36. Max Lea |
| 9. Dave Chapman | 23. Peter Peters | 37. Alex Bedwell |
| 10. Stan Szplit | 24. Donald Stewart | 38. John Metselaar |
| 11. Mike Sibley | 25. Peter Allen | 39. Terry Flack |
| 12. Mike Sibley | 26. Bob Martin | 40. Terry Flack |
| 13. Roger Fox | 27. Robin Jagot | |
| 14. Steve Wildgoose | 28. Robin Jagot | |

The first draws using the updated numbers indicated above will be made at the October meeting.

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.

NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY 100 CLUB

I wish to purchase.....share(s) in the NMRS 100 Club at £12.00 per share per season.

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

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

Society Use - Numbers Allocated.....

Gary Cobden
Honorary Treasurer



The Referees Association

You will all be aware of the current problems being experienced within the Referees Association, and the fact that an 'Independent' Enquiry into its running has been instigated. In connection with this, I have received an e-mail from David Elleray, RA President, advising that there is no timescale for completion of the enquiry. Council met during early October to discuss the situation, and will report back at the next Society meeting.

However, it is interesting to note that the latest edition of Refereeing magazine (September 2012) makes no reference whatsoever to the current enquiry; neither does the Referees Association website – in fact the last news item on the Referees Association website at the time of writing is dated 17 July 2012!!!

Gary Cobden



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An Apology

There were some errors in the obituary for Mick Osborn provided by Terry Hayne in last months on-line and e-mailed magazine. The errors came about because I had to rewrite the article to ensure the magazine was of a size that could be safely e-mailed and easily opened from the website. It was not possible to simply 'lift and shift' the article due to its format. The article has now been corrected, and this has now been reflected in the magazine on the website.

Gary Cobden



A Reminder

There are still a few members who have yet to rejoin for the current season; for those of you yet to rejoin, this month will be the final issue of the Normidian that you will receive. If you normally receive your magazine via e-mail, then you will have received a final reminder and personalised membership form by this method. If you receive your magazine by post, then this is your final reminder for rejoining, and a and personalised membership form is enclosed.

Should you choose not to rejoin the Society, it would be appreciated if you could let me know, together with any specific reasons you may have for not rejoining.

In the event that you do not rejoin the Society, in accordance with the Society Rules, your membership will lapse, and this will be the final edition of the Normidian that we are able to send you.

Gary Cobden

Honorary Treasurer



NORTH MIDDLESEX REFEREES SOCIETY

Minutes of the Society Meeting held on Thursday 20th September 2012 at HWSC.

Apologies – Robin Jagot; Gary Cobden; Percy Brown

Minutes of the April Society meeting were approved and signed as a true record.

Treasurer's Report – Membership is 75 Full and 8 Associates.

Secretary's Report – None.

Supplies Officer's Report- None.

Editor's Report – All articles or material by 1-10-12 please.

Training Delegate's Report- Jeff Till stated that 17 people on the course being carried on.

Any Other Business - None.

The meeting stood for one minute's silence in memory of our late Vice President Mick Osborn.

The Chairman then introduced our guest speaker Stuart Allen – County Development Officer for Middlesex County FA. [See below]

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September's Guest Speaker .

Was as indicated above Stuart Allen who dealt with what goes on at Middlesex County HQ relating to Staffing; Funding; Core programme and priorities He showed to visual presentations the first displaying that all the money received goes out to programmes as the Middx FA is a not for profit organisation. He also dealt with the new concepts for the 2012/13 season regarding smaller pitches and smaller goals for the younger age groups.

The second presentation gave facilities updates as to what developments had just been approved and what are being currently considered for assistance by the County.

Stuart also promised to take back to County the idea that some of our own members would like to have a Referees course on Futsal as Stuart indicated how much this was a fast growing activity.

Stan Rosenthal gave the vote of thanks.

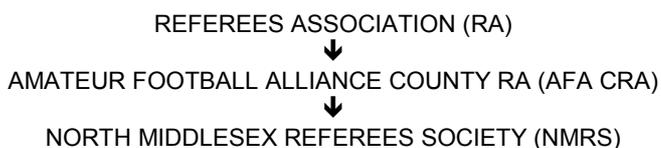
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

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

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

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

The National Structure for the Society is:



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

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

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

What are the Benefits of RA Membership?

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

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

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

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

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

Note

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

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

Updated July 2011

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

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



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

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

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

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

PERMISSION IS GIVEN TO REPRODUCE MATERIAL WITH A SUITABLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

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