

*The Normidian
Magazine
Season 2016/17*



**THE
REFEREES'
ASSOCIATION**



September 2016

COUNCIL 2016 - 2017

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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 on Thursday the **22nd** of September 2016 at 7-45pm at the Holtwhites Sports & Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Enfield Middlesex when the guest speaker will be Andy Taylor, of the Middlesex FA who will talk on the new /revised Laws of the Game.**(Please note the new date).**

EDITORIAL

Yet again the three main authoritative branches of Football in this Country namely the FA the Football League and the Premier League have announced plans to cut down on what they call "intolerable behaviour" by players, managers and coaches. They indicated that poor behaviour had reached "unacceptable levels" So from the start of this season they propose that referees should enforce the Laws they have so far failed to enforce, namely producing red cards and dismissals for confronting match officials and/ or using offensive language or gestures towards them. There will also be action taken for bad behaviour within the Technical Areas and this must be more vigorously enforced.

Of course we have heard all this before, after all what was the "Respect" campaign all about but if it can do any good then it will be all the better for the game.

In another Directive that of penalising players holding at corners Mike Dean invoked it in the match between Stoke and Manchester City in mid-August by awarding a penalty against each team for the offence. It remains to be seen. A point made by Mark Hughes after the game, whether other referee stamp down on this and the offence subsides or whether they let things go as they have been apt to do and we return to a previous and unacceptable status quo.

And now for something different as the saying goes. What about the revised Laws? Perhaps the silliest and most unnecessary Law change for this season is the one where it states that the ball no longer has to be played forwards at a kick-off. This has meant that so far many teams have taken the opportunity to play the ball backwards much like in 5-a-side football. However someone forgot to change the Law about each side remaining in their own half at a kick-off and although it was much abused in the past it is now almost impossible to kick the ball back if you are standing in your own half. Thus with those playing the ball back we have seen just over 90% standing with impunity in their opponent's half. It was hard enough stopping that encroachment in the past without a Law change that positively encourages it. Whilst mentioning re-starts nothing really has been done to stop the confusion over the "drop ball" except to add that any number of players can contest it but the referee still cannot determine who should be involved meaning in reality there is still a question over who is involved and who determines how it should take place, other than saying the referee should drop the ball where the game was stopped. Incidentally while it is advisable for all referees to have the LOAF, this season, despite its increase in costs, for every referee to have one to cover the changes in the Laws that have been effected. At least we at North

Middlesex Society are going to have our first speaker of the season deal with these Law changes or revisions, so hopefully we will have a large turn-out on this occasion.

Although belatedly we would obviously want to congratulate the team of officials from the National List who officiated in the UEFA European Nations Final along with Martin Atkinson who was an extra official who gave England the only extra referee in the tournament. The Referee of course was Mark Clattenberg who has had a great year, what with refereeing the FA Cup Final and the UEFA Champions League Final as well to become only the second man to do both of the latter finals, the first being Pedro Proenca in 2012. The others involved were Assistants Simon Beck and Jake Collin whilst the Additional Referees were Anthony Taylor and Andre Mariner We must also mention The Fourth Official V Kassai and the Reserve Official G Ring both from Hungary..

Finally the President and the Council wish everyone connected with our Society together with all readers a happy healthy and successful season.

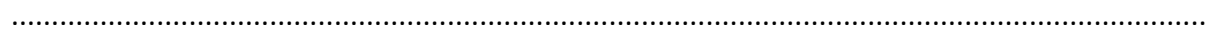
Ken Goldman

Editor

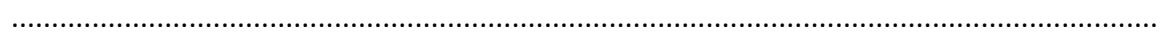


Flagging Up

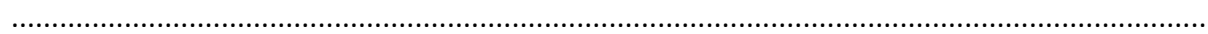
Important dates to flag are the speakers for the meetings in October –Daniel Lauszkina and November Keith Hiller (old Willy the Whistler himself).



We are sorry to announce the death of Kevin Nottage who died in July of this year. Our Secretary Robin Jago attended the funeral and we are hoping to receive further details which will be recorded in due course.



Please note that the position of Treasurer is currently vacant and that the Society finances are presently being covered by the Secretary and the Chairman for the time being.



The Adventures of Willy 'Red card' Woodwork *The Whistling Referee*

Euro - 2016.....Hold the stick

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)
Venue: Hackney Marshes – Pitch 165
Weather: Where is the sun cream?

Time has gone forward and most of the tournament is a distant memory. It seemed a great idea to expand the tournament from 16 to 24 teams but I initially had a doubt as in a group of four teams there would be four teams out of six that would qualify by finishing in third place. That did not sound much of a challenge.....finish third and go through to the knock out stages. But what this new format did was to make sure the final game for all the teams ensured that there would be something to still play for and an opportunity to advance in the tournament. So far so good.

Portugal entered the tournament with a good team with one of the greatest players in the world.....Christiano Ronaldo. Their form coming into the tournament was very good and they were among the favourites to actually win the tournament.

Unfortunately they did not deliver. Yes, they may have won the tournament but actually only won a single match within ninety minutes. England were.....England. They qualify for the tournament finals and fail to deliver miserably at the finals. If only we could pick the players who play week in week out in the Premier league.

What did grab my attention was obviously the match officials. I thought overall they did a great job but please what is the point of the 5th and 6th officials?

Firstly they look silly. They hold a stick in the hands for ninety plus minutes but never wave it or use it. Is it an assistant referees flag without the flag.....you tell me!

They stand on the goal line and watch what? Have you ever seen any of these officials do anything.....I haven't. They also stand on the goal line which the side of the assistant referee. Surely they should be on the other side. That would make more sense to me. Mind you, what do I know? All season I am the official. No assistants, no 4th official and no 5th and 6th official. Can you imagine having a total of six officials for my match. The players would still tell us that we are wrong! How good must I be that I can cope with all six roles every Sunday morning.

After a few promotions the match officials have the opportunity to act in the capacity as assistant referees. After watching the Euros I want to focus on just being a 5th or 6th official. (Is one more senior than the other?)

How wonderful for me. I will be at the next World Cup standing by the goal. What a great view of the match and I will give you all a wave (not with my stick just in case the referee actually thinks that I have given a decision). Just like having a free ticket. All I have to do is stand there for ninety minutes and do absolutely nothing. Would you like to stand by the other goal?

I hear you say that the officials are 'wired' up and are able to talk to one another. Maybe the ref is saying he wants one sugar in his tea at half time or where shall we go for dinner tonight? So with this thought have you ever seen the 5th/6th officials talking to anyone or seeing their lips move.....I certainly have not.

Just to let you know there are plans to increase more teams at future World Cups.

One final thought.....have you read the new version of the 'Laws of the game'. Three years in the planning just to decide that the ball at the kick off does not have to move forward.....wow!

If I had my way a yellow card for dissent would mean the player missed one match. Next time the player does the same he misses two matches and then four and so on. On a Sunday morning in my league this would stop players showing dissent immediately. Failing that they would miss half the season.

So much for my thoughts but next time round we will be focusing on proper football.....Cockfosters Casuals and Reds Rovers. Just to let you know my next fixture is Dog and Duck FC versus Blues United. Possibly a bigger derby match than Real Madrid versus Barcelona.

See you all next month,

Regards,

Willy Woodwork

Willy 'Red card' Woodwork.....the whistling referee.

Report on the RA AGM held on Saturday the 16th July 2016.

Rule Changes and Notices of Motion.

Rule Change

There were 8 Rule changes proposed of which 7 were subsequently withdrawn. The one that was proposed and passed related to the deletion of Schedule 8 of the Rules as it was "time expired" This was passed by a majority of 2118.

Notices of Motion

As to the Notices of Motion of which there were several it was passed that the Board publicise the ability to join the RA by paying subscriptions by debit card.

Likewise passed was a motion to rectify the poor membership data base that now exists.

Next the Motion that the RA logo be registered as a Trade Mark was sensibly carried by a large majority.

A Motion easily confirmed was one that it confirmed the operation of "Quest" but asked the Board to seek rewards from Sporting Touch for those achieving the appropriate recognitions.

Importantly the AGM was concerned that substantial funds were being transferred to the RA/FA Youth Council but no accounts were being produced. The proposal that in future these accounts when approved should be appended to the RA Annual Report was passed by a very large majority.

This was followed by the proposal that the Board's 3 year Plan be submitted in future to the AGM for approval.

Lastly the AGM was obviously concerned at the loss of 12000 members over the last 15 years putting the viability of the RA into question. It was felt that in view of the changing face of referee management that a working party be set up to investigate and produce a report by 30th October 2016 with recommendations to be put to the 2017 AGM on the future structure of the RA to prevent its demise.

Surprisingly this Motion was carried by only a majority of 184 (1385-1201).

[The full details of the AGM Report on the Rule Changes and Notices of Motion, including the several that were proposed and then withdrawn can be found on the Referees' Association website]

Late Flag.

Peter Dace draws my attention to an interesting query that was raised in a recent Daily Mail Questions page. Not whatever happed top the Likely Lads but whatever happened to the Russian Referee who was lining in the never to be forgotten 1966 World Cup Final when England’s senior footballers won their last trophy and confirmed Geoff Hurst’s shot had crossed the line (which it had because I was there). Point number one is that he was not Russian at all but came from Azerbaijan. Point two is that he was a reasonable player turning out for Spartak Baku until injury ended his playing career. However his love of football saw him become a referee when in a game he was intending to watch the referee failed to turn up. He officiated in over 400 games over 20 years thereafter and when he retired from officiating he became a coach and then General Secretary to Azerbaijan’s Football Federation. He died in 1996 aged only 68.

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Turning from World Cup Finals to the Olympic Games, an infographic from Mr Gamez on colours at the Olympic Games shows the rings black, green, red, yellow and blue represent the 5 Continents taking part and their interlocking demonstrates the unity that sport is intended to bring. Colours mean a lot in different countries so for example Mexicans believe that green represents independence so their national football team wears green jerseys while the Ukrainians consider blue signifies good health and the Chinese that red produces good luck.

Did you know that way back in 2014 the then coach to the Hungary National side Attila Pinter was pulled up for abusing a referee at an under-9 game whilst watching his son play. He was ordered to undergo “communications training” by the Hungarian FA after calling the Official a cheat when his son’s team lost a 2 goal lead. He subsequently opined “As Hungary Coach I shouldn’t have said what I did but as a dad it was awful to watch the disappointment of my son” A spokesman for the Hungarian FA said “Pinter speaks clearly but we can help his style with communications training”.

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The Society 100 Club

We have the following winners over the close season-

May- Peter Peters-£14.40; George Basten-£7.20; June- Dave Chapman-£14.40; Roger Fox- £7.20.
July- John Metzelaar-£14.40; Tony Ward-£7.20; August- Robin Jagot £14.40; Peter Bailey-£7.20.

The 100 Club starts again this September and the joining fee is £12.

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I should like to thank Michele Goodwin for her considerable assistance in producing this edition of the magazine.

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OBITUARIES

As there are so many Spurs fans amongst our members and indeed readers we are incorporating details of both a coach and player who were involved with the club for some time.

We are therefore sorry to learn the deaths of-

KEITH BLUNT

Former National Coach and Director of the FA National School at Lilleshall; youth coach at Tottenham Hotspur; and both player and Manager for Sutton United, who also managed Malmo in Sweden and Viking in Norway. He additionally coached in China and was inducted into the FA Coaches Hall of Fame in 2014.

He died of Cancer on the 12th of August 2016 aged 77.

JOHNNY BROOKS

The man with the brilliant body-swerve, so little of which do we see today. He played for Reading and Spurs with 179 appearances 51 goals, Chelsea, Brentford with 83 games and 36 goals, Crystal Palace with a stint at Stevenage managed by George Curtis. He gained one England Cap and even late on he was playing charity matches with the Ex-Spurs X1.

Born 23/12/1931 Died 27/6/16 aged 84.

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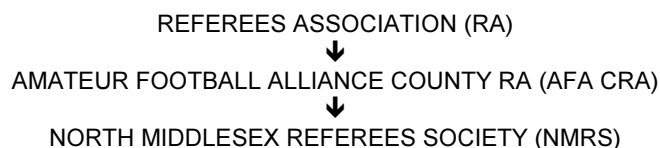
INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR SOCIETY

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.

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. The publication is available on-line at the-ra.org/refmagazine.php. 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.

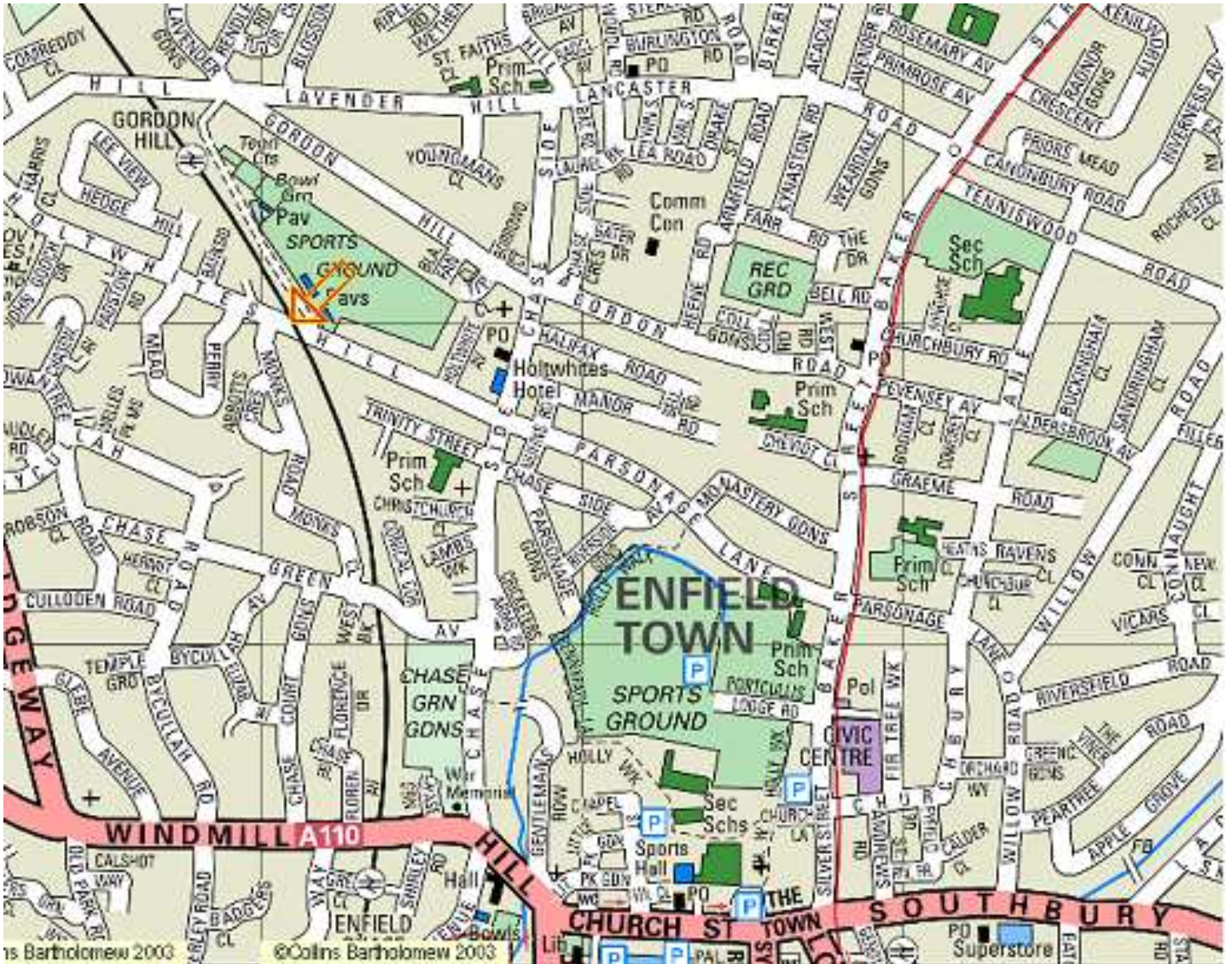
AFA	Amateur Football Alliance
AFA CRA	Amateur Football Alliance County Referees Association
CFA	County Football Association
CRA	County Referees Association
LFA	London Football Association
MCFA	Middlesex County Football Association
R.A.	Referees Association
RA-FA	Referees Association/Football Association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

Reviewed September 2015

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Are held on the third Thursday monthly (except December – second Friday) commencing at 7:45 pm, at Holtwhites Sports and Social Club, Kirkland Drive, Holtwhites Hill, Enfield, Middlesex, EN2 0RN Telephone: 020 8363 4449

Dates for Season 2016/2017:- September 22; October 20; November 17.2016; and January 19; February 16; March 16; April 20 2017; May - Tba



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; tfl.gov.uk/modes/london-overground for rail information to Enfield Town and www.thameslinkrailway.com for rail information to Enfield Chase and Gordon Hill.

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