

# LEIGH & DISTRICT REFEREES' MAGAZINE

JANUARY 2010

## WELCOME EVERYONE TO 2010

Well I all hope everyone survived the festive period, but now it's back to the daily grind.

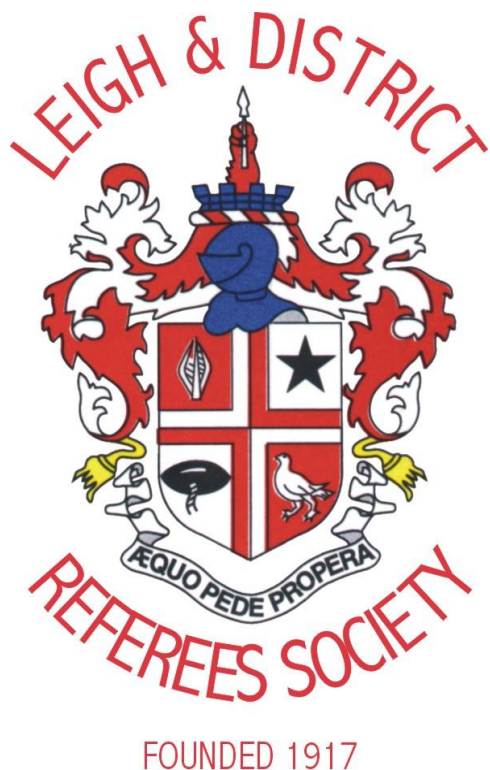
With the bad weather we've had recently not many of us have been out refereeing; I know Karl gave the go-ahead at Peterbrough, and the local paper reported the below

"The decision from referee Karl Evans to give the game the green light was definitely a questionable one with the playing surface resembling more of an ice rink than a football pitch"

Alan has done a real nice write up, regarding his youth cup match (escapades) thanks go to him for his contribution.

As you can see if you didn't attend the Christmas outing you missed out a real treat, see page three

To finish off, this newsletter is as much yours as it is mine, I appreciate anything and everything that anyone might want included in the newsletter; thanks to the Alan for his write



Send all your entries to : referee@wootech.co.uk

## MEMBERS QUIZ

Just for fun (answers on the last page)

1. Can you name the long serving referee in the picture to the right?
2. What is the maximum length and distance of a football pitch?
3. What weight should a football be?
4. Where would an assistant referee hold his flag if he is awarding a penalty?
5. How many cautionable offences are there, and can you name them?
6. A player from the opposing team restarts the game with a throw in and as a fair play gesture he throws it back to the keeper. The keeper then picks it up - is this permitted?



WHO IS THIS DASHING YOUNG MAN?

# ALANS CORNER:

## THIS MONTH, FA YOUTH CUP

### Tranmere Rovers V Cambridge United

18th November 2009

There's nothing much more exciting as a referee when an FA appointment comes along. I was amazed that on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November an e-mail arrived in my inbox from The FA with the good news that I had been appointed to officiate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Round of the FA Youth Cup.

I was absolutely made up due to it being an FA appointment and that I had never officiated so far into the competition before.

After checking through the e-mail I was pleased to see that I had been appointed as Assistant Referee to the Tranmere Rovers v Cambridge Utd tie on the following Wednesday. Just to get the appointment was great but the added bonus was that the tie would be played on Tranmere Rovers Home Ground Prenton Park.

For the next couple of days the match was all I could think about especially walking out on to the pitch at Prenton Park. I was also pleased to know that the referee would be my coach/mentor Peter Gooch. As soon as the fixture came through the arguments began as to who would get the jelly babies and shower gel.

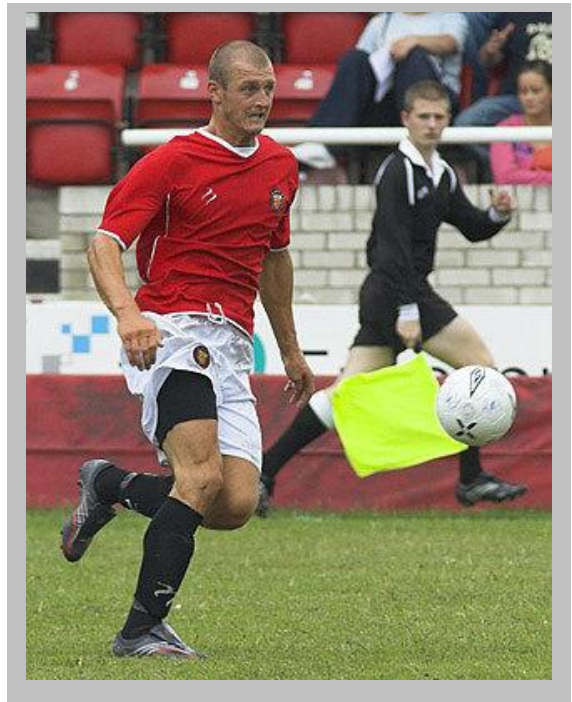
I made my own way to the ground due to my current location in Liverpool and met the two other officials at the ground. On arriving at the ground we were whisked away to the board room for the usual tea and biscuits and general chit chat. Then it was time for the pre-match instructions which were carried out on the pitch. Until that moment I wasn't nervous nor do I really get nervous before a game, but walking out on to the pitch took my breath away as I was unaware as to how big the stadium actually was. And as all referees say to themselves, 'imagine this place full'.

After the pre-match instructions it was time to get ready and warmed up. As always the pre-match instructions from Goochy were inspiring and made me feel relaxed and determined to run through walls for him. Once the warm-up had finished it was time for the serious switch to be pressed and game mode to commence. On paper Tranmere were the better team due to them being involved in the Football League Youth Alliance and having home Advantage.

Whereas Cambridge has travelled a long way and played in a league at a much lower standard to Tranmere. However Cambridge hadn't travelled all that way for nothing. A tight and quiet first-half came to life in the 41st minute when Tranmere scored with a shot into the bottom corner. The second-half started like the end of the first-half with Tranmere scoring with a header following a well worked corner.

However Cambridge were not finished and on 63<sup>rd</sup> minute their hard work paid off when they fired a rasping 25 yard shot into the top corner. Minutes later and Cambridge has similar effort but from 35 yards only for it to agonisingly hit the crossbar. With the Tranmere bench biting their nails and instructions being barked out, the nerves were settled with a minute to go when Tranmere breached the Cambridge defence and finished from 15 yards settling the tie at Tranmere 3 Cambridge 1.

The main thing was the game went without any controversy and the officials on the night did a good job despite the importance of the tie. Tranmere went on to play Ipswich Town in the next round. However my FA Youth Cup journey was over for another season. It was certainly a memorable night for me and a very proud achievement to officiate in this prestigious competition. Hopefully I can go one better next time and officiate in the 3<sup>rd</sup> round.



# OUR RECENT SOCEITY OUTING



## Bowling December 2009

As you can see we went bowling, and I think I speak for everyone when I say it was really good fun and everyone had a striking time (\*poor joke). Nobody was really keeping score so unsure who won, either individual or team; although am pretty sure I got the highest score of the night, if memory serves me correctly possibly the oldies.

It was a real good turn out, and a few of members stayed out late; the wife wasn't too pleased.

If you want to see all the photos of the night then got to our Leigh Referees facebook page. [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and then search for "Leigh Referees"

If you're not already a member of the facebook page then please join, we are sitting on 21 members at the moment. Paul sends regular meeting invites and updates out to all.



Unsure who this shady individual is to the left, but would advise approach with caution. Everyone on the night was unsure why the hat was always on; we did bowl inside

# POINTS OF PLAY



## Was Mike Dean correct?

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January Manchester City played Manchester United in the first leg of the Carling Cup semi final.

Mike Dean awarded City a penalty where a foul seemed to have been first committed outside the box, but then only when City player Bellamy fell over in the box did Mr Dean award a foul and as it was inside the box this foul was punishable by a penalty. City scored from the penalty and went on to win the match 2-1.

It has been reported that Mike Dean first played advantage for a tug he saw on Bellamy's shirt and then a second tug was seen inside the box and then this was where Bellamy fell over.

Was Mike Dean right, only you can decide.

# QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Of course, it's Albert Handley, the father of Darren our speaker back in January
2. Length 130 yards (119metres) by 100 yards (91 metres)
3. 420-445 grams
4. Unfurled across his/her chest
5. Seven (Six if you count entering and leaving together) unsporting behavior, dissent by word or action, delaying the restart of play, failure to respect the required distance when play is restarted with a corner kick, free kick, or throw-in, Entering or re-entering the field of play without the referee's permission, deliberately leaving the field of play without the referee's permission, persistent infringement
6. The thrower was an opponent of the goalkeeper, so the goalkeeper may receive the ball into his hands before the next phase of play. Goalkeepers are penalised for handling the ball at a throw-in if it is thrown to them by a member of his own team.

**Well that's all for January, check the website for all the December info and don't forget the next meeting is on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010**