

New Season, New Directives

Well the 2008-09 season has finally arrived and as always new directives have been introduced. Most notably is the Respect The Ref campaign which has been introduced across the footballing spectrum in England.

- At Football League and Premier League level, club captains and managers are required to personally hand in the team-sheet one hour before kick-off.
- Furthermore a fair play handshake is to be adopted by the team prior to kick off on the field of play – this concerns officials of Contributory League and above.

So how does this effect you, you may ask – well at all levels of football a **NO JEWELLERY** ban has been put in place. The statement from the FA is as follows:

‘All items of jewellery (necklaces, rings, bracelets, earrings, leather bands, rubber bands etc.) are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Using tape to cover jewellery is not acceptable.’

If the player cannot remove the piece of jewellery that he or she is wearing then they cannot play under any circumstances. Further details about this particular directive are on our website and I suggest you print it out and take it to every game in case there is a dispute from a player or manager.

In addition, all games must be played on a pitch that is cordoned off; this is now an LFA rule and applies to all youth football from under 18 and below. One further item is that players were being cautioned or dismissed from the field of play and then no misconduct report was being submitted to the county FA. Please keep on top of your correspondence and if you caution or dismiss anyone, ensure that it is reported as it may cost you promotion and result in a possible suspension.

Finally from a society point of view, I would like to wish all members good luck for the new season whatever their aims and targets maybe; and remember the SOCIETY DIES IF WE FAIL TO ATTEND MEETINGS.

Editor – Alan Bennett

Frank Brown

23rd June 2008

Frank Brown 1940 - 2008

It is with deep regret we have to inform you of the death of one of this society's members, namely Mr Frank Brown, Frank 68, lost his short fight in the early hours of Friday last, he was with his family. Frank had been a member for over ten years, but had been a referee much longer, and was well known by many in local football. He had become a stalwart in local football, always championing the cause of fellow referees, especially novice and young referees alike.



He possessed a wicked sense of humour and always saw good in everyone he met. During the season you would always find him out at a game watching or refereeing only giving up early in season 2006 2007. I noted that most managers said Frank was strict but fair and great with the kids, great praise indeed.



He played football in the local area for thirty years, playing for both Atherton Collieries and LR, moving on to The LUT team, Butts Mission and others. Apparently a goalkeeper of note or complete madness. I am reliably informed he first fell into refereeing by officiating at a works game with British Gas who he worked for (apparently in this game he sent off Bill Shaw now an LFA Vice President). So he turned his hand from goalkeeper to referee, indeed he became a highly respect match official.

He will be sadly missed by all who knew him

Duncan Tighe

Society Profile



Name – James Waterfall

Age – 28

Years with Society – Two years

Years Refereeing – Five but with a four year gap in between

Current Level – Six

Career Highlight – none as of yet

Sporting Idol – Tony Coton

Refereeing Idol – Pierluigi Collina

Aim for the season – To be promoted

Aim for the future – To be promoted

Best Stadium officiated at – N/A

Funniest Refereeing Moment – N/A

Favourite Team – Manchester City

Favourite Holiday Destination – Anywhere in America

Favourite Sporting Moment – Zidane head butt

Hobbies – Computers, Refereeing, you know all the other usual stuff.

Interesting fact about yourself – When people usually ask me this I tell them that I'm a referee; so I know I don't have one.

If you wish to have your profiles included in the monthly magazine then please e-mail your profile to gordonajbennett@hotmail.com

Referee World

Whistle Blows On Century Of Tradition

STEVE GANSON will make history at Wembley on Saturday week when the St Helens-based official becomes the first referee to take charge of a Challenge Cup final involving his home-town team.

Ganson, the sport's most senior referee, was yesterday appointed to the final between St Helens at Hull, ending the century-old tradition of neutral referees in major finals.

The RFL scrapped the neutral referees policy earlier this season following the advent of full-time officials last year, a move which has passed without controversy.

"All appointments are based solely on form, and in the same way that a coach picks his best line-up for a final, I have to do the same and on current form Steve Ganson is the right man for the job," said the RFL's director of referees Stuart Cummings.

Referee Abandons Cup Match Without Telling

JUNIOR FOOTBALL chiefs are to investigate after a referee abandoned a league cup match in Dundee, prompting farcical scenes at Beechwood Park on Saturday.

The league cup match between Lochee Harp and Downfield ground to a halt when referee William Ferguson walked out at half-time without telling the teams or supporters. Players from both junior sides trotted onto the field for the second half, but the only thing they were kicking was their heels as Ferguson failed to appear.

It was only after an official from the home side went to the referee's room that he discovered the whistler had decided to call it quits and changed into his shirt and tie.

During the first half Harp manager Mike Kelly was told by the referee to stay within his technical area, and it is understood that there was further discussion about the issue at half time.

It is understood the referee abandoned the game because he believed the manager's intention was to return pitchside after the interval despite being told to stay in the dressing room.

Member's Appointments

Competition	Fixture	Referee	Assistant Referee	4 th Official	Date
NWC Premier Div	Ashton Athletic v Bacup Borough		Alan Bennett		23/8
L.A.L. Div 1	Howe Bridge Mills v Tyldsley Utd	Nigel D'Arcy			23/8
L.A.L. Div 3	Tottington Utd v Mostonians Res	Gary Finch			23/8
L.A.L. Div 3	Ashtonians v Little Lever SC 'A'	Martin Smith			23/8
Unibond Premier Div	Marine v Cammell Laird		Alan Bennett		25/8
L.A.L. 1 st Teams Cup Round 1	Castle Hill v Bolton Lads Club	Nigel D'Arcy			27/8
F.A. Cup Preliminary	Woodley Sports v Brodsworth MW		Alan Bennett		30/8
L.A.L. Premier Div	Old Boltonians v Little Lever SC		Gary Finch		30/8
L.A.L. Div 2	Old Blackburnians 'A' v Rochdale St Clements	Nigel D'Arcy			30/8
Unibond North	Trafford v Curzon Ashton		Alan Bennett		2/9
L.A.L. 2 nd Team Cup Round 1	CMB Res v Rochdale St Clements Res	Martin Smith			3/9
L.A.L. B Team Cup Round 1	Rossendale Ams 'B' v Little Lever Sc 'B'	Nigel D'Arcy			3/9
L.F.L.	Bamber Bridge Res v Lancaster City Res		Carl Berry		6/9
L.A.L. Div 5	Thornleigh Res v Ashtonians Res	Martin Smith			6/9
L.A.L. Div 7	Horwich R.M.I. v Bury GSBO 'B'	Gary Finch			6/9
L.F.L.	Staylbridge Celtic Res v Guiseley Res	Alan Bennett	Jordan Holmes		10/9
Conference North	Vauxhall Motors v Hinckley Utd		Alan Bennett		13/9

LEIGH & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL REFEREES' SOCIETY

21st August 2008 MEETING

AGENDA

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 17th April 2008

MATTERS ARISING

CORRESPONDENCE

MATTERS ARISING

FOOTBALL PARTNERS

LEIGH YOUTH LEAGUE, BOLTON BOYS & GIRLS FEDERATION

LEIGH RMI / LEIGH EAST/ MEETING VENUE

REFEREES ASSOCIATION /
LANCASHIRE REFEREES ASSOCIATION

TREASURER'S REPORT

JUNIOR REFEREE ACADEMY
ALAN BENNETT

TRAINING CLASSES / REFEREE OBSERVER / COACH INCLUDING FUNDING

SOCIETY WEBSITE

ATHERTON CHARITY CUP (review P Haworth)

ALTERATION TO RULES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

POINTS OF PLAY / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Minutes of the Leigh & District Association Football Referees' Society

Meeting held Thursday 17th April 2008

Mr Mort in the chair with the following members present: D Harrop, D Tighe, K Berry, N Lea C Berry, S Brockley, M Smith (Ath), M Smith (Bol), L Clarkson, R Thorpe, G Ogden, P Haworth, G Ogden, G Halliwell, K Evans, P Molyneux, A Bennett D Sims and G Knowles

Guests:

Apologies from R Drake, D Renshaw, D Wilson R Birchall, F Brown, J Bolton N D'Arcy, N Smith and J Waterfall

Minutes of the meeting held 27th March 2008 had been posted to the website (with additional copies being available at the meeting). The minutes were then proposed as a true record by A Bennett and seconded by D Sims

Matters arising: None

Correspondence received

- Wigan MBC application community chest
- Referees Association of England registrations 25 members
- Funding clearance for recent grant
- Westleigh High Scholl information on pitch hire costings
- Lancashire FA mentor meeting booklets
- Lancashire FA application for cup final tickets
- Funding grant end of grant report
- Various invoices from P G Sports training equipment etc
- Lancashire Referees Association meritorious service awards
- Lancashire FA new referee information

Correspondence out

- ✓ Community chest agreeing grant
- ✓ Lancashire FA request for cup final tickets
- ✓ Lancashire FA long service award B Ratcliffe Eastleigh Juniors

Matters arising: None

Leigh Youth League

The recent bad weather had a detrimental effect on fixtures causing quite a backlog the league would continue into May

Bolton Boys & Girls Federation

Similarly the recent bad weather had a detrimental effect on fixtures causing quite a backlog the league would continue into May. The league had begun a small-sided league that was hoped to regenerate the league

Leigh RMI

Noted that the new sports village had been progressed and we would monitor the situation as regard the meeting place. In addition the society Treasurer and Secretary would attend a Sports Village trust meeting on Friday 2nd May 2008 where further information could be gleaned

Referees Association of England / Lancashire Referees Association

Nothing further from the last meeting however the society had already paid it capitation fee for the forthcoming season being £1.25 per member with membership figures for the end of March 2008 being utilised this being 50 members

As Referees Association but the situation needed to be monitored

Treasurer's report

Mr Harrop stated the membership numbers remained unchanged at 50, however through great efforts of members, membership for the season 2008 / 2009 already stood at 33. The bank balances were as follows TSB £457.78 and the Halifax remained the same at £3953.14.

Society website

Mr Haworth said that the latest caption competition was available and would go online as soon as possible. He noted he had put on several pictures of our esteemed football league referee discussing a point of play with an Accrington Stanley player. Various other items were to be included. It was noted that great things had been done via the website and Mr Haworth should be congratulated for his sterling work.

Training classes

Mr Tighe said that the next course was planned for early August, however nothing was planned until then. Mr Harrop gave a review of the recent meeting he attended with the secretary at Lancashire FA for potential mentors. Noted that we had kept a dignified participation and seemed to be both well received and respected

Atherton Charity Cup:

Paul Haworth said that due to the weather a slow start had occurred with the current game only the seventh, He thanked all concerned for their assistance in the competition.

Academy

Mr Bennett said that the event had been supported with an 18 % increase in the number attending this previous Monday, members agreed they would attend again and assist the programme. Mr Bennett said the idea was to run a technical and fitness programme.

Alterations to rule:

Members advised as to reasons behind proposed alterations for the Annual General Meeting

Points of play

Various issues were discussed in the accustomed lively manner.

Any other business

Wigan referees society challenge to a five-a-side match Mr Bennett to clarify and organise

With no other business the meeting was closed at 8 25pm where members went to observe the Charity Cup match that was taking place.