

Andy Newell

On behalf of the society I would like to welcome Andy Newell to Leigh & District Referees Society. Andy is the first guest speaker of the season for our society and I'm sure Andy will be informative and entertaining. Andy kindly agreed to answer a few questions prior to the meeting and below is a bit of profile on Andy.

| | |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Age – | 46 |
| Years Refereeing – | 12 |
| Level – | 3 |
| Society - | Blackpool |

How did you get into refereeing?

Did my "Class 1" whilst still playing in the Unibond / Conference. Retried from playing at 34 to referee instead.

What has been your career highlight?

Promotion to FL Line and current Contributory banding.

What's your favourite game that you have officiated on and why?

WBA v Colchester last season was brilliant – 28,000 people and 4-3 with three WBA goals in the last five minutes. Superb game.

Who has been your biggest influence?

Don't know.... I thoroughly enjoy my coaching and mentoring role, I want to give the lads I work with something to look up to. I'd like to achieve something.

In your opinion who is the best referee past and present?

Now I think it's Howard Webb. In the past for me it's the Hungarian who refereed the England v Scotland game at Euro 1996.

What advice would you give to any young and upcoming referee?

Believe in yourself, listen and learn from those above you. Watch as many colleagues games as you can.



American Dream

This past summer I had the pleasure of officiating in the Schwan's USA Cup that was held in Blaine, Minnesota.

The Schwan's USA Cup is in its 24th year and is one of the biggest youth tournaments in the world. My stay in the USA lasted for twelve days and consisted of two tournaments. One tournament was the weekend tournament and the other being a week long tournament. Age groups ranged from U9-U19's in both boys and girl sections.

The tournament was held at the National Sports Centre and this complex is considered and recognised as the biggest amateur facility in the world. The NSC boasted 52 pitches, 18-hole golf course, five ice rinks, Velodrome and a 12,000 seater stadium. For most of my matches I was required to catch a ride on a golf cart due to the sheer distance between the bottom and top pitches.

Over 950 teams and 13,300 players from 16 countries (furthest being China) took part in the tournament. More than 500 referees from 22 countries also took part. Each age besides the U9's had three officials on each game and in most cases three officials from three different countries. I had the experience of working with officials from Norway, USA and Jamaica.

Each day you would officiate in up to 4-5 games and a mixture of refereeing and assistant refereeing. I can only praise the tournament staff for the way in which the tournament was organised, for each pitch there was a marshal on hand to collect scores and provide officials with water and golf carts to their next game.

My most favourite game from the tournament was and U13 Boys Quarter Final. It consisted of a team from Columbia v a team from Costa Rica. The game was challenging from the first whistle as neither team spoke any English. In this situation it just proved how vital a tool your whistle is, and how important studying Spanish at school was too. The game ended with the Columbians winning 4-3 and without a doubt it was one of the most enjoyable games of my career.

I would recommend any referee, especially a young and upcoming referee to experience the USA Cup. I firmly believe that I have come back from the tournament a more confident and better referee. Furthermore it gave me the chance to experience America as it is a country I have always wanted to visit. Overall it was a very enjoyable experience and one I would like to repeat in years to come.

Alan Bennett

Society Update

Many things have been going on behind the scenes since we last met. Congratulations must go to Nigel D'Arcy for completing his Fitness Test. Nigel will now be considered for promotion to Level 4 for next season.

The society is now at an advance stage in its bid to become a Charity Status. The Charity Commission appear to be happy with our case to become a charity and we are just keeping our fingers crossed that we will get the nod to become a charity. This move will save the society money and enable us to apply for more grants.

Furthermore as most of you will have noticed by now, Ken Berry is now our Society Welfare Officer and a role that Ken has kindly offered his services for.

Secretary Duncan Tighe has accepted an offer from the FA to become a Full-Time Licensed Instructor. Duncan started his job the over the last two Saturdays by conducting a basic referees course at the LFA. His next trip will be to Coventry City FC to deliver a course there.

Finally the website is regularly being updated and this month has seen videos about Law 12 (Fouls & Misconduct) being added to the website – these videos include explanations. In addition funny football incidents have been added to.

Referee World

Marine FC – Players are paying their own fines

After a recent visit to Marine FC for a game I was officiating, I read the clubs match programme as always.

I was pleased to see that Marine where doing their bit in the 'respect the ref' campaign by declaring that all their players will have to pay for their own fines if they are cautioned for dissent or sent off for foul and abusive language.

Marine manager Alvin McDonald concedes that his team's disciplinary record was poor last season and believes that if his players realise that they have to pay for their own fines then will improve their discipline.

Players are sticking to no Jewellery

A new directive for this season was that players were not allowed to wear jewellery under any circumstances even if it was taped.

Recently I have notice various taped pieces of jewellery in the televised games on the Premiership and Football League – which I have found quiet frustrating.

However after talking about this issue with a Football league Assistant Referee, he stated that the players will wear tape instead of their wedding ring just to keep their wives happy. By having the tape on the fingers, their wives believe that they still have their wedding rings on.

| Competition | Fixture | Referee | Assistant Referee | 4 th Official | Date |
|---------------------------------------|---|-------------------|--|--------------------------|------|
| Championship | Nottingham Forest v Charlton Athletic | Karl Evans | | | |
| L.F.L. | Woodley Sports Res v Ossett Town Res | Alan Bennett | Jordan Holmes & Danny Sims | | 20/9 |
| L.A.L. Div 4 | CMB Res v Radcliffe Town Res | Nigel D'Arcy | | | 20/9 |
| Manchester League | Beechfield Utd Res v Stand Athletic Res | Gary Halliwell | | | 20/9 |
| L.F.A. U18's Cup | Billinge Jnrs v Croston Sports Club | Nigel D'Arcy | | | 21/9 |
| L.F.A. U18's Cup | AFC Hindley v Crown Paints | Paul Haworth | | | 21/9 |
| L.F.A. U18's Cup | Roach Dynamos v Glenross Jnrs | Alan Bennett | | | 21/9 |
| L.A.L. Div 2 | Bolton Ambassadors v Old Boltonians Res | Gary Finch | | | 27/9 |
| L.A.L. Div 3 | Ashtonians v Lymm Res | Nigel D'Arcy | | | 27/9 |
| L.A.L. Div 7 | Castle Hill 'A' v Oldham Hulmeians 'A' | Martin Smith | | | 27/9 |
| Manchester League | Brightmet Utd Res v Stockport Gregorians 'A' | Gary Halliwell | | | 27/9 |
| L.F.L. | Clitheroe Res v Chorley Res | | Jordan Holmes | | 29/9 |
| Unibond Presidents Cup1st Round | Bamber Bridge v Chorley | | Alan Bennett | | 30/9 |

LEIGH & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL REFEREES' SOCIETY

18th September 2008 MEETING

AGENDA

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 21st August 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

POINTS OF PLAY / ANY OTHER BUSINESS

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

GUEST SPEAKER – ANDY NEWELL

Minutes of the Leigh & District association football Referees' Society

Meeting held Thursday 21st August 2008

The meeting opened with a minute's silence in remembrance of society member Frank Brown who passed away in June.

Mr Mort gave his traditional new season welcome to the society members. Mr Mort talked about the importance of the young referees coming through and progressing. Furthermore he encouraged our senior members of the society to mentor our younger members.

Mr Mort in the chair with the following members present: A Bennett, K Berry, R Birchall, L Clarkson, N D'Arcy, R Drake, Miss K Foster, D Fox, G Halliwell, D Harrop, P Haworth, D Renshaw, M Smith, N Smith, D Tighe, J Waterfall, D Wilson

Guests: L Berry &

Apologies from C Berry, S Brockley, S Eastwood, K Evans, J Holmes, N Lea, G Ogden, D Sims, M Smith (Bol), R Thorpe, C Whyte, M Whyte

Minutes of the meeting held 17th April 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 D Harrop and seconded by N Smith

Matters arising: None

Correspondence received

- LANCASHIRE FA AGM MINUTES
- COMMUNITY FOUNDATION QUARTERLY MAGAZINE
- REFEREES ASSOCIATION DRAW RESULTS
- REFEREES ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RECEIPTS (EIGHT ISSUES)
- NOTIFICATION TO LFA AND RA OF THE DEATH OF MEMBER FRANK BROWN
- REFEREES ASSOCIATION AGM MINUTES
- LANCASHIRE FA PHOTOGRAPH OF BERNARD RATCLIFFE RECEIVING HIS 30 YEAR AWARD
- WIGAN MBC INFORMATION COMMUNITY CHEST PAYMENT REQUEST
- THE FA NOTIFICATION OF DUNCAN TIGHE UPGRADE TO NATIONAL TUTOR
- REFEREES ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES REQUEST FOR BEREAVEMENT FRANK BROWN
- PGMO OFFSIDE VIDEO
- COMPANY SOLUTIONS INFORMATION ON FUND RAISING
- LANCASHIRE FA SOCIETY MENTORING DEVELOPMENT MEETING
- WIGAN MBC REFUSAL OF GRANT
- C McNAMARA COURSE APPLICATION
- LANCASHIRE FA ASSESSORS COURSE INFORMATION OF COURS ON 7 09 08
- LANCASHIRE FA LEVEL 6-7 6-5 AND 6-4 COURSE
- LANCASHIRE FA NEW 14 -17 ACADEMY INFORMATION
- GM POLICE END OF GRANT REPORT
- LANCASHIRE FA GROUP PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE POLICY
- PRINT DEPOT BANNER INVOICE £291.40
- LANCASHIRE FA LAW 4 UPDATE ON JEWELLERY
- LANCASHIRE REFEREES ASSOCIATION BEREAVEMENT PAYMENT FRANK BROWN
- THE FA REPECT THE REF INFORMATION
- COUNTY FA MAGAZINE

Correspondence out

- ↳ LANCASHIRE FA INFORMATION ON THE DEATH OF FRANK BROWN
- ↳ REFEREES ASSOCIATION INFORMATION ON THE DEATH OF FRANK BROWN
- ↳ WIGAN MBC REPLY TO NON ISSUE OF GRANT
- ↳ REFEREES ASSOCIATION DRAW TICKETS AND PAYMENT OF £732.00
- ↳ INVITE TO MEMBERS TO AUGUST MEETING
 - ↳ VARIOUS THANK YOU FOR DONATIONS TO FUNDS RE FUNERAL OF FRANK BROWNTON K BROMWICH, LAURA SMITH, ATHERTON TACKLE SHOP, KARL EVANS

Matters arising: None

Leigh Youth League

For this season the Leigh Youth League will only be running an U16's league consisting of eight teams and will begin on Saturday 6th September.

Bolton Boys & Girls Federation

For the upcoming season the BBGF will be running age groups in U12's, 14's, 16's and 18's. Furthermore there will be no change in the match fee and the fixtures will begin on Sunday 7th September. In addition at U18's level the substitutions rule is five from five.

Leigh RMI / Leigh Genesis

Discussion was raised about Leigh RMI changing to Leigh Genesis. D Tighe also stated that Leigh RMI was still in operation at junior level as they are the one who gained the chartered standard club status and not Leigh Genesis

Referees Association of England / Lancashire Referees Association

Nothing to report

Treasurer's report

Mr Harrop stated the membership numbers were at 49. In addition he stated that pre-season was a busy time with various things being purchased. TSB was £205.93p. The Halifax was £3303.14p. Account Two (Grant 2) was now at £823.64p this was due to a combination of donations and a death grant from the late Frank Brown as this is what he requested. In addition the treasurer also gave special praise to Karl Evans for donating his Football League Kits from the previous season and these were sold on EBay for £120. This money also went into Account Two.

Society website

Mr Haworth said that the website was regularly being updated. New photos had been added and that he was willing to accept any new material that society members would like on the website.

Training classes / Referee Observer

Mr Tighe said that he was running a local course on the 20th & 27th September but no venue had been found as yet. Mr Mort then congratulated Mr Tighe on becoming a Full-Time FA Licensed Instructor.

Mr Tighe went on to encourage the Referee Observers to become more proactive this season. Furthermore he stated that the video camera would be used on a regular basis to film our members in action.

Atherton Charity Cup: Paul Haworth said that this year competition only three of its game had one match official on with the rest of the games being covered by three officials. The final once again had five officials on the game with four being from our society.

Academy: Mr Bennett said that he would have to sit down and discuss with the Secretary and Treasurer about continuing the Academy and hoped to have something in place for the next meeting.

Presentation of the Stuart Hyde Trophy: Will take place at next meeting

Alterations to Laws of the game/ Respect the Ref: Mr Tighe started with the new jewellery directive from the FA. He gave each member a letter from Ian Blanchard explaining the new directive. Mr Tighe then encouraged all members to take this letter with them to game in case a player or manager has any complaints.

Mr Tighe then went on to discuss the Respect the Ref campaign and what it entailed. Furthermore he discussed what information clubs would be getting and that as a society we should keep a record of any clubs who are not abiding to the campaign.

Points of play

None to discuss but Mr Mort encouraged members to bring any points of play they would like to discuss to the meetings.

Any other business

The next meeting on the 18th September would be held at Eastleigh Labour Club with Andy Newell as guest speaker.

Mr Tighe asked members that if they had any spare unwanted kit then could they donate it to the society for any new referees who join our society.

Finally Mr Drake displayed more of his artwork with paintings from Monet and Constable

With no other business the meeting was closed at 9 03pm