

Jack Boardman Quiz

Congratulations to the society on regaining the Jack Boardman quiz. Team members were Danny Sims, Lewis Clarkson, Ross Thorpe and Martin Smith.

This year the event was held at Wigan Society and once again Leigh came out on top with Warrington in second and Wigan third.

It is now the 15th time the society has won the trophy and for the fourth time in succession.

Well done lads!!!!



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Atherton Charity Cup

It's that time of year again.... the Atherton Charity Cup is upon us.

Sixteen teams have entered this year and current champions Ashton Athletic will be looking to regain the title for the third year running.

If any society member is interested in officiating in the competition then talk to Paul Haworth as there is a chance to referee and run the line.

This is a great opportunity for members to develop their refereeing skills.

Referee World

Pensioner evicted from game

Pensioner Irene Kerrigan was evicted from the Herts Cup game between Hertford Heath and Hatfield Town after her pet parrot, a regular at Hertford, started mimicking the referee's whistle.

"This poor lady had to be removed because her parrot was causing disruption", said Hatfield chairman, Ted Collie. "I assume is hadn't heard of the respect campaign!"

Looks like trouble

Thailand's Kings Cup game against Lebanon was stopped twice after two mass on-pitch brawls between players, managers and staff. It all kicked off after Lebanon's Zakaria Charia whacked Thai player Surat Sukha over the head in retaliation for an earlier fall. The problem was that the foul had been committed by Sukha's twin brother, Suree. Cue pandemonium. After failing to regain control of the match, the referee blew the whistle early, consigning Lebanon to a 2-1 loss.

Big Sam – Refs can stop diving

Sam Allardyce believes players would be less prone to diving if referees clamped down on foul play. Blackburn winger Morten Gamst Pedersen was criticised over the weekend after taking a tumble in the box when he was not even close to an Arsenal defender.

The Norwegian was not awarded a penalty but neither was he given a yellow card, although he later insisted that he had not been trying to cheat. Allardyce has refused to defend Pedersen but does concede that diving has become a major problem in football. The Rovers manager thinks he has the solution and has urged officials to take a harder line on fouls which do not necessarily bring players down.

Speaking about Pedersen, Allardyce told the *Daily Mail*: "He is one of many Premier League players who are guilty of diving, but the bottom line is simple enough. Until Keith Hackett decides that fouls should still be given for players who manage to stay on their feet, then people will always cheat.

"I would rather he did not do it at all and there can be no doubt it should have been a straightforward yellow card.

"But what about players who are dishing out fouls all the time? I would like to see them being punished, not least because it would mean those on the receiving end would not need to resort to diving.

"It just strikes me at the moment that when a player stays on his feet, a referee thinks 'That can't have been a foul, because he's still standing. It doesn't look like a foul to me so I won't give it'.

"That's where the frustration creeps in. players feel they are being denied what is due them and start wondering if there is any point trying to stay on their feet.

"They inevitably reach the conclusion that, next time there is any contact, they might as well go down."

Members Appointments

Competition	Fixture	Referee	Assistant Referee	4 th Official	Date
LAL Prem Div	Lymm v Rochdale St Clements	Nigel D'Arcy			21/3
LAL Div 1	CMB v Prairie Utd	Gary Finch			21/3
Unibond North	Woodley Sports v Wakefield		Alan Bennett		21/3
Unibond North	Rossendale Utd v Clitheroe FC		Adam Eastwood		21/3
Coca-Cola League 2	Accrington Stanley v Exeter City	Karl Evans			21/3
NWC Prem	New Mills FC v Squires Gate FC	Graham Ogden			23/3
Unibond North	Curzon Ashton v Salford City		Adam Eastwood		23/3
LAL Div 2	Old Blackburnians 'A' v Accrington Amateurs	Nigel D'Arcy			28/3
NWC Prem Div	Maine Road FC v Atherton Collieries		Adam Eastwood		28/3
Unibond North	Clitheroe FC v Garforth Town	Graham Ogden			31/3
LFL	Hyde Utd Res v Harrogate Town Res		Martin Smith		2/4