

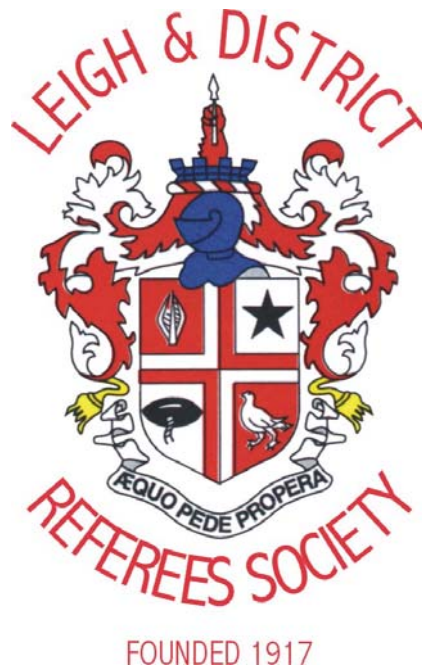
### **Golf Day**

This year's end of year society get together has been confirmed as a round of golf followed by a meal.

The date of the event will be the Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June with the venue either going to be Hindley or Westhoughton.

All members are encouraged to attend and as always it will all be about having a laugh, rather than golfing ability.

For more information then see Alan Bennett at the meeting or keep checking the website.



### **Atherton Charity Cup**

Once again Ashton Athletic reigned supreme in the Atherton Charity Cup as they beat a spirited Westhoughton 5-0 to claim the trophy for a third successive year.

The final was refereed by Duncan Tighe and assisted by Frank Mort and Danny Sims.

A full match report from Ashton Athletic and Duncan's thoughts and feelings on the game are also included in the magazine.

Once again on behalf of the society I would to praise all society members that officiated on the Charity Cup and Paul Haworth for the thankless job of appointing match officials to the games.

**Issue 23 May 09**

# Referee World

## Trouble after missiles rain down on referee

**Not only did Osasuna lose on Wednesday against Malaga and see three players and their coach sent off, but the referee included the missiles thrown on to the pitch in his report...**

Osasuna could be in further trouble after the referee reported that a number of missiles were thrown from the crowd during their home defeat against Malaga on Wednesday.

The supporters in the Reyno de Navarra were incensed after Carlos Clos Gomez sent off three of the hosts' players and their team slipped to a 3-2 loss after leading 2-1 earlier in the encounter.

Albert Luque was struck by something on the head in the closing moments and the fans became more hostile at the final whistle and vented their anger towards the referee.

"In the 89th minute, the match was held up briefly when Malaga's number five (Albert Luque) was struck by an unidentified object," Clos Gomez wrote in his report.

"At the end of the match, when we were making our way to the dressing rooms, a linesman was hit by a two-euro coin on the right arm ... and a number of seat cushions landed on the field of play without hitting anyone."

While Barcelona's Camp Nou was not closed for the two matches that the Spanish Football Federation ordered, several other clubs have had to play behind closed doors.

## FA Cup Final Officials announced

Howard Webb will realise his lifetime's ambition after he was today announced as the referee of this season's FA Cup final between Chelsea and Everton.

The 37-year-old from Rotherham, who is on a five-year career break from South Yorkshire Police where he serves as a sergeant, was fourth official at the first final at the new Wembley in 2007.

Webb said: "When I started out as a referee 20 years ago the FA Cup final was the absolute pinnacle even though it was a very distant dream.

"Realistically when I started out it was very unlikely to ever happen, but the fact that it has is the realisation of a dream. I'm thrilled to bits."

The assistant referees will be Michael Mullarkey (Devon) and David Richardson (West Riding), with Martin Atkinson (West Riding) the fourth official.

"Wembley is an awesome stadium. I have been lucky enough to referee in some amazing grounds, the Nou Camp, the Bernabeu, Allianz Arena, but when it comes to the real home of football - Wembley is it."

It will be Webb's last domestic duty before the heads to the Confederations Cup in South Africa.

## Local League Cup Final Appointments

Below is a list of all the local league cup final appointments that our members have been involved in. Mr Tighe had a very long day for the Bolton Boys & Girls Federation as three cup finals were played back-to-back at Atherton LR, with all three finals going to extra time. Having arrived at LR for 8:50am, he only arrived home at 7:30pm.

**9<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Atherton LR)  
Leigh & District Youth League Final**

Atherton LR 0  
Winsfield Rovers 2

**Referee:** Alan Bennett  
**Assistant Referees:** Nigel D'Arcy & Ronnie Drake

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Atherton Colls FC)  
Atherton Charity Cup Final**

Ashton Athletic 5  
Westhoughton 0

**Referee:** Duncan Tighe  
**Assistant Referees:** Frank Mort & Danny Sims

**10<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Ashton Athletic)  
NWYA 1<sup>st</sup> Division Cup Final**

Bootle 1  
Middleton Colts 4 (AET)

**Referee:** Paul Haworth  
**Assistant Referees:** John Bolton & Mick Ramsden

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Atherton LR)  
Under 14's BBGF Cup Final**

Roach Dynamo 1  
Beechfield Utd 2 (AET)

**Referee:** Albert Handley  
**Assistant Referees:** Norman Lea & Ian Stobbs

**19<sup>th</sup> April 2009 (Played at Atherton LR)  
Under 18's BBGF Cup Final**

Hindsford 3  
Middleton Colts 0

**Referee:** Carl Berry  
**Assistant Referees:** Ken Berry & Lee Berry

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Atherton LR)  
Under 17's BBGF Cup Final**

Roach Dynamo 2  
Pennington 2 (AET Pennington won 8-7 on PKs)

**Referee:** Chris Sharples  
**Assistant Referees:** Alan Bennett & Ronnie Drake

**17<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Played at Atherton LR)  
Under 16's BBGF Cup Final**

Bolton County Lions 1  
Bury Juniors FC 1 (AET Bury won 5-4 on PKs)

**Referee:** Paul Haworth  
**Assistant Referees:** Lewis Clarkson & Martin Smith

# **ATHERTON CHARITY CUP FINAL SUNDAY 10TH MAY 2009**

**ASHTON ATHLETIC 5 WESTHOUGHTON RANGERS 0**

## **Triple success for Ashton**

Ashton Athletic retained the Atherton Charity Cup to make it three trophies in the last three years of this long established competition, with a resounding 5-0 win over Westhoughton Rangers on Sunday Afternoon. A healthy crowd contributed handsomely towards the local charities and saw Ashton take the lead in the 13th minute as a Chris Lawton pass was flicked on by Dave Sherlock in to the path of Jon Bathurst who beat the off side trap and lofted the ball over the advancing keepers head and into the top corner.

Westhoughton fought back but could not find a way through the resilient Ashton defence and as the half wore on Ashton became increasingly dominant. Bathurst again burst through the Rangers defence and although the Rangers keeper saved well Sherlock followed up and blasted the ball into the net from 12 yards after 35 minutes, to give Ashton breathing space at half time.

Rangers battled hard for a foothold in the game but the result was effectively settled in the 60th minute as concerted Ashton pressure allowed Neil Davies to find space and time in the Westhoughton penalty area, and from the angle he curled a delightful right foot shot into the top corner.

Ashton were rampant and further increased their tally in the 83rd minute as a great piece of individual play by Simon Gallanders allowed the winger to ghost passed 2 defenders before slotting the ball into the corner from close range. Richard Sharpe made it five for Ashton 4 minutes later as Gallanders curled in a free kick to the far post for the easiest of headed goals for the Ashton Striker.

## **HEY REF WHERE'S THE GRECIAN 2000 by Duncan Tighe**

This was to be heard a recent charity cup match when officiated by three of the society's members namely, Frank Mort, Nigel D'Arcy and myself. I agreed and replied no idea that's just for men. What is the issue; well do you need grey hair to referee or a sense of humour or something else? In my case no choice but I really feel that the lack of a sense of humour (at the appropriate moment) is really troubling.

I feel that there are far too many match officials who take themselves and the game far too seriously for their own good. Their concentration and wish to be totally right on all occasions has become an all consuming passion, and some of us have forgotten that we are there also to enjoy the game of football. A secondary question now comes to my mind (which I instantly forgot because I'm getting on a bit) hang on, I recall are we trying to be totally honest and do we fret if we 'cock up'? Well as I assess fellow referees I note some do try perhaps, even over try with great efforts, even to the extent of ascertaining what the assessor wants. Well quite frankly all games need the following from the match official(s). Firstly prompt arrival and kick off on time, marshal the game within the confines of the laws of the game, applied in the context of that fixture. Stop and restart the game when you should in your opinion, look like you are enjoying the game, and finally be honest with both the players and yourself.

Deal with issues as they arise, don't let them fester to a point where sterner action from you is required. Blow the whistle in tone and intensity as to the severity of an offence; don't hide from explaining what you have seen and continuing by selling what you have awarded. As stated in the previous paragraph, be straight with players they will accept a mistake if it's explained where needed. A good example came in the recent charity cup fixture; the assistant signalled an offside but had not noticed an injured defending player on the ground, playing the player onside. A discussion between the referee and the assistant took place, then an explanation, coupled with an apology to the aggrieved captain, then a restart with an indirect free kick for the offence of offside. Practical, honest, straight forward refereeing.

How can we operate like this one word experience, it comes with age you cannot buy it, cannot cultivate it and you cannot referee without it. Listen to others filter what they have to say use it, be honest and most of all do your job when you have to do so.

Well well, here's the update, either we are the best set of match officials in the competition or there was no one else, probably the latter, the same three are appointed to officiate in the final. Sadly due to an injury to his lower leg Mr D'Arcy had to pull out on Saturday evening and then duly replaced by young Danny Sims (that brought average age down). So the game went ahead, not a great game but not a bad one either, only missed one signal from Frank Mort, he is so upset he's moved house. The game turned out to be a convincing win for Ashton Athletic putting five goals past the unlucky Westhoughton keeper, with me only having to show one yellow card, just kept trying to communicate. Game over in a packed dressing room a fellow member grabs my cup final medal and I say you can have it if you want it and he does. But the game left me thinking I wonder what they put on their club website about the referee and his two colleagues, not a word, good job done then.