

From Rotherham to Dallas

Things just seem to get better and better for Karl Evans. As Karl has been appointed by the FA to officiate in the prestigious youth tournament in the USA known as the Dallas Cup. The tournament is due to be held in March 2008 and the best youth teams from around the world will take part. This will no doubt be an experience not to forget for Karl.

In addition to this Karl will be in charge of this weekends League Two match between Rotherham v Notts County. On top of this Karl was also in charge of the Johnstone Paints Trophy First Round match between Chester v Crewe in which Chester ran out winners after penalties.

Karl's progression to Level one has seen an article appear in the Leigh Reporter to inform its readers of Karl's achievements. May I wish Karl all the best for Saturday and keep up the good work Karl.



The Pizza Hut Park – home of the Dallas Cup

Alan Bennett - Editor

Editors Views

With the season now fully underway it is going to be very interesting as to what happens this season. As always expect the unexpected.

With the Women's World Cup entering the quarter-final stages it is very interesting to point out that none of our female officials were nominated by FIFA to officiate in this year's tournament. This is unfortunate as we have five female officials on the current FIFA list.

From a personal point of view it has been an interesting month as I had the pleasure of officiating with Premiership Referee Mark Halsey and then had the misfortune of my bag going missing at Bacup. Apart from that I feel it has been a good month for me.



Looking back at last months meeting it was very pleasing to see that our meeting are becoming practical and interactive and that everyone is learning from these meetings.

It will be interesting to see where this society is at the end of the season as with the amount of money at our disposal this society will go to a level that no other society is at in the country and I really feel that we are making other societies sit up and take notice of our progress.

It is also very exciting that Karl Evans will be officiating in the next Dallas Cup. This is a real coup for Karl to be appointed to this tournament and this will be an unbelievable experience for him and I'm pretty sure that the society's members will be very interested on how Karl does in the tournament.

In addition I have been informed that the Jack Boardman Trophy is back on and that the trophy will be contested for very shortly. It has been ten years since the trophy was last contested for and by going back into the archive I also discovered that we are current holders of the trophy.

Furthermore I would like to wish all members all the best for this month and that you keep enjoying being the man in the middle.

Alan Bennett - Editor

Where's my bag gone?

Just a few Saturday's ago I had the pleasure of being appointed Assistant Referee for the North West Counties Division match between Bacup Borough v Maine Road. Little did I know what the day would bring me.

With capacity crowd of 57 in attendance Bacup were beaten 3-2 by Maine Road with all five goals coming in the first half. It was a day to remember and forget for myself. After having a shower I and the two other officials made way to the clubhouse to see the first half of the England v Israel match. We put our bags to one side and sat down to watch the match. Only us and the Maine Road players were in the clubhouse as well known Bacup manager Brent Peters was laying into his team for failing to win. It took the Bacup players over an hour before Brent had finished laying into them.

Maine Road left before the end of the first half of the England game and we shortly followed. As we went to retrieve our bags I noticed mine wasn't there. However I quickly spotted a bag exactly the same as mine and picked that one up. I also spotted that this bag was open and when I looked in the bag I quickly realised it was not my bag. I then began to realise that a Maine Road player must have taken my bag.

I immediately then tried to ring the Secretary of Maine Road who happened to have his mobile phone switched off. As the long journey back to Wigan commenced I frequently tried to ring the secretary in hope that he would turn his mobile on. I rummaged through the bag I picked up in case there was another contact number I could find. Whilst rummaging through the bag I managed to find out who the player was as the bag had several pair of goalie gloves in and a goalkeeping jersey. I also discovered that he had some smart clothes in a separate bag which I presumed he was using to go out in that night.

I arrived home and then attempted to ring the secretary's house phone and this proved as much as a failure as his mobile number. I then spoke to Duncan Tighe who then used his contacts to help track down my bag. Minutes later Duncan rang me to tell me that I can pick my bag up on the Monday at Atherton Collieries as they were playing Maine Road.

On the Monday I went to pick up my bag and I met the keeper who had mistakenly taken my bag. He was very apologetic and also mentioned that he didn't go out that Saturday night as I had his clothes to go out in. It's funny to joke about now but I can assure I wasn't very pleased at the time.

Alan Bennett

Members Appointments

Fixture	Referee	Assistant Ref	4 th Official
22nd September L.A.L. Bolton Lads Club v Old Mancunians	Gary Finch		
L.A.L. Bolton Wyresdale v Chaddertonians	Danny Hibbert		
L.A.L. BroughtonAmateurs v Tyldesley United	Nigel D'Arcy		
Lancit Haulage League Leigh R.M.I. Res v Bamber Bridge Res	Alan Bennett		
23rd September U14's County Cup Bromley Cross v Ashton Athletic	Paul Haworth		
U14's County Cup W'Haughton Rangers v St Annes F.C.	Lewis Clarkson		
U14's County Cup Ringley Park v Black Combe Jnr	Nigel D'Arcy		
U14's County Cup Hawkley F.C. v Clifton Rangers	Alan Bennett		
Tuesday 25th Sept North West Counties Div 1 St Helens Town v Glossop		Alan Bennett	

Referee World

WILTS LEAGUE TO DISCUSS SHORTAGE OF REFS

AN EMERGENCY meeting has been called for tomorrow night to discuss the chronic shortage of referees available to cover junior matches in the county.

Dozens of matches throughout Wiltshire had no qualified official in charge on Saturday because of a new FA ruling that referees are not allowed to officiate until they have undergone police checks into their backgrounds.

Eight of the 17 games on the opening day of the Trowbridge League season went ahead without an appointed qualified referee and there were similar shortages in other leagues throughout the county.

Now an emergency meeting of the Trowbridge and District League management committee has been called for tomorrow night to discuss the crisis.

League chairman Roy Hill said: "My management committee has expressed its grave concerns to the Wilts FA and awaits confirmation of what action will be taken to rectify the situation.

"I am very disappointed that this situation has been allowed to develop.

"We all know that there are some referees who are still waiting for CRB checks and child protection clearance and temporarily out of action because of this, but this situation did not develop overnight."

Wiltshire FA secretary Mike Benson has revealed that 50 of the county's 300 registered referees are currently unable to officiate because they have not been through a CRB check.

WILTSHIRE NEWS

MILAN CHIEF WANTS REFS TO USE SPRAY PAINT

AC Milan vice-president Adriano Galliani wants referees to use spray paint to show where a wall should stand on free kicks.

Milan midfielder Clarence Seedorf was booked in a row about players not retreating the 10 metres in Sunday's Serie A opener at Genoa, which the European champions won 3-0.

"In Brazil the referees use spray paint to fix the position of the wall on free kicks," Galliani told Monday's Gazzetta dello Sport.

"After a few minutes you can't see the line drawn with the spray. I hope that in Italy we can implement the same system which works very well in Brazil."