

THE WARBLER

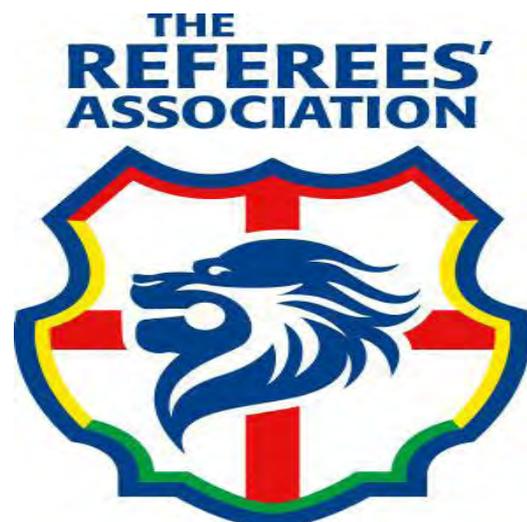
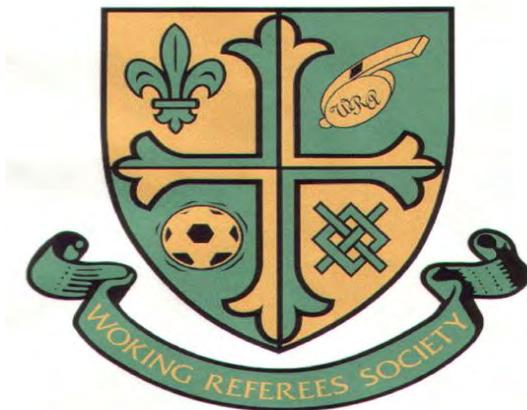
Monthly Magazine of the Woking Referees' Society

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Season 2014/15 April Edition

WOKING REFEREES ' SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1927

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**The next meeting of the
Woking Referees' Society
will be held on
Monday 13th April 2015**

Meadow Sports Football Club
Loop Rd Playing Fields, Loop Rd, Kingfield, Woking
Surrey GU22 9BQ

AGENDA

- ◆ **7.15 Academy Meeting**
- ◆ **8.00 Chairman's Welcome**
- ◆ **Guest Speaker**



Ian Blanchard
Senior National Game Referee Manager
"Improving Performances"

- ◆ **Society Business**
- ◆ **Problem Corner**
- ◆ **10.00 Close**

**The deadline for the May Warbler is
Friday 1st May 2015
Next month's Meeting - Monday 11th May**

*The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the
Society or it's Committee*

Chairman's Chat

Well, it's official that we are now in summer, although you would not think so judging by the weather.

At our last meeting our guest speaker was Martin Atkinson one of the top Premier Referees. Martin's talk was about preparation amongst other things and went into great detail of how he and other prem Refs carry out their Pre match preparations. Including the team, the venue and most of all, individual players and their tactics, His talk was educational and encouraging, however, Martin planned to show some video clips but we had a computer problem, Martin carried on with his talk, meanwhile Jacko (Bryan) with the aid of Google managed to sort the problem, I learnt a lesson from this PREPARATION!!

We are very lucky to have as our guest in April Ian Blanchard the Head of Refereeing at the Football Association, I am really looking forward to this event I hope we have a good turnout.

We are extremely lucky to have such quality speakers, this is mainly due to our Secretary Pat, who puts an enormous amount of time and effort.

Congratulations again to all those who were Promoted, Well done.

I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter (Not too much Chocolate).



Barry

Barry thanks Martin Atkinson for an excellent evening

2014/15 Membership

- 61 Full Members
- 5 Friends
- 2 Affiliate Members

2015/16 Membership

- 31 Full Members
- 1 Friends

Accounts April 2015

General	£2,556.28
Supplies	£146.40
Training Fund	£590.00
Youth Fund	£113.50
Total	£3406.18

This Month's Speaker Ian Blanchard



- 1987 - Started refereeing East Riding FA
- 1999 - Promoted to Referee on Northern Premier League
- 1990 - Promoted to FL as AR
- 1992 - Promoted to Premier League as AR
- 1992 - Became Licensed Referee Instructor (in old money)
- 1998 - Group Tutor on National Instructors Course
- 2000 - Retired from PGMO list - 5 trips to old Wembley for 3
playoff finals, Vase and Trophy final
- 2000 - PGMO Assessor
- 2001 - Employed by FA as Regional Referee Manager
- 2004 - Head of National Referee Development at FA
- 2011 - Senior National Game Referee Manager (Current Role)
- 2014 - Retired as PGMO assessor

Visited over 38 countries delivering referee training, assisted with reshaping refereeing process and structures

My talk will be on "Improving Performances" - a personal approach based on my experiences on how referees can become better.

Hi Martin, (Atkinson)

On behalf of the society can I say a big thank you for giving up your time to come along to see us and give us a fantastic evening, it's always nice to meet people that you respect and look up to and for myself personally I appreciated your relaxed and calm manner and I know the other members also found it beneficial to see how you approached the criticism after the Chelsea game Again thank you, good luck with the rest of the season and hopefully catch up with you at Conference

Best Regards

Pat (Bakhuizen)

Hi Pat,

Thanks for your email mate. Sorry for my delay, been a manic few weeks of 5 games in 14 days. Chaos, but all gone well thankfully.

Just had 4 days in Spain, trained really well and not touched the clubs (yet) there's still time this afternoon before I fly back tonight!

I really enjoyed the evening at Woking and your members were good fun, respectful and also good company.

I'm probably going to be out here over the whole of July, it's the best place for my pre season training. I love training out here.

Good luck got the rest of the season.

Regards,

Martin.



WOKING SOCIETY - THE REFEREES ASSOCIATION
 Affiliated to the Referees Association & Surrey County Referees Association
President: Vince Penfold

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP SEASON 2015 - 16

FULL MEMBER - OVER 18 (INCLUDES RA & COUNTY RA SUBSCRIPTION + PA INSUR- ANCE) Expires 31/3/2015	£36.00	
FULL MEMBER – UNDER 18 (INCLUDES RA & COUNTY RA SUBSCRIPTION + PA INSUR- ANCE) Expires 31/3/2015	£29.00	
AFFILIATE MEMBER (i.e. Full Member of another Referees Society) Expires 31/3/2014	£20.00	
FRIEND OF WOKING SOCIETY Expires 31/3/2015	£20.00	
OPTIONAL RA PHYSIOTHERAPY INSURANCE If required please contact Bryan Jackson		
DONATION £1,£2,£3,£4,£5,£10 or Whatever		
	TOTAL	

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

.....POSTCODE.....

TELEPHONES (H)..... (M).....

E-MAIL ADDRESS.....

COUNTY FA REGISTERED WITH.....

FA NUMBER (FAN)..... .REFEREE LEVEL.....

..

DATE OF BIRTH.....

I AGREE TO ABIDE BY THE RULES OF THE SOCIETY

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....

RETURN TO :-BRYAN JACKSON,
 1 WOODSTOCK GROVE,GODALMING,SURREY,GU7 2AX.
 Tel: 01483 423808
 Email: membership@wokingreferees.co.uk

CHEQUES PAYABLE TO:- WOKING RA or
 Send funds direct to 30 94 77, a/c no 02710897

Letter from our President

Nomination to the National RA Board

Dear Members

I am guessing some of you may be slightly surprised that I have thrown my hat in so to speak to join the board of the National RA. I can only say that I feel it's time to get involved and hopefully make a difference. For too long many of us haven't understood what the RA as a national collective do for us and for too long the RA have been happy to keep the status quo. I want to understand what the RA can do and how can I make it happen. I want the Association that we are all members to work for us. Delivering what we want at local levels. I ask you for your feed back and let me know what you want the RA to do for you. I will be at the next meeting and hopefully we can have 15 minutes discussing if I should be successful what Woking RA want from the National RA

Yours in sport

Vince



THE BEST OF 'COLEMANB ALLS'

Their manager, Terry Neil, isn't here today, which suggests he is else where.' (Brian Moore)

'With the very last kick of the game, Bobby McDonald scored with a header.' (Alan Parry)

'Well, it's Ipswich nil, Liverpool two, and if that's the way the score stays then you've got to fancy Liverpool to win.' (Peter Jones)

'Bolton are on the crest of a slump.' (Anon)

'You couldn't have counted the number of moves Alan Ball made I counted four and possibly five.' (John Motson)

'When one team scores early in the game, it often takes an early lead.' (Pat Marsden)

'And Meade had a hat-trick. He scored two goals.' (Richard Whitmore)

'I am a firm believer that if you score one goal, the other team have to score two to win.' (Howard Wilkinson)

'Ian Rush unleashed his left foot and it hit the back of the net.' (Mike England)

'It will be a shame if either side lose. And that applies to both sides.' (Jock Brown)

'It was a good match which could have gone either way and very nearly did.' (Jim Sherwin)

'He had an eternity to play that ball, but he took too long over it.' (Martin Tyler)

Mac's Musings

What a privilege it was to have Martin Atkinson as our guest speaker last month and what an interesting talk he gave. One aspect I found fascinating was the use of the additional Assistants behind the goal line in UEFA games. Often derided by the press, Martin was fulsome in his praise for the additional pairs of eyes. As he said, what's not to like when you have Michael Oliver behind one goal and Kevin Friend at the other. And no they don't just stand there waving a stick around, but keep a running commentary of what's happening in those goal mouth scrambles. Which does beg the question why aren't more fouls given for all the grappling that goes on.? Or perhaps there isn't so much if players are aware that they are under more scrutiny. I shall have to check next time I'm watching a UEFA game.

Adie Freeman sent out a message to all his referees recently regarding Offensive, Insulting and Abusive language on the local parks, which I have reprinted in this edition. There was also an interesting and thought provoking response from Richard Levett, which I have also included.

By chance I came across a couple of articles on the same subject which appeared in previous editions of the Warbler, plus one from Tony Murphy. The latter I'm sure you'll find particularly amusing.

On the same subject, its strange that in some games not even an expletive is uttered, yet others it's a constant battle to get the players to watch their language. The idea of awarding a free kick to the other team providing that the offending team has possession can work, but is pointless if they haven't. I employed this tactic when a player behind me started up. On turning round I found 2 players from the same team and not knowing who had spoken decided to award a free kick to the opposition, fortunately as the latter didn't have possession and the offending team were moving towards their goal, it was a definite advantage for them. Interestingly, no one queried my decision.

Provocation can often lead to an OFFINABUS situation. Its an U15s game and all moving along quite nicely, apart that is from one of the Dads acting as "coach" All through the game he was constantly yelling at "his" team to do this or that or the other. Strangely the manager wasn't saying a word. The guy was driving me up the wall.(he even suggested I should have given a direct free kick as a player "didn't put a name on it") but I could see that the kids were getting annoyed, particularly after they went a goal down. Half way through the second half they conceded another goal and once more "Dad" told them in no uncertain terms where they went wrong. It was at this point one of the defenders lost it. "Stop F.....telling us what to F.... do all the F..... time. Why don't you F.... well shut up etc etc" he yelled at the top of his voice. I obviously had no choice but to send the kid off. At the end of the game both I and interestingly the opposition manager spoke to the kids manager and agreed he should have told the Dad to shut up earlier. Perhaps I should have done?

Don't forget to renew your subscription with Jacko this month !! See Page 6

Mac

Pages from Yesteryear

WARNING: CONTAINS FOUL LANGUAGE

The law in question says, "If IN THE OPINION OF THE REFEREE, a player uses foul or abusive LANGUAGE, he shall be sent off. (Law 12 Section 0). It does NOT say "if a player uses SWEAR WORDS". In MY opinion that is a very important distinction. It may be that we are meant to interpret "foul language" (let's take the aspect of abusive language for granted here) as "swear words". If that is so, why does it not say so, and where is the guidance from up above.

For me, the important word in the Law is "Language". What does language mean. I suggest it implies communication. On that premise, if a player shoots and misses/stubs his toe/has it saved, and as a result exclaims "Oh F.. it!" I am suggesting that he is not talking to anyone, therefore he is not attempting to communicate, therefore he is not using language at all, and therefore cannot be using foul language.

Similarly if a player disagrees with a decision and says "F...ing hell ref! What are you playing at" I suggest that what he has communicated is not something foul in intent, but that he has obviously been guilty of dissent and should be cautioned accordingly. (I have actually done this myself and quoted the actual words used on discipline forms, without any comeback).

Now, if through your disbelief you can manage to keep reading this I should also say that I equally feel that it is possible to be guilty of using foul language without using swear words. The important thing is what is being communicated, and the intonation can affect what is being communicated. Think what is the sentiment behind the comment.

"Ref, when are your mum and dad getting married". I would have no hesitation in sending off for that however it was said, whereas in a game contested between a team of whites and a team of black players, if I heard "Come on lads, we can beat these darkies/honkies" the intonation may well influence me. You can tell from the intonation if the intent is to "gee up" his colleagues, in which case he is not communicating something foul. However, with the same words, if the intonation is such that the intent is obviously to aggrieve the opponents then I would suggest that foul language has been used and a dismissal should result.

Gentlemen, these are, in broad terms the guidelines under which I tend to operate. I suspect that many of you disagree. If that's the case then please, get your @*!-ing pens out and write and tell me about it!

Matt Sims

*The above first appeared in the AFA Argus and printed in the January 1991 edition of the Warbler. Its interesting that back then, that there should be any question over the use of racial language, by either side not resulting in an immediate dismissal. **Mac***

The following is an email sent to Officials on the GWAFL by Adie Freeman but the sentiments expressed by both Adie and Richard in his reply, apply to every League..

Dear Colleagues.

I feel it necessary to bring a certain subject to your attention.

There has been several occasions during the season where I have had reports concerning the use of abusive language on the Field of Play. We all have our own particular level of tolerance for foul language but I would like to bring to your attention certain guidelines which should assist you in your officiating.

Many of you will have noticed the demise of football pitches around the County and one officer from another league brought to my notice the fact that in his area of residence the number of pitches had been reduced to 20% of what they had been 10 years ago. This is a worrying scenario as once the pitches are lost the local authority is inclined to offer these areas to the building trade for the construction of dwellings. We have all read the papers and observed on the TV/ Internet that there is a huge shortage of housing in the Country. Once these pitches are lost there is very little hope of them returning or alternative facilities being obtained. Should the local authorities receive many complaints concerning foul and abusive language on public areas I do not believe that they will not allow football to be played at these facilities and more recreational areas will be lost.

Should you be unfortunate enough to witness this issue on the field of play I would advise the following:

On the first occasion and you can identify the perpetrator a public warning of 'No. 6 please refrain from using that language'. If you cannot identify the offender then a similar 'Cut out the language' in the general area will usually suffice.

If that person persists then a public word with the Captain (assuming he is not the one swearing) 'No. 6 is using foul language, have a word as if he persists I will be forced to take action'

If that does not dissuade the player then on the third occasion a yellow card for persistent infringement is quite acceptable.

Should that not have the desired effect then a second yellow followed by a red will keep him away from the field of play and he will no longer be heard.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Best Regards

Adie Freeman

Referees Secretary

G&WAFL

Hi Adie,

Thank you very much for this email. I think we all need to be encouraged to draw a line on the field of play even though our culture seems to have become more tolerant to abusive language, especially the 'F' word.

What I say to both teams before KO is that if I hear the 'Cee U Next Tuesday' word, and know who said it, I may show a yellow card and / or award an indirect free kick if the ball is in play.

As you point out we all have different tolerance levels, and perhaps before next season some scenarios with our responses could help out so there is some consistency in the G & W Alliance. E.G. if a player makes a mistake and says the `C` word at himself and not in the hearing of others off the field of play. I may have a quiet word rather than take any other action, but others may respond differently.

I also do not think the Laws of the Game are clear.

We clearly can send off a player for the use of `offensive or insulting or abusive language and /or gestures` which to me can be directed at a person even towards themselves. This could be difficult in some matches where the culture of some clubs is to use the `F` word.

However the Caution wording says `shows dissent by word or action`, which I read as being directed towards someone else. Can someone be disciplined for showing dissent towards themselves when they make a mistake?

A problem that clearly needs to be addressed by everyone involved in the game, not just left to us as referees.

I hope it is okay but as I write this I am thinking it would be good to include Mac from the Woking Referees' Society as it could be part of a discussion, especially hearing from one another about how we manage this issue when we are on our own in the middle of 22 men who may have very different views to those expressed in the Laws.

Thanks again,
Regards,
Richard Levett.



Shouting and Bad Language

By Jack Clough

(Famous Referee who is writing on points of Law during the season)

INSTANCES arise in the course of all games when players of the same side call to each other for the ball or shout instructions. Under existing football law this is permitted, always providing that it is not interfering with the play of an opponent. Many spectators are not familiar with this law and, in consequence, call to the referee to stop this practice as they consider it is bringing the game into disrepute.

It is also thought by some that if the Christian name is used this will be permitted, but sometimes players with identical names will figure together in an incident and confusion could arise.

Contrary to a lot of supporters, I have always felt that the introduction, into a game, of shouting and calling, has made the spectacle more pleasing in its pattern.

The feature has been with us a long time and I think of two great Arsenal players who used this feature to its maximum value - - Joe Mercer and Tommy Docherty. I am very certain that their judicious callings and promptings had much to do with helping to improve the quality of the game and aiding precise distribution.

It is an important part of our modern game and the value is so pronounced, that managers and coaches are always encouraging its wide use, in their training sessions.

Most certainly, some players have louder voices than most, and they can be heard quite clearly in the terraces, but you would be amazed at the amount of chatter that goes on during the course of a Football League game.

It is all done with intent to perfect movements, but on the very rare occasions that an opponent is confused or distracted by a call, it will be noticed that the referee will penalise the shouting by the award of an indirect free-kick.

A few players do attempt, at times, to lure an opponent into leaving the ball, by making a call on the pretence of being a colleague, but they are seldom successful. Referees are ever watching and listening, for this form of misconduct, and it is considered a serious and ungentlemanly offence.

There is, however, another form of language occasionally heard on a football field—Bad Language.

This is considered to be serious and if it is uttered in a threatening or abusive manner to an opponent or official, it is classed under violent conduct and means instant dismissal from the field for the person involved.

It is right that we should endeavour to keep in the game the correct tone and essence of good conduct. The football field should not be a place where a man can use distasteful or foul language.

Fortunately most British players are conscious of the need for a high standard of personal behaviour and it is seldom that severe action is needed for this offence.

Maybe we can be considered fortunate that most of our players possess the even temperament, so necessary for a game where bodily contact is so much in evidence, and hard knocks are, in the main, taken without temper being aroused.

I must, however, confess that we do occasionally hear players expressing themselves a little forcibly, but it is invariably in the nature of an exclamation about their own bad play. A goal scoring opportunity missed, a pass misdirected, or a poor tackle on an opponent, may, sometimes upset the player in the heat of the game. A timely word for him to moderate his language pays dividends and I am convinced in most of these instances that these few players have not been conscious of their own remarks. I have found that the occasions have been very rare indeed when it has been found necessary to check bad language.

(Oh how times have changed! Taken from Arsenal v Blackburn programme Oct 1961 and sent to me by Tony Murphy. Mac)

This Month's Referee

Mark Clattenburg



Year of birth	1975
County FA	Durham FA
First Premier League Match	21 August 2004: Crystal Palace v Everton

- **MATCHES**
- 232
- **RED CARDS**
- 38
- **YELLOW CARDS**
- 767

Durham-born Mark Clattenburg has enjoyed a successful career on the national and international stage since he first took charge of a Football League match as a 25-year-old in 2000.

The former electrician was in the middle for Chesterfield Town's clash with York City on that day and rapidly progressed up the career ladder before being promoted to the Select Group of referees in 2004. He has since regularly featured in the Premier League and was rewarded by being appointed to the FIFA list in 2006.

Clattenburg's career started to flourish on the international stage as he took charge of a UEFA Under-17s Championship qualifier before refereeing his first Champions League match in August 2008. He subsequently progressed to be a FIFA Elite referee and has gone on to officiate Euro 2012 qualifiers and be an additional assistant referee at Euro 2012 in a team led by fellow Select Group referee Howard Webb.

At the London 2012 Olympic Games, Clattenburg was in charge of the men's gold medal match between Brazil and Mexico at Wembley Stadium. He was the only English referee in the men's football tournament.

Clattenburg is now considered one of the top officials in English football and, as a result, he was the man in the middle of Liverpool's victory over Cardiff City in the 2012 League Cup Final at Wembley.

TINFOIL
HATS
AT THE
READY,
IT'S...

The Paranoid World of José Mourinho



As you can see from the copious notes I have scrawled onto the walls of this rented lock-up garage, there are dark forces conspiring against Chelsea Football Club. I will now list a few...



REFEREES - It is obvious that we have reached a point where Chelsea should be allowed to referee our own matches. It is the only way we can ensure the officials do not work against us.



OTHER TEAMS - Some of them deliberately try to stop Chelsea from scoring goals. It is simple - they don't like football. At Tottenham, Kane even used his spine to prevent my player from kicking the ball. This is a crazy situation.



BALL BOYS - When we play away and need a goal, they hold onto the ball as if they are José Mourinho when Chelsea are defending a narrow lead. It is despicable.



CHELSEA SUPPORTERS - Their silence works against us. It's almost as if the people who used to create the atmosphere have been priced out of the game and that those who do attend are preoccupied with concern that they won't be able to keep up with the repayments on the hotdogs they just bought for their kids.



Okay, so that's two Doug Rougrie Legend Meals. That will be 36 weekly instalments of £500 plus interest. Failure to meet the plan will result in a visit from the Chelsea Smile Debt Collection Agency and all subsequent medical costs will be added to the amount repayable. Mustard is an extra £60. Thanks guys.

THE MEDIA - I watch this Chelsea TV station. It is so biased against Chelsea Football Club. Only 17 hours of coverage of our training ground canteen. Some say people in England do not like winners. It is not for me to say, but this makes it seem so.



CHELSEA FC - They keep giving me money to spend on players in a deliberate attempt to create resentment in others and inspire selling clubs to put their prices up. I must expose this conspiracy to the world and bring it to the attention of those in positions of sort of power!

Have you seen what kind of a midfielder £30million gets you these days? It's barely enough to buy a Charlie Adam!



SQUIRES

Another Page from Yesteryear

FOUL LANGUAGE - WHO'S RESPONSIBILITY IS IT ANYWAY?

In the last senior game I have done, the home side, who on paper should have gained the three points, were two or three goals down after 20 minutes.

In the game, the goal keeper insisted in motivating his full backs with a few choice words "Joe come on, get your f g act together!" type of comment. His centre-half, a player I have known for years interjects the word f g into every sentence - in fact he has the incredible habit of getting that word into the middle of another.

In the second half, I was treated to much the same but it's worth noting that the foul words were not directed abusively, but rather as adjectives for emphasis. I took players aside and talked to them sternly.

"OK Ref, sorry but these f g bunch of w...rs around me make me f g look f g stupid" came one reply.

As much as I could do, I did, I even gave free kicks - the lot. It was a great game, much appreciated by the paying customers and I was treated to handshakes all round after the game, and several beers.

After the game, during a drink with the club officials, it was suggested that I had not controlled the swearing and that with wives and children about, it was my responsibility to STOP IT.

I agreed that I had been unable to stop it, but asked them what they would have wanted ME to do about it.

After some discussion, I suggested that I could only do as I had done, that is talk to the players, or I could send the players off.

"Ah", said one, "I suppose you are right and yes, I did see and hear you talk to the culprits". "So", I said, "If they continue would you support me sending your keeper and centre-half off for being upset with his own team?"

"Well, no" was the reply "but we need to do something about it."

"I can only suggest that YOU the Club officials, after having seen me attempt to control it, take action yourselves and fine players". . "But", I continued, "if the foul language was directed or meant in such a way that it was abusive, then I suggest that the Laws take their course".

"Ah", said the official, "Another beer?" - and that's as far as the conversation went.

Mike Gardiner

(As seen in High Wycombe & District magazine)

This again appeared in the January 1991 edition of the Warbler

MURPHY'S MEANDERINGS

FOOTBALL IS A FUNNY GAME

Les Todd, top scorer for Cross Farm Celtic in the Taunton Sunday League was sent off a record two seconds into a match - after muttering, "F--- me , that was loud," when the referee blew the whistle to start the game. Startled Lee doubled over with his fingers in his ears, cursed under his breath, but referee Peter Kearle heard him and ordered him off the pitch for using foul and abusive language. Now Lee has been handed a £27 fine and a 35 day ban.

Lee, who was standing on the edge of the centre circle when the referee raced up from behind him and blew his whistle, said, "I was gobsmacked. I wasn't swearing at the referee or anyone else. I'm surprised he even heard me. I was just muttering to myself. Anyone else would do the same; he nearly blew my head off." Referee Peter Kearle would only say, "It's in the hands of the FA."

A referee was about to take charge of a game recently in a field that backed on to a pub in Wiltshire. When he arrived, he was horrified to find that he had left his whistle and the spare at his home 30 miles away and, furthermore, had to confess to the teams and their supporters that physical whistling was a gift denied to him.

No whistle of any kind could be rustled up and the only item that might possibly substitute was deemed to be a dog's squeaky rubber toy in the shape of a lamb chop. After several minutes of energetically pumping on the "chop", the referee had to admit defeat and, once again, went into the pub to appeal for anything that might conceivably allow the match to be refereed efficiently. He emerged after a few minutes, a wooden spoon in one hand and a square tin in the other – game on!

There has to be a message in this tale of woe, always check your kit prior to leaving home for a match, never do it in haste and if all else fails purchase yet another whistle from the Supplies Officer the next time you see him. Oh, by the way the name of the pub was the "Pig and Whistle".

(Loughborough Whistler)

When a dog raced on to the field at the Coventry Sporting v Merthyr game, referee Harold Thompson picked it up and tucked it under his arm. Then he ran up and down the field for a full minute whilst still holding the dog, before there was a stoppage in the game and he was able to place the animal over the barrier,

A football fan has blamed a match referee for damage to his car. He told his insurance company, "The referee was rubbish. It was never a penalty. I was so gutted I kicked the car." He said a crowd of other fans then joined in, causing further damage. "The referee was definitely responsible for the damage." added the fan. Details of his claim were revealed by the British Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association.

*Thanks to **Tony Murphy** for the above*

2015 IFAB Meeting - Law Changes

This year's jolly took place in Belfast and the results will not give any new concerns to referees in England.

'Recreational football' in England i.e. below step11**, had already been authorised to use **rolling substitutes** as part of the FIFA experiment under observation. The experiments have been deemed successful and Law 3 will be amended to allow "**return substitutions in recreational football**" worldwide. Each national FA will determine what comprises recreational football but it is generally intended to mean grass-roots 'amateur football'.

Perhaps in some very small countries that might even include its highest league? IFAB have been at pains to point out they disapprove of the term 'rolling substitutions' as it infers the referees would have little or no control over them. The method of substitution would follow the existing law. There was a strong feeling that, at grass-roots, it did allow the participation of far more players in any game. Good news for the keen but less gifted everywhere who only ever kept the bench warm.

That was the only change agreed. Some matters discussed will be referred back to the two advisory panels who will meet to consider just how some of the changes being discussed could be usefully and practically be implemented. These panels will consider and report back with recommendations on:

- ◆ **Triple punishment for DOGSO in the penalty area** - a penalty kick and receiving a red card with a subsequent suspension is said to be too harsh for e.g. a careless challenge or a handball. Just a yellow card might be in order unless the foul involved actual serious play or violent conduct.
- ◆ **Video replays** - concern was expressed that in some other sports the match officials were now finding it too easy to resort to video replays to make decisions. The status of referees must be maintained while acknowledging that some extra help might be useful to them.
- ◆ **Use of a fourth substitute if a match goes into extra time** - IFAB rejected this saying that their view was that three should be sufficient. However, it will be referred to the advisory panels for more consideration.
- ◆ **Electronic tracking of players during a game** - subject to the condition that such data would not be available to the technical areas during a game, the advisory panels would be asked to consider its adoption
- ◆ **Interpretation of handball offences**—this is recognised as an area of controversy and the panels will be considering the current wording of the law and guidance and reporting back.
- ◆ **Interpretation of offside** - yet again the old chestnut raised its head.
- ◆ **Sin-bins** - the ongoing debate continues. Recommendations are still awaited.
- ◆ **Stopping the clock at breaks in play**—who but the Americans would have asked for this? It inferred the employment of some official to run a clock as in those sports where 'natural' time-outs occur under the rules or are allowed to be called for. IFAB rejected this proposal.

*** see www.wikipedia.org/wiki/English_football_league_system for a list of leagues to which this applies

Thanks to Chiltern Referee and Len Randall for the above

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Biggest games not going to Clattenburg (Jan 2015)

Last Thursday, on what was arguably the worst day of the season for the country's embattled referees, Mark Clattenburg was the fourth official at Aston Villa against Crystal Palace. At least that was an improvement on his previous assignment, which with all respect to League Two, was Shrewsbury Town's 0-0 draw with Wycombe Wanderers.

As the nation's referees struggle with the demands of the Premier League, and what their former colleague Graham Poll has described as a "disastrous festive season" it was bewildering to find the man who is arguably the most capable of their number taking charge of a game in the fourth tier. But then not much of what has happened to Clattenburg makes much sense. There are many who regard Clattenburg as the best referee in the country after Howard Webb's retirement - at the very least he is one of the leading two along with Martin Atkinson, who is the only other English official in the UEFA elite category. Certainly UEFA seem to regard him as the English successor to Webb and assigned him a Europa League semi-final last season, but more often than not this season he has found himself steered away from the bigger Premier League games.

His highest profile game has been Arsenal against Manchester City, in September. By contrast Atkinson, his UEFA colleague, has been assigned to the Merseyside derby, Chelsea v Arsenal and Manchester United v Liverpool. Clattenburg may not be everyone's cup of tea and it is true that he has not been helped by the controversy that has attended his career, including his suspension in 2008 over a failed personal business venture. This season there was the infamous debacle over his trip to see a performance by Ed Sheeran, whose role in the episode makes him without doubt the most prominent singer-songwriter in the rich history of British football referees. On that occasion Clattenburg broke the referees' protocol by leaving The Hawthorns after West Bromwich's game with Crystal Palace in his own car, in order that he could return to the North-east in time to catch the concert in question. On the way home he spoke to an aggrieved Neil Warnock on the phone, another breach of a protocol.

Clattenburg was given a one match ban for that transgression, which he duly served. The mood in the game was that it was not the first time that a referee had broken that particular rule. Looking back over his games this season, it is obvious Clattenburg had been busted down the hierarchy even before Sheeran-gate.

Clattenburg's style is different to the conventional approach, and he has not always towed the company line but the decision to appoint him to a League Two game smacks of the petty internal politics of football, pursued in spite of the bigger picture. Poll, a refereeing pundit who calls decisions as he sees them without worrying about bruising egos, wrote in his column in the Daily Mail that, although there was no official hierarchy of referees, Clattenburg was "the best referee in the country". "He seems out of favour at the moment," he wrote, "when he's on the pitch, he outperforms others."

In the meantime, judging by the list of appointments made for this weekend, the Professional Game Match Officials Board (PGMO) has mustered its 10 currently most reliable referees to try to see off the present storm Clattenburg is not among them and is, the PGMO says, on annual leave. It will be intriguing to see where his next assignment takes him.

This was written by Sam Wallace, chief football correspondent for The Independent, 5.1.15, And spotted in the February Edition of The Chiltern Referee

The Adventures of Willy 'Red card' Woodwork
The Whistling Referee

Part 39 – The Referees Society

As the ball was kicked out of play by the Reds Rovers defender and once again for what seemed like the ninety ninth time of the match as we all watched the ball roll down the steep bank by the side of the pitch. The Casuals player commented to me the time added on will be about twenty minutes. He was not wrong because the ball then usually rolled into the stream at the bottom of the hill. I suggested the substitutes could assist by standing on this side of the pitch but both teams preferred to stand on the opposite touch line. At the very least I envisaged at least ten minutes to be added on. Whilst I was waiting I started to think about the forth coming Referees Society meeting. I always looked forward to the meetings.....

*They meet every month
 At the Refs Society
 A chat and a drink
 A guest speaker and some tea
 The chairman opens the meeting
 To register who is here
 He starts to read the minutes
 And all the members disappear
 He says 'Tonight, a problem
 The guest speaker is not here
 Stuck in traffic on the motorway
 And he may not appear'
 The twenty members present
 Looked around the room
 Who can do the talk?
 Or it's all doom and gloom
 A voice from the back shouted
 'It's something I can do
 I have it all prepared
 Offside the glory years 1958-1962'
 Willie spoke for hours
 You couldn't hear a peep
 Then Willie looked around the room
 All the members were asleep
 Willie rambled on
 It really was so boring
 Especially for him
 When the chairman started snoring!*

*The moral of the story
Is to make the evenings fun
Then members will attend
In all weathers rain and sun*

Suddenly the ball bounced back onto the pitch. I pointed to where the ball had left the field of play to ensure the throw on was taken from the correct position. I blew my whistle and the match continued.

I hope you enjoy your next referees' society meeting and you can talk about my match incidents and can discuss what a good referee I am!

Keep on whistling,

Willy Woodwork

Willy 'Red card' Woodwork.....the whistling referee.



SCRA DELEGATES' MEETING 30.3.15

Meeting was much shorter than usual.

There was still concern at the general lack of communication from RA national office. It is known there was a Board meeting in January, but no information on decisions taken has been sent to County RAs or Local Societies. Concern also expressed about closure of the office for a month. However, RA office has at last "re-instated" Brian Fish as SCRA secretary after wrongly deleting him from their records.

Correspondence from Societies to County RA is improving; only 2 Societies (Woking is not one of them) have not yet responded to request for information about subscriptions. New request to Societies: please send list of members (names and ages) to Brian Fish as soon as possible with final membership figures for year ended 31/3/15.

Eve of Final Rally is scheduled for 29 May, but no news yet of the arrangements.

Conference in July will be close to Heathrow, so all Surrey RA members should be encouraged to go.

Next meeting 1 June will be County AGM. In absence of any other volunteers Ray Mallery and Brian Fish are willing to stay on as Chairman and Secretary/Treasurer for one more year, but no longer. Fresh blood is urgently required. To this end, all Societies reminded they are entitled to send two delegates to County RA.

Societies are to be encouraged to hold joint meetings if it helps to improve attendances (e.g. by getting better quality speakers).

A further meeting of Society Chairmen + Secretaries + Delegates is mooted – no details yet.

Brian.

31.3.15

Adie's Back - And Legs and Ankles

I guess I should start off with the good news, Adie is back!! The medical staff think it is a good idea for me to gently get myself back so I have, so far, officiated a youth game, run one line and had a 4th official appointment. I will, however, still have to curtail a lot of games and next season will only officiate one game a week-end. The wound is not completely healed but feels a lot better although I certainly know I have officiated after the game – ankles hurt!!

Very saddened to hear from Dave Lawton that he is injured – he's a real asset to any Ref Sec so get better soon Dave and take it easy. I was however overjoyed at Pat Bakhuizen's news that he is in remission. An absolutely brilliant effort on your part Pat and well done on your promotion.

We are now coming to the final games of the season. I will be giving as many people as possible a shout at games but *please* bear in mind I have promotion candidates as well as the outstanding stalwarts who have stuck by me all season. The SCILW Cup Final Match Officials have been notified and accepted so keep a look out on the Mitoo website for the details so come along and cheer on your colleagues! The G&WAFL Finals are approaching and when I get the dates and venues I will be selecting the officials. Once again keep an eye on the website and come and join us for the finals.

On the work front I am still currently on a 4 day week as Fridays I have to visit the nurse and have my leg checked – had an infection a fortnight ago so was on *another* dose of antibiotics. My trainee at work is into tattoos etc and came in last week with his hair dyed black and tan. It caused several classic double takes and I thought I had a Gordon Setter on the section!! Can't say anything though as virtually all the women in the office dye their hair and we cannot have sex discrimination!!

I actually managed to give the lawns their first cut two weeks ago, amazing weather over the weekend and I spent most of it in the garden. On that subject I am back in my work-shed. I just hadn't felt like carrying on with my latest project and couldn't stand for long anyway. I have now picked up where I left off in September and today made some major inroads on this folding table I am constructing. Diane and I are into playing cribbage so that is the main purpose of the project. When I am finished I will attach some pictures.

Enjoy your games.

Adie



I find the whistle restricts my creative self-expression"

SCILW Cup Final Match Officials

Reserve Invitation Cup Final Wednesday 22nd April 2015

Godalming Town FC 7:30pm Kick off

Referee Steve Ferris
Assistant Referees Chris Williams, *Rob Simkin*
4th Official Andy Cooles

Reserves Challenge Cup Thursday 23rd April 2015

Godalming Town FC 7:30pm Kick off

Referee *Derrick Laing*
Assistant Referees Martin Feast, Andy Webb
4th Official Steve Nanson

Premier Challenge Cup Final Thursday 30th April 2015

Westfield FC 7:30pm Kick off

Referee *Vince Penfold*
Assistant Referees Jack Oxenham, *Rachel Marlow*
4th Official Dominic Spena

Surrey FA Promotions 2014/15

Level 6 to 5

Peter Ashdown
Patric Bakhuizen
 Harrison Blair
Matthew Blakebrough
 Gary Bird
 Alastair Higgs
 Terry Kirk
Derrick Laing
 David Lee
Rachel Marlow
 Stephen Matthews
 Jack Oxenham
Steve Rudrum
 Dave Simms
 Mark Sullivan
 Alex Taylor Rose
 Luke Temple
 Chris Williams
Andrew Bennett
 Brendan Bradley
 Niv Dovrat

Congratulations to all the Surrey Referees who've gained promotion this season, in particular the *members of the Woking Referees' Society*

Level 7 to 6

Daryl Ann
 Peter Chmielinski
 Emma Delaney
 Alex Homatas
 Andi Keats
 Scott Orchard
 Zhivko Vasilev
 Paul Walker
 Jamie Whittington
 Ryan Chitson
 Clayton De-Netto
Gareth Heighes
 Joshua Mugridge
Paulo Paciencia
Carlos Rosa

Coventry's Corner

Oh, You Are (L)awful !!

(From *The Chiltern Referee*, May 1996)

It was 2.29pm and the Referee was feeling pleased with himself. The nets had been checked, the ball was fine, the Club linesmen had been given their instructions, and the players were ready. The game was going to kick off on time, not a common occurrence on this League.

A nice blow on the whistle and the ball was rolled along the centreline. Peep, peep, peep. "Take it again please; the ball must be played forward". Another firm blow and the ball angled gently ahead to immediately be passed backwards by the number eight. Peep, peep, peep. "Take it again please; the ball must travel its circumference before being played".

"Oh, mucking hell" shouted the centre forward, having begun his run towards goal. It was 2.34pm by the time the number nine accepted he was being sent off and left the FoP. "Can we sub him?" came the query from the touchline. "Yes, but I won't delay the kick-off to wait for him" called the referee.

Another firm whistle directed the number eight to commence proceedings. He barely touched the ball before being confronted by an opponent. Peep, peep, peep. "You must remain ten yards from the ball until it's in play" advised the official. "Thought you weren't going to delay the kick-off!" was the loud observation from downfield. It was 2.38pm before the caution for ungentlemanly conduct was completed.

"Sub Ref" announced a Linesman, and on came number nines replacement to take up a position a yard forward of his colleague. "In your own half please" instructed the Referee, and with an attempt at humour "You're not at Highbury you know". "And you're not at the Palladium" came the retort, "But you're a mucking joke!"

The second send-off was not accepted at all well by his team-mates, but at 2.43pm the match, to all intents and purposes, made a proper and lawful start. When the half-time whistle went at 3.36pm, an Assessor approached the Referee and said.....???

*Well what did he say? And yes, the LotG have changed somewhat since this was first written; but where? **Mike Coventry***

Courtesy of the Chiltern Referee March 2015



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PlumTree

Surrey County Intermediate Premier Cup semi final

Andy Bennett ; Assistant Referee

Surrey County Intermediate League (Western)

Premier Challenge Cup Final

Laleham FC V Egham Athletic

Vince Penfold ; Referee

Surrey Senior Cup Semi Final

Molesey v Met Police

Michael Webb ; Referee

Surrey County Intermediate League (Western)

Reserve Invitation Cup Semi Final,

University of Surrey v Laleham FC

Paul Gorringe ; Referee.

Camberley and district Sunday league division 2 cup semi final

College Town Reserves v Folly Hill United

Robert Hughes ; Referee

Mike Ellsmore ; Assistant Referee

Combined Counties of Premier Challenge Cup Semi final

Colliers Wood United V Farnham Town.

Nick Arbuckle ; Assistant Referee

Brian Reader

I've got no less than 6 County Cup Final appointments!

- All are as referee co-ordinator. *(Ed is that a plum or a penance Brian ?)*

Saturday Premier

Saturday Lower Junior

Sunday Premier

Sunday Intermediate

Sunday Vets

Youth U-18 Midweek

In case you are wondering what the duties are:

Arrive at ground 90 minutes before KO and make self known to Member in Charge and match officials.

Make sure match officials have received their County T-shirts

Ensure spare balls, substitution boards/cards, & 4th official's records are taken to pitch.

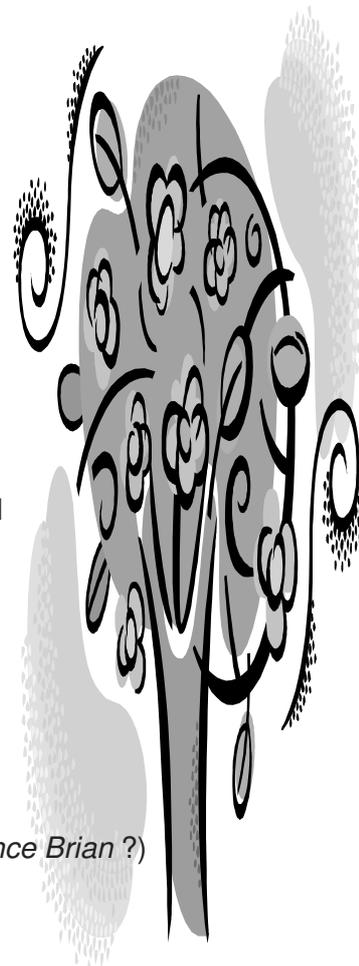
Ensure 4th Official's wetsuit is at pitchside *(do you have visions of the 4th Official wearing a frogman's outfit?)*

Remove all above items at half-time and return them at start of second half

At full time return above items to referees changing room

At full time take assistants' flags to changing room to free them up for presentations

Be aware of competition rules for the match.



Dates for your Diary 2014/15

13th April

Society Meeting - Ian Blanchard

11th May

Society Meeting - Stephen Green

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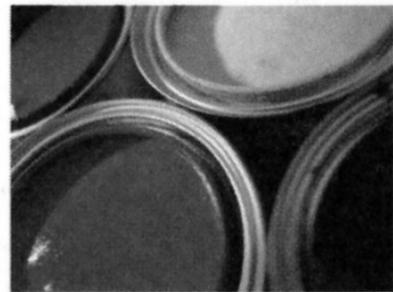
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What Would You Do?

(answers to ~~February~~ issue)
March

Q1. A defender blocks a shot at goal with his hand - but Hawkeye tells you that the ball crossed the line before he stopped it. What actions do you take?

A1. Award a goal. No action against the defender - the ball was out of play when it was handled. He was lucky!

Q2. With only minutes left a striker goes down injured. His team are winning 1-0. Desperate to keep his player on the FoP the manager throws a can of "magic spray" to the captain, who quickly patches up the striker as play continues. What do you do?

A2. Stop play and deal with the situation firmly. The player has received treatment on the FoP so, regardless of how he received it, he must now leave the FoP to allow restart of the game. Player safety is a key responsibility - you cannot allow improvised medical treatment like this.

Q3. Before taking a throw-in a player with a playboy reputation pulls out a bunch of £5 notes from his socks and scatters them in an obnoxious show of wealth. What would you do?

A3. Being obnoxious isn't an offence, but delaying the restart is unsporting behaviour deserving a yellow card. You need to arrange for stewards to deal with any pitch invasion to collect the money. Put details in your match report.

Q4. Soon after a sub comes on, opponents start complaining that he is giving off a foul, rotten egg smell. You suspect he may have deliberately broken a stink bomb to keep defenders away from him. The sub denies everything, and a quick search provides no answer. What would you do?

A4. Stop play. Anything that constitutes attempting to gain an advantage or is a possible health risk, needs to be dealt with swiftly - establish what the substance is and whether it can be removed. Do not allow him to return to the FoP until you are satisfied the smell is no longer an issue - if he cannot remove it, he has to be substituted.

Q5. The keeper commits a professional foul as a striker is about to score. The striker is brought to the ground. But seeing the ball run to another forward, you play advantage. However, before the forward can tap the ball into the net a chasing defender sends him flying - another professional foul, again denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. What do you do?

A5. You cannot show two red cards. Dismiss the defender and show the keeper a yellow card. Restart with a penalty kick.

Q6. As a Red player takes a penalty his standing foot accidentally touches and slightly moves the ball, a split second before his other foot smashes it into the net. The keeper protests the goal is invalid. The striker maintains the penalty kick was legitimate. What would you do?

A6. Disallow the goal, restart with an indirect free kick to the defence from the penalty mark. Intentional or not the ball was played twice.

Q7. During a Red attack, near the end of a game in searing heat, a tired Blue defence pushes put. But one of the defenders is too exhausted to sprint, so instead he steps out of play, putting an attacker offside. What would you do?

A7. The defender is considered to be on the goal line - so the attacker is onside and play continues. When the phase of play is complete, caution the defender for unsporting behaviour (leaving the FoP without your permission).

(Ed. All the Questions were taken from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion.)

Courtesy of the Chiltern Referee

What Would You Do?

Question 1

In the first ten minutes a blue defender on the goal line instinctively sticks out a hand to block a goal-bound shot. But before you blow, he quickly knocks the ball into his own net - keen to avoid such an early red card. What would you do?



Question 2.

Five minutes into the game one of the captains complains that his side are having trouble distinguishing between their strip and that of their opponents. Both have orange sleeves. What would you do?

Question 3

A player steps up and fires a thunderous penalty in off the post to win a shootout. But as his team mates race away to

celebrate, the keeper dashes up and shows you the ball: it's flat, and seems to have burst as it hit the post. What would you do?

Question 4

In boiling conditions in a pre-season tournament the teams are level at 3-3 and shattered after 90 minutes. For safety reasons, both managers agree to go straight to a penalty shootout. What would you do?

Question 5.

A blue defender flies in for a last-gasp goal-line clearance - but his two-footed dive also takes out a nearby colleague. Opponents are angry and want him sent off for dangerous play. What would you do?

Question 6.

In challenging for the ball two players from the away team collide accidentally with each other. Both need treatment, though the injuries are not serious. The ball stays in play. What would you do?

Question 7.

A fashion-conscious attacking winger is wearing one blue and one white boot with matching official club socks. In the first few minutes, defenders start to complain that it gives their opponents an advantage. What would you do?

(Ed. All the Questions were taken from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion.)

Courtesy of the Chiltern Referee

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