

THE WARBLER

Monthly Magazine of the Woking Referees' Society

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Season 2017/18 March Edition

WOKING REFEREES ' SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1927

<u>PRESIDENT</u> Vince Penfold	
Chairman Pat Bakhuizen 07834 963821	Life Vice Presidents David Cooper, Chris Jones, Ken Chivers , Neil Collins, Peter Guest, Roy Butler
Vice Chairman Colin Barnett	Secretary Anthony (Mac) McBirnie (see Editor) Assistant Sec Andy Bennett
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R.A Delegates Brian Reader 01483 480651 Tony Loveridge	Committee Barry Rowland, Tony Price , Tom Ellsmore, Martin Read, Paul Saunders, Dave Lawton
Friends of Woking Referees Society Affiliate Member	Roy Lomax ; Andy Dexter; Pam Wells ; Tom Jackson ; Mick Lawrence ; Lee Peter ; Jim D'Rennes : Eamonn Smith Ian Ransom

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The next meeting of the Woking Referees' Society will be on Monday 5th March

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

AGENDA

- ♦ **7.30 Academy Meeting**
8.00 Chairman's Welcome

- ♦ **Guest Speaker**

Jim De Rennes

"Communicating Decisions on the Field of Play."

- ♦ **90th Annual General Meeting 2018**
See page 5 for Agenda

- ♦ **10pm Close**



**Next month's meeting will be on
Monday 9th April 2018
The deadline for April Warbler is Friday
30th March 2018**

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

From the Chair

Welcome to the March addition of the Warbler

This month's meeting is our 90th AGM a landmark for any society especially in the climate within the current National Referees Association

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the committee for their continued support, especially Mac and Jacko who make being Chairman of this wonderful society so easy. I would also to say a special thank you to Dave Lawton who is stepping down from the committee after 6 years. Dave has supported the society since he joined and has been a strong supporter of the committee and has contributed so much of his time to help.

The training team have just started this year's round of training new referees, with an intake of 28 candidates, who started their training yesterday (24/2/18). We wish them well and hope to see them coming along to meetings in the future

We also welcome Jim de Rennes to the meeting as our guest speaker with what is bound to be another interesting session

I hope you take the opportunity to brave the cold and come along and support the society

Thanks

Pat



This Month's Speaker - Jim De Rennes

After 30 years and over 2,500 matches I'm still active in schools, universities and youth football.

I've been fortunate enough to officiate at both the old and new Wembleys, and, best of all, at my beloved Brighton and Hove Albion's Amex Stadium.

I was an FA Licensed Instructor and a tutor on the FA National Course for Training Officers for many years.

I've been a committed member of Kingston RS for as long as I've been a referee.

J de R

Just a Sec!

- ◆ Our guest speaker this month is Jim De Rennes. If you've not benefitted from one of Jim's presentations before then I can assure you, you will be in for an entertaining and informative and no doubt off beat evening.
- ◆ Congratulations to the 16 members of Woking RA who have been awarded a County Cup appointment this season. (See the chart on page 14.) I thought we'd done well last year with 11 appointments but this goes to show how well we are doing as a Society. Enjoy your day everyone.

Woking Society of the Referees' Association 90th AGM Agenda

Chairman Opens the AGM – Pat

Apologies of Absence – Mac/ Floor

Review of 89th AGM Minutes – Mac

Matters Arising All

Officers Annual Reports –

Chairman – Pat

Secretary – Mac

Membership and Accounts – Bryan

Training – Gareth

Supplies – Callum

Warbler - Mac

Subscriptions – Bryan

Chairman's Thanks – Thanks to the committee

Elections of Officers and Committee – As Listed in the Warbler

A.O.B

Anything from the floor or committee

Close of AGM by the Chairman

Last Month's Meeting

Approx. 18 members attended the main meeting to hear guest speaker Mark Ives, Head of Judicial Services at the FA. Mark has been a referee for 33 years and is active every Saturday and Sunday during the season.

Mark said fairness has to be at the top of the discipline process. Sanctions have to be appropriate to the offence. County FAs have a sanction guidelines document to use.

There were regulatory changes in 2017, with the introduction of match-based discipline sanctions instead of time-based sanctions (these were working effectively), and mandatory sanctions for offences against match officials. Discrimination cases had risen from 400 in 2013 to 1800 in 2017; Mark reminded us that discrimination cases weren't just racial, but could also be based on one of several other factors.

Disciplinary commissions – panels must have at least one independent member w.e.f. 1 January 2018. Each panel must have a qualified secretary, and panels must give full written reasons for decisions.

The sin-bin pilot had led to an overall 38% decrease in dissent in the pilot leagues. A recent survey of those involved showed 82% wanted it to stay. There was likely to be a wider introduction, possibly as far up as Step 5, in the 2018-19 season. Mark then shared information on other possible changes to regulations coming next season (no final decisions yet). One was a simplified dismissal report in similar form to existing caution report; another was yellow and red cards being shown to managers in the technical area.

He stressed that extra misconduct reports are always required for extraordinary incidents after red cards, e.g. when a player initially refuses to leave pitch. He advocated his personal opinion of ground bans instead of touchline bans for persistent offenders.

It was a most informative evening. Meeting closed at 10:00pm

Brian Reader

Billy Graham (who passed away recently)



Scene: The Pearly Gates years in the future. . The Archbishop of Canterbury and Billy Graham are at the head of the queue. Saint Peter is checking their credentials when suddenly a pert little blonde in a slinky dress marches up and gives the Saint a familiar hallo. Saint Peter gives her a beaming welcome, drops everything and leaves the famous duo waiting 45 minutes while he makes sure the young woman is properly settled in.

Seeing this, the gentlemen become a bit irate, Billy Graham asks just why this girl should be given the red-carpet treatment, in view of the great services rendered on earth by himself and the Archbishop,

"Down on Earth" explained the Saint patiently, Helen drove a little sports car. She cut in and out of traffic and went through red lights. Gentlemen, she scared the devil out of more people than the two of you put together!¹¹

REPORT OF SCRA DELEGATES' MEETING 28.1.2018

A busy meeting with guests Tim Lawrence and Bruce McLaren present. Principal discussion points:

Mentor schemes. Tim reminded us that all mentors, whether official via SCFA or unofficial via a Referees Society, must have valid CRC and safeguarding checks in place.

Best practice / good ideas. The role of observer. Kingston Society, together with Combined Counties match officials (about 40 refs in all) had attended Walton & Hersham v Knaphill. Official match observer will be guest speaker at Society meeting on 19th March and give his feedback – the rest of us will then offer our observations.

GDPR. General Data Protection Regulations come into force in May and will affect all levels of the RA. Concern expressed at lack of info from RA. *Post-meeting note: a lengthy e-mail on the subject has since been received from RA Head Office.*

Redhill Society is moribund, has no members, and will be wound up. To be replaced by a “virtual society” for SE Surrey with members but who do not meet. Officers will be County RA principal officers. There are precedents for this sort of arrangement in Sussex and in Bucks & Berks.

Premiership Academies. Surrey FA had finally got hold of document governing these matches. Referees Committee (Refcom) was told refs are encouraged to manage games without use of cards. No policy on sanctions for cautions and dismissals. U-16 and older - refs match report mentions cautions and/or dismissals. U-15 and younger - refs do not have to submit disciplinary reports when cards issued. Refcom was expressed discomfort. This was all reported back to SCRA, who were also uncomfortable.

Post meeting note: I spoke to Mark Ives about this at Woking Society February meeting. He was aware and said the document was wrong, the Premiership clubs agreed it was wrong, and that refs should be submitting disciplinary reports in the usual way.

Assaults. Both Brian Fish and myself had noticed a discrepancy between figures on assaults given to Refcom (low) on 8/1 and figures given to County FA EGM (high) on 15/1. This was apparently due to the difference between a full-out assault and a “technical” assault.

Dissent. Concern at continuing and increasing levels of dissent and lack of respect to match officials (this was in leagues not in the sin-bin pilot).

Brian R.

Minutes of Woking RA – 89th AGM 6th March 2017

Opened at 20.05

Agenda read by Secretary:

Apologies: Roy Butler, Chris Jones, Tom Ellsmore & Mike Ellsmore, Brian Reader

Review of 88th AGM minutes – all read and no matters arising.

Proposed: Gareth Heighes

2nd: Barry Rowland

Officers Reports:

Chairman – PB thanked all for their support. Reasonable year, more members and reasons explained. New Refs Course run by Woking RA tutors on behalf of Surrey RA. All tutors work for free with no payment, allowing the monies saved to register new candidates for a season for “free”. Gained x8 members from last years’ courses which is good news. Woking RA is one of the growing national RA societies.

QUEST Bronze accreditation allows Woking RA to host the FA Hub meetings. 1st meeting saw 58 guests. 2nd saw 32 in Jan 17 which is still positive numbers vs usual January society meeting numbers.

PB thanked all the committee for their hard work over the year.
Thanked Dave Lawton for his efforts as secretary over the last year.
Thanked Mac for taking on the mantle of Secretary.

Secretary – Mac’s first month so not much to add.

PB mentioned that last year we were down on average numbers per meeting, this year (due to Hub meetings as well) saw us up by an average of four.

No buffet required for April Hub meeting!! Vote decided this.

Accounts – Bryan Jackson introduced Ken Chivers who ran through the accounts and some of the figures of excess vs deficit from last year.

A few explanations from Bryan Jackson:

Supplies profit was down.

Dinner – loss of £154.90 – recouped £119.05.

Numbers at dinner were down, hence the slight reduction in income.

Bruce Maclaren Warbler advert – still awaiting payment but it is classed as a “Donation” – we will get it when we get it!!

Question from floor (Martin Read) regarding Liabilities – explained by Ken Chivers as part of the Surrey FA fees and also Belgium Trip money from Paul Goringe.

Trophies & Engravings expenditure has risen – more trophies and additional engraving has seen the increase.

Membership – Numbers increased due to additional people from course. Very time-consuming for Bryan but all added in.

Numbers have increased by seven (excluding new refs from Surrey FA course).

Retention is still good vs other Surrey societies.

Camberley & Farnham = 13

Guildford = 26

Also thanks to Ken Chivers for his continued hard work on our accounts.

Increase of members should be 54 – typo in declaration.

Training – Gareth told of successful courses, additional thanks to Pat for arranging everything.

Thanks also to AB, DL & VP plus all members of the Academy for their support.

First live feed on Instagram at tonight's Academy meeting.

Also thanks to Peter Watson and Ian Ransom for their commitment to the New Refs Course.

Supplies – Callum; nothing to report.

Warbler – Mac thanks to all for their input and happy to carry on.

Rule Amendments - Nothing

Subscriptions - Direct membership to RA cost £25. Restructure our subscription form to give option of printed or electronic Warbler. The difference being cost of production which = c£11.

Bryan Jackson proposed overall subs stay the same at £36 to include printed Warbler and £25 with an electronic.

£25 u18 with printed, £14 with electronic.

Proposed: Bryan Jackson

2nd: Paul Gorringe

Motion carried from floor.

Standing Down – Barry Rowland conducted formalities.

Chairman – Pat Bakhuizen remains

Committee – all remain as per current and detailed in the March Warbler

Ken Chivers to remain as independent examiner for Society Accounts

Vince Penfold will be remaining as President of Woking RA. Back within the Society “properly” from September 2017

AOB – PB gave an update on the current “merger” meeting.

Survey Monkey was ambiguous with regards to the feedback, apart from x2 members who were against the merger.

It was/is all about trying to save two societies, not a Woking takeover.

Still on the table to discuss but no rush.

AGM closed 20.50hrs

Nominations for Officers and Committee 2018/19

Position	2017/18	2018/19	Proposer	Seconder
President:	Vince Penfold	Vince Penfold	n/a	n/a
Life Vice-Presidents:	Roy Butler, Ken Chivers, Neil Collins, David Cooper, Peter Guest, Chris Jones	Roy Butler, Ken Chivers, Neil Collins, David Cooper, Peter Guest, Chris Jones	n/a	n/a
Chairman:	Pat Bakhuizen	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson	Colin Barnett
Vice Chairman:	Colin Barnett	Colin Barnett	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Secretary:	Anthony McBirnie	Anthony McBirnie	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Treasurer & Membership:	Bryan Jackson	Bryan Jackson	Pat Bakhuizen	Colin Barnett
Asst Secretary & Minutes:	Andy Bennett	Andy Bennett	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Training Officer:	Gareth Heighes	Gareth Heighes	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Magazine Editor:	Anthony McBirnie	Anthony McBirnie	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Supplies Officer:	Callum Peter	Callum Peter	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
Asst Supplies Officer	Tom Knight	Tom Knight	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
County RA Delegates:	Brian Reader	Brian Reader	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Tony Loveridge	Tony Loveridge	Bryan Jackson	Colin Barnett
Welfare Officer		Gareth Heighes	Bryan Jackson	Anthony McBirnie
Committee Members:	Tom Ellsmore	Tom Ellsmore	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Tony Price	Tony Price	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Tony Loveridge	Tony Loveridge	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Martin Read	Martin Read	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Paul Saunders	Paul Saunders	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson
	Barry Rowland	Barry Rowland	Pat Bakhuizen	Bryan Jackson

End of Year Accounts 2017

The Society Accounts, have been independently examined and show a moderate profit being made for the year. They continue to show that the society is in a healthy financial position. The committee have also confirmed that there will be no need to propose a subscription increase for 2018/2019. This needs ratification by members at the AGM. Just to pick out some points from the accounts:

- ◆ Supplies profit increased by £79.35 due to donations of kit we received from members that we were able to sell on the training courses throughout the year.
- ◆ Whilst the dinner made a small loss of £25 in tickets sales, the 5 guests more than covered the cost of their tickets in purchase of raffle tickets, which is reflected in the profit from raffles figure which increased by £59.22
- ◆ We restructured the way we produce the Warbler with approximately 50% of paying members opting for an electronic copy. This did not take effect until the September issue and cost savings will be reflected in the 2018 accounts as we reduce our postage costs.
- ◆ Despite membership being strong our income and expenditure due to membership has decreased. This is due to the members opting for an electronic warbler which reduced income by approx. £350 and the FA initiative to cover the cost of newly qualified referees joining the RA which reduced expenditure by £371 (this would previously have cost the society £4 per trainee and we trained about 90 new referees in the 2016 calendar year).
- ◆ Speaker expenses were greatly reduced to £20 due to the RA-FA hub meetings, which attracted no costs to the society and use of in house speakers.
- ◆ The committee approved a number of charitable donations throughout the year in memory of or in support of those in the Refereeing and Football community. All of the expenditure was approved by the committee.

Membership numbers at 31st December 2017

119 Full Members 7 Friends 1 Affiliate member

This is an increase of 11 full members from 2016 and includes those referees in the FA initiative that live in our catchment area. We are still the Society with the highest membership in Surrey and in the top 10 nationally.

If anyone has any questions please email me and I will answer and provide that answer to all members and at the AGM.

Finally, my thanks again to Ken Chivers for his prompt turnaround of the accounts.

Bryan Jackson Hon Treasurer / Membership Secretary

WOKING SOCIETY of REFEREES ASSOCIATION**Balance Sheet
As at 31 December 2017**

	2017 £	2016 £
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	3,357.00	3,719.55
Cash in hand	32.00	32.00
Stock	214.35	142.00
	-----	-----
	3,603.35	3,893.55
Current Liabilities		
Reserves & Accruals	828.39	1,197.76
	-----	-----
Net Assets	£ 2,774.96	£ 2,695.79
=====	=====	=====
Capital Account		
Opening balance b/f	2,695.79	2,702.82
Excess/(Deficit) Income for the year	79.17	(7.03)
	-----	-----
Closing balance c/f	£ 2,774.96	£ 2,695.79
=====	=====	=====

I have examined the records, books and vouchers of the Society and, in my opinion, they show a true and fair reflection of the assets and liabilities of the Society as at 31 December 2017 and the Income and Expenditure Account show a true and fair reflection of the income received and expenditure paid throughout the year ended 31 December 2017

K J Chivers
Certifying Accountant

B Jackson
Hon. Treasurer

WOKING SOCIETY of REFEREES ASSOCIATION

**Income and Expenditure Account
For the year ended 31 December 2017**

	2017	2016
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions	1,638.00	2,067.00
Profit from supply sales	92.35	13.00
Donations	124.00	219.00
Profit from raffles	355.36	296.14
Dinner Profit/(Loss)	(25.00)	(154.90)
	<u>2,184.71</u>	<u>2,440.24</u>
Expenditure		
Warbler(net of adverts)	592.04	493.00
RA & SCRA Subscriptions	962.00	1,333.00
Donation for use of Hall	100.00	100.00
Stationery & Postage	196.50	11.70
Speaker expenses	20.00	225.93
Training expense (net of Surrey FA payment)	0.00	0.00
Web site costs	0.00	179.64
Trophies & engraving	95.00	104.00
Donations	140.00	0.00
	<u>2,105.54</u>	<u>2,447.27</u>
Excess/(Deficit) Income over Expenditure for the year	£ 79.17	£ (7.03)
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

WOKING SOCIETY of REFEREES ASSOCIATION

**Notes to the Accounts
Year ended 31 December 2017**

	2017	2016
	£	£
Accruals & Reserves		
Training fund	614.89	784.26
Youth fund	113.50	113.50
Belgium fund	0.00	200.00
Accruals	100.00	100.00
	<u>£ 828.39</u>	<u>£ 213.50</u>
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>
Warbler		
Cost of printing & distribution	782.04	598.00
Less		
Advertising Revenue received	190.00	105.00
	<u>-----</u>	<u>-----</u>
Net Cost to Society	£ 592.04	£ 493.00
	<u>=====</u>	<u>=====</u>

Surrey County Cup Finals Appointments

	REFEREE	Assistant 1	Assistant 2	Reserve Referee	Observer
Saturday					
Senior	Paul Johnson	Andrew Senior	Luis Nunes	Jason Connolly	Tim Lawrence
Premier	Jack Oxenham	Jonty Bolland	Calum Edgcombe	Harrison Blair	Stephen Maguire
U21 Midweek	Jon Creswick	Stephen Matthews	Luke Chapman	Steven Scott	Gordon Harrison
Intermediate	Nigel Owen	Phil Jones	Phil Paice	Chris Williams	Phil Sherlock
Junior	Jordan Crichlow	William Douglas	Ben Knipe	Daniel Kennard	Les Edwards
Lower Junior	Jack Tough	William Siegmund	Carl Jones	Bob Dick	Barrie Morse
Sundays					
Premier	Stefan Malczewski	Ben Stopani	Roy Lawrence	Neil Patterson	Andy Mansbridge
Intermediate	Neil Rolland	Luke Temple	Paul Dowell	Martin Read	Les Johnstone
Junior	Adam Absolon	Stephen Grimshaw	Dotun Abiodun	Simon Harwood	Richard Ireson
Lower Junior	Richard Marus	Paul Legg	Jamie Lowe	Alex McKay	Peter Barbrook
Veterans	Gareth Mays	Connor Fanelli	Richard Hailstone	Scott Orchard	Vic Skilton
Youth					
Under 18 Midweek	Derrick Laing	Rachel Marlow	Chris Noble	Alastair Higgs	Peter Watson
Under 18	Shawn Barclay	Dominic Fairhurst	Adam Merchant	Callum Peter	Tony Loveridge
Under 16	Simon Cornwell	Harvey Henley	Conrad Conduah	Joe Wright	
Under 15	Dan Killick	Sam Bunting	Callum Patrick	Callum Kirkby	
Under 14	Henry Dalton-Stone	Jamie Kapadia	Aaron Littlejohn	William Lonsdale	
Under 13	Archie Matthews	Taylor Sanders	Michael Adams	Daniel Lipscombe	
Under 12	Max Van Den Berg	George Baines	Matthew Scott	Charlie Cable	
Girls					
Under 16	Toby Hunt	Morgan Hamilton	Steve Worsley	David Sanford	
Under 15	Jack Matthews	Harrison Button	Alex Homatas	Alan Hodge	
Under 14	Anna Dzyadyk	Isa Dabrowska	Holly Sturton	Olivia Stuart	
Under 13	Beau Van Den Berg	Abbie Morris	Fleur Robinson	Rachel Swain	
Under 12	Georgina Solly	Lauren Devlin	Niamh Heduvan	Patrick Jolliffe	

Collisions - Accidental or Deliberate

It is only for formal restarts that the laws specify where players shall be positioned relative to one another and the ball e.g. opponents of the kicker to be 9.15 metres away from the ball at a free kick. In open play it is a matter of free choice but that choice may be legal or illegal.

A very common occurrence that referees have to judge is the situation where the player in possession of the ball attempts to knock the ball forward past the opponent and then go round or by the opponent in pursuit. Four things can happen:

1. The intended manoeuvre passes off without incident.
2. There is a collision between the players that is entirely accidental with neither apparently making any attempt to hold or impede the other.
3. There is a collision between them intentionally caused by the challenger moving to block the overtaking run.
4. There is a collision between the two of them caused by the player in possession of the ball intentionally running into the challenging opponent.

Such collisions are tricky to judge and to get it right it needs good referee positioning and proximity on the referee's part - often a matter of luck. It also needs the referee to astutely judge the intentions of the two players involved. Did the player in possession seem to want to be impeded or did the challenger make some move to impede the opponent's movement?

I'm seeing increasingly more gamesmanship and the 'playing for a foul', particularly in Scenario 4 - the ball knocked forward and the runner going straight into the challenging opponent rather moving by or around with the consequent claim for a foul.

What is worrying is that referees at all levels, are seemingly making (wrong) judgements against the innocent challenger and the constructed free kick for the player in possession is gained when it is judged a free kick in an attacking position will be a better result than the chance of continuing the attacking move.

The challenger is under no obligation to step aside, remember; what he/she mustn't do though is to move sideways just to block the overtaking run. That is a holding offence if physical contact is made and should be penalised with a direct free kick or, possibly an indirect free-kick for impeding the opponent's progress on the rare occasion where no actual physical contact results. If judged to be unsporting gamesmanship, a caution could be issued.

If the player in possession of the ball just runs into the challenging opponent then that is a pushing offence and needs penalising with a direct free kick against such an offence.

I do think referees ought to show more decisiveness and better judgement in these circumstances as to who the real offender is.

Len Randall

Courtesy of The Chiltern Referee

MURPHY'S MEANDERINGS

Did I ever tell you about my firm's five a side competition? It was sponsored by the firm's Vice Chairman and most departments put in a team. We had won the competition once before but now, feeling our age and with nobody interested, we decided to give it a miss. However, the Vice Chairman and our boss had a chat, a wager was made that we would win it, and thus we entered the competition.

It was played on two Friday nights, the rounds on the first Friday and the finals on the second Friday. We made our way safely through the rounds on a quiet night with few spectators. However, the finals night had an altogether different atmosphere and the hall was nearly full when we got there. It was extremely noisy and, with each department providing a float for their staff, it got louder and louder as the evening progressed. There had been considerable hype during the week and with the varying levels of skill and fitness, the eclectic mix of players and the support becoming ever more vocal, the games became progressively more physical.

Our opposition in the quarter final were all regular players in their late teens. They were fit and skilful and had the required squad of seven players meaning they could use two substitutes during the game. We could only get the bare minimum of five players of which just two, the goalkeeper and one defender, played regularly and as we were in our mid-thirties were considered old. They thought they would give us the run around so we played a spoiling game to slow them down and tried to wind them up on every possible occasion. They were young and it succeeded. They reacted by moaning and whingeing and whilst they did so we scored two goals and went through to the semi-final.

Our semi-final opponents were just slightly younger than us but all regular players of a reasonable standard and again had a squad of seven. With the loud support of excitable spectators, alcohol induced, it became a very physical contest, more of a scrap, and the referee, in his early twenties and not very experienced, had difficulty controlling the game. Our goalkeeper was exceptional in keeping a clean sheet and we scraped through by one goal to nil.

In the final we met the favourites and they were a class act, seven good players in their prime. They'd strolled through the competition, taken the kicks and knocks and punished teams by scoring lots of goals. They had won their semi-final scoring five goals without reply and never breaking into a sweat. We, on the other hand, had played with five players all night and had struggled in each game. However, it had become very personal for our defender who worked with them. During the previous week, he had been ridiculed continuously, which he felt was over the top, and was determined to prove them wrong or go down fighting.

They thought they only had to turn up to beat us and were arrogant. We surprised them and, driven from the back, got stuck into them from the start, harassed and chased them, and knocked them out of their stride in more ways than one. We scored early on and then battled to hold onto our lead. They could only score one goal in the second half and the game went into extra time.

We clung on into the second half of extra time when we got some luck. Everybody was in our half when the ball bounced into our opponent's half. Up front we had one forward. He'd never played regularly and, although he talked a good game and tried hard, he really made up the numbers. He'd been a spectator for much of the evening and wasn't very happy with the physical aspect of the games. He chased the ball, hopping from foot to foot and swinging his shoulders which he thought was what he was supposed to do. For some reason the goalkeeper, coming out of his penalty area, panicked, and instead of side footing the ball wide hammered it as hard as he could. It hit our player on the knee, knocking his legs from under him and sending him crashing to the floor. before bouncing back past the goalkeeper into the goal. For the rest of the game our colleague hobbled about up front playing to the crowd, apparently in great pain but courageously continuing, whilst we fought tooth and nail to maintain our lead and eventually win the game. At the presentation, only the winners were given medals. When asked why, the Vice Chairman said that you only get commission when you win the contract, you get nothing for coming second.

Tony Murphy

Dates for your Diary 2017/18

5th March	Society Meeting	Jim De Rennes , AGM
9th April	Society Meeting	Graham Ekins Chairman Surrey Youth League
14th May	Society Meeting	Andy Bennett/ Tom Ellsmore
18th May 2018	Eve of Final Rally,	
Sunday 20 th May 2018	Non-League Finals day,	
Development Weekend – Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th June 2018. De Vere Staverton - Daventry NN11 6JT -		
Annual General Meeting - Saturday 21st July 2018 Sports Connexion - Leamington Road, Ryton on Dunsmore, Coventry CV8 3FL		

Too Much, Too Quickly?

Some good few years ago, I had the pleasure, indeed the honour, of receiving an award from the hands of Sir Stanley Rous CBE, who was President of FIFA at that time. As a former international referee, and a reformer, he instigated the diagonal control which every referee uses today in some shape or form, and re-wrote many of the Laws of the Game. However, whilst President, he suggested to the International FA Board, when they were producing changes to the Laws year after year, that they had a break.

What would he say today?

Last season we had 57 changes and clarifications, I counted another 40 this season and even more revolutionary changes are promised next season. The question is, are referees getting bamboozled by all these changes, modifications and experiments? Reported instances would appear that this is a real danger. Look at where the Luton goalkeeper after bringing an opponent down in his penalty area was sent off by the referee for Denying an Obviously Goal Scoring Opportunity. 'You can't do that,' said the goalkeeper, 'I tried to play the ball, so it's only a yellow card'. 'You're right,' said the referee, 'I'd forgotten that.'

There have been cases, in this country and abroad, that where when games went to Kicks from the Penalty Mark, the referees used the ABBA sequence to determine the order of the kicks. Unfortunately, their competitions were not taking part in that experiment and the teams had to go back and take the kicks again. In the FA Vase game, Westbury United v Christchurch, the referee allowed a fourth substitute to be used in extra time. He didn't realise that this experiment didn't apply to that competition and the game had to be played again, with the winning team the first time round, getting beaten.

When waiting to referee at Oxford City's ground, I watched a veteran's game already taking place. One old timer got a little upset and shoved an opponent roughly in the chest and continued knocking him around the field with a series of blows to the chest. The referee went for his pocket and I was interested to see what colour card he was going to pull out. But it was neither, instead he sent the offender to the touch line for a ten-minute temporary dismissal. Was the referee aware that temporary dismissals are only to be used for dissent in this country, as dictated by the FA? Thumping an opponent in the chest doesn't come under that heading.

I have pointed out in this magazine on more than one occasion that the answers given to some questions in the quiz *What Would You Do?* are out of date. For example, after the game was stopped for two team mates fighting one another in their own penalty area, the answer given was that the game would be restarted with an indirect free kick when in fact, it should now be a penalty. But am I the only one spotting these mistakes? It may be said that these are all individual errors but now the FA is being caught out by the multiple changes. As a referee tutor, I have been sent a copy of the journal that trainee referees are expected to complete before they attend the course. In it, they have to complete statements from the Laws where words have been left out.

The idea is so it can be seen that they have read the Laws when they turn up for the course. Two of the statements are; *The referee ensures that any ball used, meets the requirements of Law 2* and *The referee ensures that the players equipment meets the requirement of Law 4*. The problem is that despite the fact that we are still expected to carry out these duties, neither of the clauses appear in the current Laws of the Game. They were removed in 2016 without comment.

Perhaps more important, is that in the journal they have included in the basic requirements for a foul, *it must be committed by a player and it must occur on the field of play*. In the rewritten laws, free kicks may be given against substitutes, substituted players, sent-off players and team officials and also for offences committed off the field of play. It now says only, *that free kicks and penalties can only be awarded for offences committed when the ball is in play*.

I have written to the FA and they have said that any errors will be corrected but the question has to be asked, when it comes to Law changes, is there too much – too quickly?

I could hazard a guess what Sir Stanley's answer would have been.



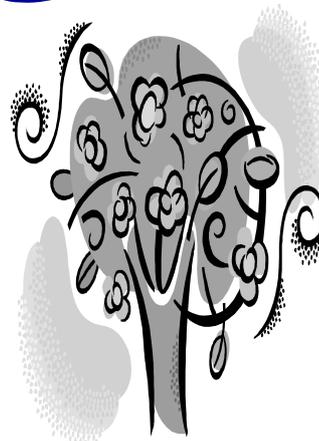
Dick Sawdon Smith (Writing in *The Chiltern Referee*)

PlumTree

Surrey County Saturday Junior Cup, Quarter-Final
Otthershaw v Crescent Rovers
Referee : Paul Gorringer

Surrey County Cup U15 Youth Semi Final
Escolla Futsal Vs Chipstead Youth
Referee- Will Siegmund
Assistant Referees : Charlie Cable & Callum Peter

Surrey County Cup U18 Semi Final
Epsom United Youth v Walton Casuals
Assistant Referee : Will Siegmund



9 red cards! A mass brawl 5 minutes into the 2nd half led to 3 red cards to Vittoria on-field players, 2 to Bahia on-field players, and 2 to Bahia substitutes. Later 2 more Vittoria players got red cards in separate incidents, leaving them with only 6 players, and the referee therefore had to abandon the match. According to competition rules, Bahia should be considered 3-0 winners (but decision to be confirmed).

The match observer's report should make interesting reading.

Brian R

REFEREEING ON THE SURREY PRIMARY LEAGUE

Because I also referee on the SPL I was very interested in Mac's account of what he says to players, coaches and assistant referees before matches on the SPL. (The Warbler Feb 2018 p.6 Mac's Musings)

I always brief my assistants, asking them to help me with offsides and ball in and out of play, but I don't usually speak to the teams.

If I'm asked to do so I tell them that I have one pair of eyes and will be in one place to view incidents. I will give them an honest decision on the basis of what I see. They will all see something different from wherever they are. They might even see an offence, for example a handball, that I've not seen. I ask them not to tell me that I've made a mistake. I say that if I wanted people to tell me I was wrong I could have stayed at home with my family. This last remark usually produces a laugh, and shows them that I'm not a robot!

Unlike Mac, I don't invite the players to ask for clarification if I blow up for a foul because I want to avoid the possibility of being questioned less than politely! My preference is to announce in a loud voice my reason for blowing the whistle. For example: "Push in the back", "You're holding his arm 7", "You just caught him there 4" etc etc.

At a Senior level of the game such explanations might well invite dissent: "I never effing touched him" "You must be effing joking" etc but I find that in schools and youth football my clear confident statements are almost always accepted without question.

Like Mac, I've not yet sent a player to the sin bin but I have found it useful as a deterrent on a couple of occasions when I've said to a player, "Which would you rather do? Keep quiet or spend 10 minutes in the sin bin?" On both occasions they've, not surprisingly, chosen the first option.

I agree with Mac that "kicking the ball away could be construed as dissent. I prefer to see it as "delaying the restart of play" which is one of the 7 cautionable offences in the Laws of the Game.

I hope readers of the Warbler can name all seven!?

Jim de Rennes

A message for our younger referees

Please see on opposite page an invitation to a RA FA Youth Council Development day for youth members (Under 24yrs) on 15th April
Please let Mac know if you are interested
The venue is the Berks and Bucks FA
Stratton Court, Kimber Road
Abingdon
OX14 1SG





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Berks and Bucks FA
Sunday 15th April 2018



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Adie Gets Drenched in French

Great news!! La salle de bain est terminée !!! Yippee!!

I got home on Thursday evening grabbed my change of clothes and had my first shower in the new bathroom. Outstanding. I have only waited 30 odd years for this and the wait was worth it. A great full drench without knocking your head off, plenty of space and it felt great. Yes, I guess we could have done this sooner but I have always believed that you are a parent from the cradle to the grave. Getting the eldest started in his business and assisting the youngest through University took its toll on the wallet and the savings but now it is our turn.

For those fortunate enough to have been awarded a County Cup Final – well done, I hope you will enjoy the occasion – it all goes so quickly so make the most of it. The League Cup Finals and Semi Finals are fast approaching so ensure you have made yourselves available to you Ref Secs in plenty of time to avoid disappointment.

Couple of points from your Referees Secretary that I would like to raise. I do get reports from clubs concerning Match Officials both good and bad (if it's about me they have to moan elsewhere) and I feel I should highlight these issues. Law 12. Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures.

There have been a few occasions when a Referee has claimed they did not hear the remark. Believe me, you are making a rod for your own back with this one. You will not do yourself any favours by 'bottling it'. If you cannot in all honesty identify the perpetrator then an 'across the board warning' usually has the desired effect. But if you can be 100% sure of the person committing the offense – Red Card them and dismiss them from the field of play. We all have our own levels of tolerance but if I use a rule of thumb – would ladies be offended and 'is that suitable when children are around' will always make my decision easier.

The other point is from me personally. **Referees Match Reports.** There are still some Referees who are very lapse on this. I get it in the neck from the Committee, I try not to be too harsh on you guys but I need these in so that I can update various spreadsheets, charts and websites. Please get them to me by the Wednesday as I sometimes update on a Thursday night if I am having one of my SOFA meetings on a Friday.

My youngest son's aquarium stand is going well – started staining the wood this week now I have a load of varnishing to get through before I make a start on the next project – two bespoke bedside tables for the spare room (Diane's orders) and then she wants a cupboard made for all the cleaning equipment, spare towels, bog rolls etc. At least I won't get bored!!!

Adie



The Adventures of Willy the 'Red card' Referee **The 'Whistling' Referee**

Part 67 - 'Thistle' ignore the whistle

Match: Blue Hoops Thistle -v- Bath Alona
 League: Division Three - Sunday Park League (North)
 Venue: Local park - Second on the left after the traffic lights
 Colours: Thistle in blue hoops! - Bath Alona in yellow/blue stripes

For the referee no time for contemplation
 Blow that whistle for communication
 A long loud blast on the whistle
 Take no dissent from Blue Hoops Thistle



They are the worst behaved team in the league
 They are very unfit and have no fatigue
 They use the same excuse at every game
'It's a contact sport ref' and it's always the same

I warn both teams they must behave
'I will show cards and I will be brave'
 The Bath Alona captain says *'My players won't try to be clever'*
 The Thistle captain says *'Yeah, whatever'*

We all watch the games on 'Match of the day'
 And everyone will have their say
 Everyone's an expert with what they see
 But very few are qualified referees

The match begins and good football is played
 A whistle is blown and a decision is made
 From the respect handshake and love is in the air
 Two minutes played and all challenges have been fair



The Thistle player kicks the ball away
 And I produce the first yellow card of the day
'Accept my decision that is enough said
Just one more word and you will see red'

I don't want to sound belligerent
 But I have to apply the laws different
 A zero policy for any dissent or any bickering
 And the yellow cards will all start flickering

A free kick to Bath Alona and a Thistle player stands over the ball
 He really must think that I'm a fool!
 He says *'I'll move when you pace the ten yards'*
 He ignores my second request so I show him a card



On every decision against the Thistle
They never seemed to hear my whistle
I start with a quiet word as a precaution
No response from the player so another caution

Some may feel that I was being hard
But to calm players down you must show a card
If they won't listen or show any respect
A yellow card is what they will expect

No more delays when taking free kicks
My approach had done the trick
Players being polite and listening to my every word
No one longer saying that I am absurd

I had worked hard to take control
This was not your usual Sunday morning stroll
Every match I always try to enjoy
And my style today was well employed



Bath Alona were a lovely behaved team
At times Blue Hoops Thistle were obscene
A referee for every game should use a different deployment
I only want to referee for the enjoyment

Back in the changing room at the end of the game
I thought I had done well and couldn't complain
A loud knock on my door and the Thistle captain enters without my permission
And says 'Hey Ref, you are the best ref we've had all season!'

*Sometimes you have to deal with teams harsher than others.
Remember if a card needs to be shown.....show it!*

Willy the 'Red Card' Referee

Know it and show it.....the cards!

Thoughts for the Day



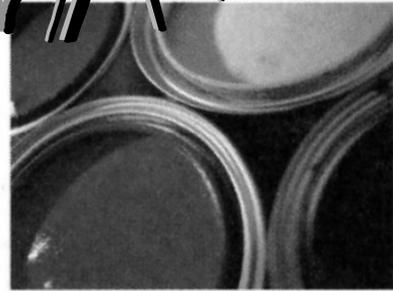
- ◆ It is said that there are 3 types of referee. One who can count and one who can't.
- ◆ It is also said that before you criticise someone, walk a mile in their shoes. You will then be a mile away from them and, you'll still have their shoes.
- ◆ Remember, no matter how hard you push the envelope, its still stationary.
- ◆ Did you know that the most dangerous part of a car is the nut that holds the steering wheel ?
- ◆ Beware, insanity is hereditary - It's passed down from your children !



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What Would You Do? Answers to February's Issue

Q1 You are in the middle of a senior ladies match. Your far-side assistant is fairly inexperienced but seems to be doing a good job. Then, in the 20th min, having kept his flag down on a close offside call which saw a shot fly narrowly wide, he is shouted to by the left back. He immediately flags furiously and beckons you over. Once you reach him, he tells you that the player had shouted. "For Christ's sake, lino, get your flag up". As a deeply religious person, your assistant finds such use of the Lord's name both offensive and blasphemous. He is clearly upset and requests that the player be sent off. What would you do?

A1. Whilst players should not shout at match officials, this instance cannot be considered as offensive in everyday speech. Indeed, unless it was a game where dissent was becoming a problem it would not be considered serious enough to warrant a yellow card. Advise your AR that, while you respect his beliefs, they may not be used as the benchmark for what can be considered acceptable for all.

If you think the AR is too upset to continue, he needs to be replaced. Ensure he understands that, although you will have a word with the player, you will not be taking any stronger action and that you expect him to have a higher tolerance level before requesting action regarding comments made to him. Take the player away from your AR, appraise her of the situation and remind her that any comments made towards match officials may be considered as dissent.

Q2 You are in the middle of a local league cup match with the scores at 1-1 as you enter the final minute. The red keeper has had trouble gaining any distance with his goal kicks into an ever-stiffening breeze, so his left back has been taking the last few and now places the ball for yet another. The ball has only just cleared the area when the wind gusts even harder, blowing it back over his head and into the net despite a despairing dive from the goalkeeper which saw him only just fail to get his fingers to the ball. The Blue team celebrate knowing that there is hardly any time left. What would you do?

A2. Award a corner. Law 16 is clear that an own-goal cannot be scored direct from a goal kick. Had the ball cleared the area before blowing back, then retake the kick. Since the ball had not cleared the area, the restart will be a corner. The keeper was lucky that he failed to get a touch, as that would have seen a goal awarded.

Q3. In a keenly contested game, a Blue defender has injured himself as he made an excellent last-ditch tackle to prevent a goal-scoring opportunity. Even as his team sweep upfield, it is obvious he is in some pain but you decide to allow play to continue as it is not a head injury. Sure enough, the blue attack results in a goal but, as you turn to signal, you see that the Blue physio is already on the field and treating his player. You run back to him and he tells you that your assistant had given him permission. When asked, he confirms that he had sent the physio on because play had moved into the other half. What would you do?

A3. Your AR has dropped you in it - he has no authority to send him on. The physio should only enter the FoP when advised by the referee. By the letter of law 3, the goal should be disallowed. Thus would undoubtedly affect your match control and seriously undermine the credibility of the AR. In reality, the chances of any complaint are remote. In the interests of continued control, allow the goal as if nothing were untoward!

Q4. When the home side concede a third goal their under-fire manager loses the plot. He storms out of his dug-out and into the TV commentary box where he lays into a notorious pundit. He then trots down again. What would you do?

A4. You witnessed the manager striking another person off the field of play, so if he does return to the technical area, you should dismiss him for misconduct. Include details in your match report. If you had to stop the game, restart it with a dropped ball.

Q5. A defender badly scuffs his back pass sending the ball bouncing towards his own net. The horrified keeper makes a desperate attempt to stop it. He ends up heading the ball on to the goal post then tipping the rebound over the bar with his hand. What would you do?

A5. Award a corner. The keeper rightly tried to avoid handling the ball from the deliberate back-pass. He only intervened with his hand in a second phase of play after the ball had rebounded off the post.

Q6. Blue number ten comes on for number 23. But seconds after the restart there is a huge commotion. Staff on the bench are screaming that the fourth official got it wrong and should have held up number 13 instead. What would you do?

A6. No action is needed. The substitution had been completed and play restarted - you cannot reverse it now. A mistake by the 4th official does not nullify the change.

(Ed. Questions were taken from "In the referee's opinion" in Touchlines - Sutton RS, and from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion in The Observer).

What Would You Do ? (Belated Christmas Edition)

Question 1. During a game you notice that one of the managers has been using Jedi mind tricks to gain an unfair advantage. But when you go over to reprimand him, he informs you that he is not the manager you are looking for. What would you do?

Question 2. Two players are making their debuts - Mr Tickle and Mr Bump. Mr Tickle can't resist tickling opponents at every opportunity, while Mr Bump accidentally runs into the posts, other players and you every few minutes. What would you do?

Question 3. In a crucial cup game in Lapland a defender badly slices a clearance skyward - only to see it ricochet off a low-flying reindeer and back into his own net. What would you do?

Question 4. You turn up to referee the third game of the season for a new team in the league. In your pre-match inspection something doesn't look right: it is very wide but very short, just filling the space available. You point this out to the home manager dressed as Father Christmas. He laughs and says that both previous referees had noticed the same thing, but both had paced out the dimensions and found that the width and length were both exactly 100 yards, which is the min length and max width allowed. What would you do?

Question 5. Blues take their positions for an attacking free kick on the edge of the red penalty area. A fantastic shot dips over the wall, swerves out of the keeper's reach and drops over the line off the angle of post and crossbar. As the blue team celebrate, the red keeper throws the ball to you. It is clearly semi-deflated with a sprig of Christmas tinsel wrapped round it. What would you do?

(Ed. Questions were taken from "In the referee's opinion" in Touchlines - Sutton RS, and from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion in The Observer).

Courtesy of The Chiltern Referee

WARBLER REFERENCE GUIDE

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