

THE WARBLER

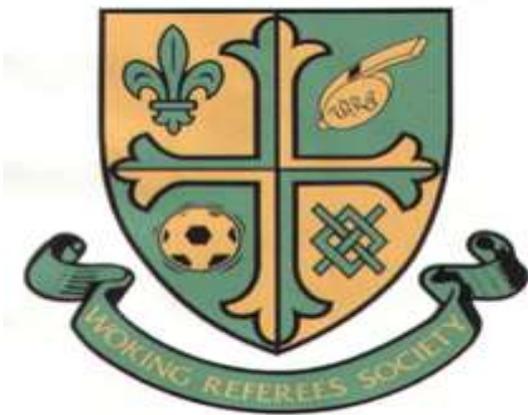
Monthly Magazine of the Woking Referees' Society

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Season 2013/14 November Edition

WOKING REFEREES ' SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1927

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**The next meeting of the
Woking Referees' Society
will be held on
Monday 4th November 2013**

Meadow Sports Football Club
Loop Rd Playing Fields, Loop Rd, Kingfield, Woking
Surrey GU22 9BQ
7.45pm for a prompt 8pm start

AGENDA

- ♦ **7.15 Academy Meeting**
- ♦ **8.00 Chairman's Welcome**
- ♦ **This Month's Speaker**



Jim De Rennes
Goalkeepers and Referees

- ♦ **Society Business**
- ♦ **10pm Finish**

December's meeting is on Monday 2nd December 2013

**The deadline for the December edition is Friday 22nd
November 2013**

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

Chairman's Chat

Hello everyone.

So autumn is well and truly with us, we can look forward to strong winds, rain, clocks going back and earlier kick offs and also the possibility of snow etc. Sounds like fun to me, it's what we are used to and we will no doubt take it all in our stride.

There has been a lot happening this month starting with our October Meeting, where we were treated to a really interesting presentation from Vince. The subject of Vince's talk was Great Expectations (No not the Charles Dickens book) this was about us as referees and what we and others expect from us.

We looked at what is expected by Players, the FA, Club officials, Assessors, Spectators, Fellow Referees, Friends and Family and most important ourselves. After a great deal of discussion and listing we came up with a number of expectations, most groups appear to expect the same things from us, the most common of which are set out below, these are not in any particular order.

Application of law, consistency, professionalism, good attitude, match control, fitness, communication skills, team work, credibility of decisions, positioning, self-assessment and confidence. This is not a complete list, but the most popular suggestions given on the night. So now I know what I am supposed to do!

Also this month there was the RA-FA meeting at Imber Court, It was a really good evening with Kevin Friend giving us a warts and all summary of his rise to fame from the age of 13, to his present status as a Premier League Referee. His talk was very entertaining and honest and was enjoyed by over 150 attendees, we as a society were there in force and all those who attended were given small gifts included pens, and pin badges. it was my job on the night to sign people in and to hand out these precious items.

Next Meeting we have our old friend Jim de Rennes who I am sure be giving us an entertaining presentation in his own inimitable style. I look forward to seeing you all on the 7th November.

Regards
Barry

From the Treasurer / Membership Secretary

2013 Current Status

General	£2,175.05
Supplies	£277.09
Belgium	£0.00
Youth Fund	£113.50
Total	£2,565.64

2013/14 Membership

As at 25th October
64 Full Members
5 Friends
2 Affiliate Members

Mac's Musings

At a recent committee meeting, we were discussing the problem of acquiring the services of top quality speakers. This is not to denigrate the speakers that we have had recently or currently have lined up for your edification, but the difficulty of attracting those who are at the top of the game ie Premiership Referees and Assistants.

We have in the past had the pleasure of the likes of Howard Webb, Mike Mul-larky & Peter Kirkup, Steve Bennett, Peter Walton, David Elleray, Kevin Friend, Martin Bodenham, Graham Barber, Graham Poll, Phil Sharp, Dermott Gal-lagher, Keith Hackett, and Peter Shreeves to name but a few (thanks Jacko) I know that Peter Shreeves was not a referee, but he gave one of the best presentations ever, more of an after dinner speech with his anecdotes of life as a manager.

In day past, they were able to claim their travelling expenses from the FA. Now they are under the auspices of the PGMOL this is no longer the case and such costs have to be borne by the Referees' Societies. Permission must also be given by PGMOL for their officials to attend a Society meeting and this provides another barrier. Apparently we are only allowed one every 3 years, which I find quite frankly, bloody ridiculous.

I'm thinking that given the huge amount of money wafting around the upper echelons of the game, this does seem to be rather harsh.

Surely it is in the interests of all concerned that the wisdom and experience of our top officials is passed onto the next generation of Howards. Yes I realise that the Annual Conference holds workshops led by the elite, but maybe they are preaching to the converted?

It was expressed at our meeting that one of the reasons we as a Society have been so successful has been the quality of our speakers. At 64 members with a regular monthly meeting attendance of around half that number, we are one of the strongest in Surrey, but if we had more top speakers would we attract more members?

Another school of thought is that all qualified active referees should be enrolled automatically into the RA. All PGMOL officials have to be. That would certainly increase the RA revenue and the funds to attract top speakers.

I was watching the Arsenal v Crystal Palace game today (Free BT sport this week) . The pundits included Michael Owen and Mark Halsey, whose recent au-tobiography has so irritated the FA.

During the 2nd half Arteta (Arsenal) brought down Chamakh the Crystal Palace forward some 35 metres from the Arsenal goal. He was the last man and de-spite being some way from goal, Chris Foy who was the man in charge, con-cluded is was a DOGSO and presented Arteta with a red card. Mark Halsey meanwhile was telling us that it should have been a caution as the offence took place some way from the goal. Michael Owen on the other hand was saying that it would only have taken Chamakh a few seconds to reach the goal and a red card was justified. His feelings were that no matter where the offence oc-curs if the offender is the "last man" then it has to be a DOGSO and a red.

There speaks a forward (ex)

Keep your powder dry as the old man used to say — **Mac**

Letter from Roy Lomax

Pam & Myself were very honoured to be invited to Buckingham Palace to meet Greg Dyke Chairman of the F.A. and His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge for the F.A. 150 Grass Heroes Awards, there were 150 volunteers who received a medal for their dedication to Grass Roots Football.

We arrived at 10am and were taken to the reception room for refreshments then into the ballroom to receive our medals from Greg Dyke and Prince William who were very gracious in their remarks thanking us for our length of service. After lunch were invited onto the lawn to watch the match, at half time there was a coaching session with Prince William and Michael Owen. We were accompanied by David {son} who has been with the League since he was 14 and is now treasurer and Linda {daughter} who was also treasurer for several years and is still active with Meadow Sports as parent representative for under 11 team.

We had a most enjoyable day meeting many people who we met at Wembley when we won the Peoples Award.

Roy

Hi Mac,

Good to see the word of Willie 'The Whistler' Woodwork is reaching near and far. The articles are published from Enfield to Woking, used by the London FA and is also reproduced in Japan. I have been unable to check for any spelling mistakes!

Apart from being an active match official I am also a FA Level Two Licensed Tutor so Willie is always useful to ask questions to get the candidates thinking. It has been amazing that the Willie articles have produced over thirty five instalments and over one hundred pages, all from one match. Could be a book on the way next!

Thought I will share two quick stories with you, firstly when I talk to the candidates on the basic referees courses I show the ten penal offences by using a dance routine, yes a dance, it has to be seen to be believed and the other story is a true one that would normally happen to Willie but happened to me.....there I was at Hackney Marshes as a newly qualified referee (many years ago!) and the home team told me pitch ninety three and we play in all blue.

I got changed and eventually found what I thought was pitch ninety three. The game started and about five minutes later the home captain shouted "Ref, what are you doing we're playing on the pitch over there". I apologised to the players and embarrassingly walked off the pitch to start my official match.

A true story and who thought these things only happen to our friend Willie the Whistler.

Yours in sport

Keith (aka Willie the Whistler)

THINGS THAT WIND ME UP

I know Adie Freeman S.I.L. Western Referees Secretary moans about certain roads in Surrey on the way to his games but.....

Why does a team chasing a game with 15 minutes to go (or less) when they score a goal run into the goal to pick the ball up and try and run back with it to the centre? This always leads to a lot of pushing and pulling when the goalie tries to get the ball back and sometimes this leads to far stronger actions from both sets of players. You only have to watch the highlights on Match of the Day to see how common this is. The ball is dead, a goal is scored, and it's now the opponent's ball for their kick off. Do the same team run to get the ball and return it for their opponent's free kicks?

It's the referees fault that this happens so much, I always tell the player to leave the ball and not to worry I will cover any time to add on. Any player who keeps the ball and runs all the way to the centre (if not already stopped by an opponent) gets a caution in my games. Word must get out as I have yet to caution a player for this unsporting behaviour for some seasons.

There are a lot of goals scored in my games from free kicks as they are the full 10 yards unlike so many games on tv where the wall is 8 yards at best.

If the players are back the right distance there is more chance for the striker of the free kick and again it is we the referees who are at fault because no player is going to move away the full 10 yards unless asked!

Now that's off my chest, on reading an item in last month's Warbler I see C.W. thinks putting up referees fees (at Intermediate level) by £5 is too much. The fees have stayed at £30 for some seasons with petrol etc going up in that time. Did no one think of putting the fee up by £2 about 3 seasons ago so it would not seem like a large jump.? As referees we may not do it for the money but a small rise is an acknowledgement. We may all chase the Holy Grail of a perfect game (I have only been close 3 times in 23 years!) but as this never happens we earn our match fee 100 per cent.

Paul F. Gorrige (Surrey & London F.A. Referee)



How Romantic!

A wife, being the romantic sort, sent her husband a text:-

If you are sleeping, send me your dreams.

If you are laughing, send me your smile.

If you are eating, send me a bite.

If you are drinking send me a sip.

If you are crying, send me your tears.

I love you!

The husband, typically non-romantic, replied,

"I am on the toilet. Please advise."

LIGHT UP THE HOSPICE 2013

HELP FUND OPERATION 500+

Hi Fellow Members, many of you know me and those that don't, here is a brief resume. I have been a member of this Society for many a year now and I am a former Chairman and held the post of magazine editor for years until Mac saved me and that was before all this computer lark.

Although I am a level 5 at this moment, and back on the parks!!!! I was a level 3 for 10 years and National List Assistant for 5 years until my seizure and brain tumour took control of my life. I have had help and advice from a McMillan nurse at Woking Hospice. I always have outdoor Christmas lights especially as my wife's childminding kids love them, and last year I tried to raise money for the Hospice, as they need money to run their expensive daily operation costs. I was hoping for £50 or so, but ended up with a whopping £437 to give to them.

This year I want to make £500+ if I can, from my daily light show at 4pm, which runs from December 1st for 1 month, and that is why I am asking for your help to make a donation, however big or small. You can either give that donation to my bucket outside my house at 4 Kingfield Gardens, which is opposite Loop Road in Woking or to me at the next two meetings. or you can donate online at Just Giving, at the following address:-

www.justgiving.com/Smiffyshospiceappeal13

Please remember there are people who need looking after especially in their final days and just a small part of one match fee, or even one full match fee will go a very long way. I would also be grateful, as would Woking Hospice if you could also ask your family, friends and work colleagues to also give a few pennies to a truly worthwhile cause.

Thanks again for reading and hope you understand the need to support these types of organisations. Please keep refereeing well and have a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Thanks
Eamonn



'If you've been out for a night and you're looking for a young lady and you pull one, some weeks they're good-looking and some weeks they're not the best. Our performance today would have been not the best-looking bird, but at least we've got her in the taxi.'

Ian Holloway after QPR's victory against Chesterfield

"Most of our fans get behind us and are fantastic, but those who don't should shut the hell up or they can come round to my house and I will fight them"

Ian Holloway telling it like it is

"I'm very pleased for Paul, but it's like watching your mother –in– law drive off a cliff in your new car"

Terry Venables as Paul Gascoigne sets off for Lazio

Charles, Harry, Billy & Me – 4.

“Ace In The Hole’,” said Billy. “Dynamic. No question.”

The range of Kirk Douglas films had been occupying us for some time and there couldn't be many now that Billy had not seen. This was indicated as his favourite.

“I'd go for ‘Seven Days In May’,” proffered Charles. There was general agreement, however, that Douglas had out-acted Burt Lancaster in the several films they had starred in together. Strangely enough nobody's pick of the bunch had been any of the westerns, although ‘Posse’ produced much enthusiasm.

“Do you know what his own choice was? I saw an interview with him on TV many years ago, and he reckoned ‘Lonely Are The Brave’ as his personal favourite.” This was me venturing forth. “It's about a guy trying to hang on to the old cowboy traditions in the more modern world. Ends tragically, of course.”

In any event all of us were happy to accept that Kirk Douglas was value for money in cinematic terms and was consistently good in the roles he undertook.

Ah, consistency! The referees' nightmare.

Harry just had to come in here.

“It's no wonder fans get frustrated with the way a game goes when the referee only penalises one side all the time. Talk about bias.”

“Well, that would get you at least a caution if you said that as a player in a match,” chipped in Charles. “The referee is there to see fair play. If more fouls are committed by one team, then that is not a matter of bias, but of applying the Laws correctly. The problem of consistency is not only to do with being consistent personally within one game, but being consistent between referees generally.”

“Yes,” I agreed, “how many times have I asked before starting a match for a player to remove an ear stud or similar, to be met with the response that last week's referee never mentioned it or was ‘quite happy’ with the situation. Obviously, though, this could be a bit of testing you out from the outset. If you let something go early on which you should have penalised, then you are generally going to get a problem later on.”

“It's just human nature, really. No two people are exactly the same.” Billy had been watching a lot of football lately, as well as the films.

Although nobody had said anything directly it was believed his wife had gone to Australia. Their elder daughter had married an Aussie and was living north of Sydney. The younger daughter, also married, lived not too far away here and kept an eye on him regularly, though Billy himself appeared to have come out of a shell and was acquiring a new lease of life. “How can you expect every referee to interpret things in exactly the same way when that hardly happens in other walks of life. Look at politics for a start.”

We really didn't want to.

“How can you say that, Billy.” Harry was in goading mood, I could tell. “How many times have I heard you in the past on the terraces calling referees everything under the sun.”

“From there you react with your own team's supporters. Everything detrimental to your team is ‘wrong’ whether it's right or really wrong. Mob culture. Rubbish, really, but you get carried away in the moment of what's happening.” Harry was itching to butt in but Billy was not going to be interrupted. “The referee is usually nearer to any incident than me. I've become tolerant, mellowed, whatever.”

Nonplussed, Harry decided to get his round in

WokRAM



Given the appallingly wet weather recently I thought Tony's article rather apt. Ed

MURPHY'S MEANDERINGS

Recently, I wrote an article about games being cancelled through bad weather. However, I have to say that it's been my experience that teams always want to play no matter what the state of the ground. If I had a pound for every time somebody said to me "we've played on that pitch in much worse conditions" or "we've played on pitches much worse than that" I'd be a rich man. However, there are times when some teams are desperate to play and that can cause serious problems.

Many years ago I was appointed to referee an Isthmian League match at a ground with notorious drainage problems and I knew that they had already had several games called off. During the week there was heavy rain and I was surprised they had not contacted me, so I rang them. They told me that their pitch was fine and they did not anticipate any problems, if there were they would contact me.

On the day of the match heavy rain was forecast for the afternoon but I had not heard from them so I left for the game going a little earlier in case there were problems.

When I got to the ground it was a hive of activity. I made my way straight to the pitch and was a little taken aback at what I saw. There was lots of water in the centre circle and penalty areas and a big puddle in the middle of the pitch at one end. People were placing large foam mattresses on the water and then jumping on them to soak up the water leaving a wet, gluey, muddy quagmire behind. Others were trying to sweep the water off the pitch or forking the ground and when I started to walk across the grass, water squelched up over my shoes and ankles.

There was no way the pitch was playable and I immediately found the Secretary and told him that I was postponing the match. He was very angry and started to reason and then argue with me using all the usual clichés but I would not change my mind. His last reason however, said it all. They'd had four home games called off on the trot and their finances were being stretched so they were desperate to play.

After the Secretary left the Chairman came to see me. At first he was polite and reasonable but when he didn't get what he wanted he became agitated and started ranting at me. At this point, the away team, who had been travelling for an hour and a half by coach, arrived. They had telephoned at the half way point to be told that the game was on. The Chairman then told me that as the away team had arrived I had no option but to play the game. I immediately introduced myself to the away Secretary, told him the situation and that I had postponed the game. He'd seen the pitch and was angry that they'd travelled with all the costs that incurred. I told the home Secretary that I was off and left the two of them to sort costs out. Ten minutes into my journey the heavens opened up and we had torrential rain.

I reported the postponement to the League and never heard anymore.

Tony Murphy

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Or Linda on 01276 512 735



Mark Halsey feels like a liberated man. When, back in May, he retired after 20 years' service as a [Premier League](#) referee it was, he insists, like having the shackles removed.

"It was a moment of elation," he says of the day he hung up his whistle. "I suddenly realised I could talk to who I like, without being hauled into Mike Riley's office." Halsey, 52, would not like anyone to get the impression he did not enjoy his time as a referee.

He loved being out there every weekend, playing a part in the world's most-watched football competition, his decision making as likely to be discussed in Bangkok as Burnley.

He was deeply touched by the warmth of the reception he was afforded from fans, players and managers alike when he returned to the fray after recovering from cancer.

What made him grow increasingly frustrated, however, was what he saw as his profession's self-destructive refusal to embrace modernity.

In particular the Trappist approach to the media espoused by the Professional Game Match Officials Limited, the Premier League's refereeing body run by Riley.

"We were not allowed to speak to media, simple as that," he says.

"I have lost count of the number of times I was frustrated by that ruling.

"I would have loved to explain why I took a decision when I did.

"The amount of criticism we took which we could easily have deflected with a quick word after a match got worse every year."

And in Halsey's opinion the additional grief caused by their vow of silence is wholly unnecessary.

"Personally I'd say look at what Pete Walton has done in Major League Soccer in America. He quit the Premier League to go there and I can understand why.

"Pete has done tremendously well in the way he has man-managed the refs there, allowed them to communicate with the fans.

"We're not schoolchildren. As long as we speak to the matter of fact, what happened in the game and don't transgress I don't see the problem."

Halsey believes that officialdom's refusal to explain has had consequences beyond mere frustration.

"Look at Mark Clattenburg," he says of the Middlesbrough official who found himself at the centre of allegations of racism last season.

"Riley did not come out and support him, nor did he allow him to defend himself. Why not? Because the Premier League is run by the clubs and it was a club making those charges.

"We know he never said those things. It would have saved so much grief for the poor lad if he could have come out and given his side."

If not quite as personally damaging, Halsey found himself last season in a fire-storm of controversy that he believes would have been immediately resolved had he too been able to explain publicly.

It involved a tackle by [Wigan](#)'s Callum McManaman on [Newcastle](#)'s Massadio Haïdara.

Halsey, his view obstructed by another player, missed the winger's X-rated horror stamp and did not even award a free kick.

"How I wish I'd been allowed to come out and just say what had happened," he says.

"At half-time I knew I'd missed the challenge, because I was made aware by Sky. Realising what an error I'd made, it was tough going out to control the second half. And I admit it affected me.

"[Newcastle's] James Perch committed an offence which merited a second yellow, but there was no way emotionally I could justify sending him off after I'd missed McManaman.

"Afterwards, there was so much talk about my competence, and I'd have loved to have come out and said this is the reason why.

"I didn't want to make excuses, there weren't any. I wanted to say, this is what happened. I couldn't."

Indeed, Halsey explains, the culture of silence insisted on by the official body extends beyond retirement.

When referees leave the service, they are granted a £50,000 severance payment. But only if they sign a confidentiality agreement indicating they will not talk about any aspect of their refereeing life.

Halsey refused to sign what he says amounts to a gagging order.

Instead, he has taken up a job on the new BT Sport channel, where he will be seen patrolling the life-size pitch set up in the studio, commenting on refereeing issues.

"I'm not there to crucify refs," he says. "I'm there to help bring about improvement.

"While I can't – and won't – defend the indefensible, I can analyse, check out a ref's position, see if his assistant might have got involved. And if he has made mistake I will tell it how it is."

The fancy gizmos, the slow motion and multi-camera angles that will be available to him in his new job will, he says, make a change from his time as a ref, a profession that takes a Luddite approach to technology.

"This is what I don't understand: if the technology is there, why not use it to make your job easier?" he asks.

"The way things stand, the television viewer is in a much better position than the guy with the whistle.

"Why not help him? I really do feel it would take immense pressure off the ref.

"How many times coming off pitch was the manager waiting for me to give me a mouthful? Loads.

"It's a multi-million pound business, not a game anymore. Our decisions have an economic value. And the use of technology could become part of the drama, like it has in tennis, cricket and rugby. In football though, we just turn a blind eye."

Though at least referees this season will have the assistance of goal-line cameras.

"Sure, that's great," he adds. "But how often will those be used? In my time I had issues with the goal-line twice.

"It would be much more helpful for the ref to give them help with offside. There's no interpretation involved in offside, you either are or you aren't.

"And technology could resolve problems every time, make sure the right decision is made.

"That's all you want as a ref: to get it right."

Courtesy of Daily Telegraph and spotted in The Touchlines

The Adventures of Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Part 25- Fancy footwear

Match: Cockfosters Casuals –v- Reds Rovers
Venue: Hackney Marsh – Pitch 165
League: Division Three – Sunday Park League (North)

The Casuals player run towards the Rovers goal. He run passed one opponent then twisting and turning he beat two others. Moving even closer to the goal one of the Rovers players caught the back of the Casuals players' boot. Two steps later it came off but the forward continued his run and with his right foot, the one with no boot on it, he placed the ball beyond the reach of the goal keeper and the ball entered the top corner of the goal.

There was certainly no denying that a wonderful goal had been scored of that I had no doubt but at the back of my mind I had a niggling thought that something was not quite right. I knew a perfectly good goal had been scored and as Casuals celebrated the goal and enjoyed the moment, the other team with their heads down, began to take their places in preparation of the kick off.

I knew I had a duty as a referee to apply the laws correctly. I blew my whistle and shouted "Indirect free kick to Reds Rovers". This instantly caused confusion and total bewilderment to both sides. I did my best to explain that the law clearly states that footwear must be worn as per Law 4. I thought that it sounded good that I could quote which law was what but this certainly did not impress anyone. I asked "Was the goal scorer wearing footwear on both feet when he scored?.....No he was not!" No one could argue with that as the facts proved convincingly that I was correct. No footwear so no goal!
Are you impressed that I know that 'player's equipment' is Law 4.....well?

It was then brought to my attention that the ball was slightly flat and a little out of shape. I asked both teams if there were any other balls that we could use in the mean time. The home manager kicked a ball towards me but it was green. How could I allow them to use an all green ball? Firstly had it not registered with them that the away team were playing in green shirts and that the grass is green! How could I permit the use of a ball that was well.....green! What would you do?

Surely you would do the same as me and say 'No'. Rovers tried to help and produced a red ball. This was a team called Reds Rovers who amazingly would you believe played in an all red kit.....yes red! I told both managers have they ever seen an all green or an all red ball used in a Premier match or any match for that matter. Of course they answered 'No'.

Would you have allowed either of these balls to be used? In these circumstances I was about to abandon the match and then as if by a miracle Casuals suddenly produced a perfectly good white ball. I checked the ball was suitable as per Law 2 the ball and we continued with the match.

Within seconds one of the Rovers players placed himself on the ground and said "Sorry Ref, I've got cramp". One of his team mates grabbed hold of his leg and holding it by his boot pulled his leg into the air. The manager who was standing very close came onto the pitch and handed the player with cramp a bottle of water.

He drunk a little and obviously feeling better got up and stood on both feet. I then asked the player to leave the field of play. "But Ref I haven't had any treatment. Why do I have to leave the pitch?" I explained the mere fact he took some water constituted 'treatment' and therefore would have to leave. "Since when is drinking water considered as treatment?" I felt he had a valid argument but I deemed the team mate who had assisted with the cramp plus the water was treatment and that he had to temporary leave. Of course you must have guessed by now that the player continued to argue with me and I had to show him a yellow card for dissent. Agree with me, of course you do because you know that I am right.

At least now I had given a clear message to all the players that in the remaining minutes of the match this may well stop any other players being injured and possibly attempting to waste time. Any treatment and the player must leave the field of play.

So to recap –

1) Would you allow a green or red ball to be used? Come to think of it what colours would you allow or not allow?

2) Would you have awarded the goal when the goal scorer accidentally lost his boot?

Surely you must agree with me as the law states footwear must be worn....or do you?

3) Does a team mate assisting a player with cramp and then drinking some water constitute treatment which means the player must leave the field of play?

These are incidents that can occur to any referee at any time and you will have to make a decision.

Let me know what you think,

Happy whistling

Willy 'The Whistler' Woodwork

Willy Woodwork



The article below is from Tony Murphy's archives , probably written late '80s Ed

THE REFEREE

The official who exercises authority over all matters on the pitch while a game is in progress, controlling discipline, ruling on fouls and offsides, etc, and also keeping time.

Umpires who combined the duties of linesmen and referees were first used in football around 1874, when they were first described in the rules of the game. Whistles were introduced in 1878 and in 1891 the umpires were reorganised into referees and linesmen, each with their own distinct duties.

For much of the early history of the game, referees were recruited through their love of the game rather than by the lure of cash rewards and a popular saying had it that all a referee could hope from football was 'a small match fee, expenses, and a decent funeral'.

To regulate the game, to earn expenses and a guinea fee! Yes! There is great attraction in the name of Referee. Anonymous (1893)

Payment for referees was standardized in 1938, with referees of League games receiving three guineas (while linesmen got one and a half guineas). This rate of pay contrasts sharply with that of the modern ref, who can command very respectable fees: the Brazilian ref Arnaldo Coelho, for instance, received £500 for refereeing the World Cup Final in 1982, making him the world's highest-paid ref of his day. *(I believe today's Premier League referees now earn a respectable salary—although peanuts compared to today's footballers of course Ed)*

Such rewards are often well-earned and the modern official needs to keep very fit if he is to follow the course of play for a full 90 minutes or more. One referee was once kitted out with a pedometer so that it could be seen how far he travelled in the course of a match: the resulting reading was 6 miles 720 yards. In the 1930s, experiments were made with two referees dividing the work between them, each controlling one half of the pitch - trial games did not provide enough work for the two men, however, and the idea did not catch on.

Changes were made in the standing of referees with the inauguration of the Premier League in 1992. The retirement age was raised and it was also decided that referees would play in green shirts, rather than the traditional black in which they had appeared for many decades.

Good referees are usually those whose presence on the pitch is hardly noticed, as Alan Hardaker once observed: 'Referees should arrive by the back door and leave by the back door.'

Some personalities have, however, inevitably emerged to make their impact on the game in the wider context. The outstanding referee in the early history of the game was Major Francis Marindin, who officiated at nine FA Cup Finals in the 1880s and rose to the post of president of the FA itself. The most illustrious of his successors since then have included Jimmy Howcroft, who brooked no nonsense in matches in the interwar period, and Stanley Rous. Among the best-known refs of modern times have been Denis Howell (who became Labour's Minister for Sport) and the outspoken Clive Thomas, who has favoured the continued development of the role of the referee and attracted controversy with his support for such future developments as radio link-ups to other officials and access to other high-tech tools.

British refs are traditionally considered the best in the world. Even so, they are (contrary to popular belief) only human and subject to the occasional error of

judgment. One referee (Ivan Robinson) experienced the embarrassment of scoring the only goal of a game, between Third Division Plymouth Argyle and Barrow, in 1968. According to the rules of the game the ball remains in play after striking a referee: in this case, the ball was deflected off the referee's foot straight into the Plymouth goal -though the goal was credited to a Barrow striker to save the ref the further embarrassment of seeing his name on the scoresheet, it effectively took Barrow to top of the Third Division.

Cases of referees being deliberately biased in favour of one team are thankfully rare, but not unheard of- even at international level. One of the most notorious cases in recent times was that involving the European Cup Winners' Cup Final between Leeds United and AC Milan in 1973, during which referee Michas made a number of clearly unfair decisions against the English side; he was subsequently suspended by his national association and by UEFA, but the 1-0 result in Milan's favour stood.

Referees have never been popular on the terraces. Abuse and even physical assaults on officials are regrettably all part of the job and most referees endeavour to suffer in silence.

Sometimes, though, the referee fights back. In one oft-repeated joke (probably without foundation) an irate referee is taunted beyond patience by a critic in the crowd and yells at the offender: "Who's refereeing this match - you or me?' Back comes the instant reply: 'Neither of us!.

Sympathy must go to all referees subject to such pressure, but perhaps most of all to the referee who presided over the 1878 FA Cup Final between Royal Engineers and the Wanderers, who must have been victim of more ribaldry than most of his colleagues because of his name: Segar Bastard. In contrast, a Scottish referee of the 1950s was blessed, or cursed, with the name Charlie Faultless.

Referees have the most difficult job in the world ...we 're wrong in expecting referees to be perfect when we 're not perfect ourselves.

Don Revie, World Soccer Referee (1976)

Trevor Brooking has the distinction of being one of the few professional players ever to have floored a referee: a sudden change of direction resulting in a collision that left the official prostrate on the ground. Fellow team mate Bobby Moore picked up the whistle and blew it to stop play: the ref was found to be quite unconscious and had to be helped off the field of play.

The risks attached to the role were never more clearly illustrated than they were back in 1912 following a match between the Welsh clubs Wattstown and Aberaman Athletic: a Wattstown player by the name of Hansford burst into referee William Ernest William's dressing-room and killed him in a rage. Hansford was subsequently imprisoned for manslaughter.

You British! You think I know damn nothing about the game! Let me tell you -I know damn all!

Hungarian referee during England-Scotland match.

I saw the above article in The Cassell Soccer Companion edited by David Pickering and published by Cassell. It is an excellent book full of information and anecdotes which I think has just been published in paperback - Tony Murphy

SCRA DELEGATES REPORT – MEETING 30/9/13

NIKE KIT. At a previous meeting I'd asked on behalf of the Society if we could put pressure on them to subsidise the basic Nike kit. RA has now negotiated a £14 discount on the normal retail price. But Nike is running behind with sending out orders. Also, the design will change next season so that a chest pocket has a horizontal zip rather than a vertical one.

SCRA INSURANCE. This policy has covered SCRA and Societies for personal accident and public liability when playing football. It has been in place since the 1980s, and has recently been examined by Bryn Jones (West Middlesex Society) who works in insurance. He has concluded that there are many anomalies in the policy. Decision made not to renew the policy in present format.

RA DRAW. £500 profit made this year. A lot of work is involved for little return. Board want feedback (direct to RA HQ) on whether it is worth continuing with it.

GENERAL MANAGER. Position still in abeyance. There were 3 applicants interviewed but none were accepted. Job description revised and position will be re-advertised.

CONSTITUTION REVIEW. 2 Board members and 3 non-Board members appointed. Review of SCRA constitution deferred until work on national constitution completed.

ASSAULTS ON REFEREES. Pat recently circulated to us a request for reports of assaults to be sent to Eddie McGrath at RA HQ. Brian Fish (SCRA secretary) repeated a previous request that he be advised too, please. This is simply for statistical purposes so the RA can keep track of the scale of the problem both nationally and at county level. These reports should not be copies of the disciplinary report form sent to County FA.

MEMBERSHIP. Surrey membership continues to decline (31.8.13 256 (against 31.8.12 414 - a loss of 158). Woking is the only Society in Surrey showing an increase at the end of August. Nationally, membership is down approx 3,000 on a year ago.

CONFERENCE. Of the 13 Societies that requisitioned the EGM, only 2 were present there. Voting procedures for AGMs are to be reviewed after the confusion this year.

PHYSIOCARE. Board have been discussing the future of the scheme, as it is making a loss.

NON-SANCTIONED FOOTBALL. Another reminder to all referees, both new and old, that you must NOT referee a game that has not been sanctioned. You will not be covered by FA or RA insurance. "Friendly" games arranged at short notice are the most likely problems. If in doubt, contact Mark Ward or Tim Lawrence at County FA office.

COUNTY CUP APPOINTMENTS. The new system imposed on County FA by the FA is not working efficiently. Appointments are advised by e-mail from County FA, but there have been several occasions when the e-mail has not been received and the first the referee knows of an appointment is when contacted by the clubs. The e-mails are automatically sent from a "donotreply" address which could be causing them to go to your junk file. This contrasts with FA Cup appointments, advised by the same system, but which come from a clearly identifiable FA e-mail address.

DISCLOSURE & BARRING (formerly known as CRB). Still no news from the FA on whether further certification required for those whose certificates have expired, even though the law changed 18 months ago.

DISCIPLINE REPORTS. There has been an increase in requests from solicitors for copies of discipline reports. Do NOT send copies – in all cases refer the solicitors to County FA.

CONFERENCE EXPENSES. Brian Fish had been authorised by SCRA at a previous meeting to represent them at Conference, and it was agreed to re-imburse his basic out-of pocket expenses (i.e. hotel & travel, but NOT social events). Up to 3 years ago costs of County RA representatives were borne centrally, but now it's up to each County. Also agreed for the future that we would cover expenses of 1 representative.

Brian Reader
30/9/13

Get Fit (Northern Style) with Andy Bennett & Friends

Come along on Mondays and find the new you

When: Every Monday – 6.45pm start for one hour (or until someone keels over, whichever comes first)

Where: Meadow Sports Club, Loop Road, Woking

Aim: We plan to make our society members and friends that little bit fitter with some fun, sociable fitness work to keep us ahead of our competition.

What do I need?: Just bring your boots and some training gear and between us we will have some laughs as we aim to be the best....ish

Andy holds a UEFA Z Licence in fitness coaching so any ideas and/or drills are happily encouraged and welcomed.

Please contact me for more details so that we can plan numbers.

Andy

Mob: 07538 714747

Email: andy.bennett@palmbreweries.com

Adie goes through the Motions

A real mixture of matches for yours truly over the last 4 weeks including a couple of County Cups. My Medical Knowledge was brought to the fore on two occasions. First in an Under 16's County Cup encounter the home skipper went up for a cross but the away attacker got there first and headed the ball straight into his face. Result, severe nose bleed. I stopped the game and called on the coach. He seemed very hesitant so I asked if he was OK with blood and he replied 'not really'!! First and foremost I am a father and I will not see a lad in distress so I pinched his nose for 2 minutes stopped the flow and sent him with the coach to clean up his face before he came back on.

Last Saturday on a SCILW match the goalkeeper came out for a challenge resulting in him getting the ball in the face and there was claret everywhere. I had to perform the same routine as nobody else seemed to be able to help. There are some people out there who would frown upon my actions but I think it is detrimental to the game if you shun responsibility and if you are able to render assistance you should.

That Saturday was full of incidents as earlier in the day I was watching with amusement the antics of the Blue Tits on the peanut dispenser while having my third coffee of the morning and the drain outside the kitchen suddenly flooded. With a heart sinking feeling I opened the lower drain cover – full! Now fully dressed in protective clothing I opened the upper drainOh Cr~p – Literally. Drain rods out and I proceeded to remove the offending items and did it bugle or what!! Diane was keeping well clear of this operation until I got a phone call from a Club Sec. She spent the next few minutes holding the phone to my ear in one hand and her nose in the other. The good news is it is all clear now (until the next time) and it is always going to be a problem with an old property I guess.

I nearly threw a wobbler the other week when some Bright Spark in their wisdom decided to block off one lane of the Farnham By-Pass for a Census at rush hour. Ricardo Testa then decided to have a Census the following week at the bottom of the Basingstoke Ring-Road. Total chaos at 5pm and it took me an hour and three quarters to get home – and I was hungry!! If they want to know why we have congestion on our roads then they should come and ask those who have the knowledge. It is due to the population growing by 12.5 % and no improvement to the infrastructure of the road system – nuff said!!
OK, that's me off my soapbox.

Enjoy your matches

Adie

Ed . This got me thinking. How often has an injury occurred at grassroots/youth football with no trained first aider present? Should all refs receive basic first aid training?



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Guest Speaker this Month**Jim de Rennes**

Jim was born in Hove within sight of the floodlights of Goldstone Ground and within the sound of the crowd, so his dear mother always knew from the cheers how many goals the Albion had scored . . . but she had to wait to see his face before she knew how many the opposition had scored!

Jim has now followed the Seagulls for upwards of 60 years, and is enjoying a third season of excellent Championship football at the splendid new Amex Stadium.

Jim played in goal for Sussex Grammar Schools and St. Edmund Hall, Oxford University before giving up the game through injury in his early twenties. He qualified as a referee in 1988 after enjoying the experience of refereeing his sons in the Tolworth Little League, and has now officiated in over 2,000 games including many Cup Finals, and matches at both the old and new Wembley Stadiums. He has the good fortune still to be active and recently completed 5 games in 4 days!

Jim is an FA Licensed Referee Tutor and has held various posts in Kingston Referees' Society during his 25 years of membership. He is also proud to boast that he had the same job, the same wife and lived in the same house for well over 30 years in all three cases, no mean achievement in the Modern World!

Then, in April 2003, he changed two of the three . . . he remains very happily married to Jane after 45 years, but escaped from Tiffin School, after 36 years as a teacher of English Language and Literature, and from Surbiton to Claygate after 32 years of the Good Life.

He is forever grateful to his two sons without whose involvement in football he would never have become involved in officiating which has given him so much pleasure over the years

He is looking forward to being with his friends at Woking once more.



Canadian Signs

PlumTree



SCFA Saturday Premier Cup
 Shene Old Grammarians v Merton FC
 Assistant Referee ; Nick Arbuckle

F.A. Academy Fulham u-16 v Leicester City u-16,
 Referee ; Paul Gorringe

F.A Academy Chelsea U16 v Wolverhampton Wanderers U16
 Referee ; Robbie Luck

U18 County Floodlight Cup
 Guildford City v Egham Town
 Assistant Referees ; Tom Ellsmore and Rachel Marlow

Congratulations to Tom Ellsmore & Rachel Marlow who have been selected to represent the SCFA Referee Development Group at the Dana Tournament in Denmark next July.

Dates for your Diary 2013/14

4th November	Society Meeting - Jim de Rennes, Goalkeepers and Referees
2nd December	Society Meeting - Charles Breakspear (TBC)
6th January 2014	Society Meeting - Adie Freeman, "the referees secretary"
3rd February	Society Meeting - The Surrey County FA Road Show
3rd March	Society Meeting - AGM
7th April	Society Meeting - Lucy May
12 May	Society Meeting - TBA
17th May	Summer BBQ and Charity Football Tournament

Penalty shoot-out record: Brockenhurst 15-14 Andover

By Nabil HassanBBC Sport.

Players from Brockenhurst and Andover Town set a new record as they scored 29 consecutive penalties in a shoot-out.

The Hampshire Senior Cup match finished 0-0 after extra time, so went to spot-kicks.

And after 29 successful attempts - a total confirmed by the Football Association as an English record - Andover's Claudio Herbert missed.

"I didn't realise the magnitude, it was a bit of a blur, the keeper pulled off a great save," Herbert told BBC Sport.

The sequence of successful attempts is also thought to be a world record.

The previous English record for the most consecutive penalties scored in a shoot-out was set when [Dagenham & Redbridge defeated Leyton Orient in a Johnstone's Paint Trophy Tie](#) in 2011 after 27 consecutive successful kicks.

The record for the longest penalty shoot-out came in 2005 when the Namibian Cup had to be settled by a record-breaking 48 spot-kicks, with KK Palace holding their nerve to defeat the Civics 17-16 following a 2-2 draw in normal time.

Mal Davies

The Bootiful Game?

An observation by Brian Richardson - Editor The Chiltern Referee

In the first half of a forgettable game in which the referee was being assessed, the ball went out for a throw-in. The thrower ran to take the throw, but was stopped by the referee from doing so. He indicated that a player on the field of play was adjusting his boot laces, and he wanted the action to be completed before allowing the throw-in. The boot adjustments took over a minute, during which time the players simply had to wait to restart the game.

After the game, a seasoned observer (a former referee) approached the assessor and politely suggested the referee had handled the incident poorly. The player ought to have left the field of play to make the adjustments whilst play continued. Reasonable you might think. But the assessor was adamant. "No", he said, "the referee was correct - it's a Health and Safety issue. The loose boot laces constituted a danger to other players, and play must be stopped whilst remedial action is taken" The observer was dumb-founded. Now I don't want to debate all the ins and outs of the referee's actions or indeed the implications of such a directive (if it exists), but I had never before heard of such a ridiculous application of "Elf & Safety" (and there are many!). Has anyone else seen or heard of a similar incident? Or was it April 1st? Or was it a case of the referee carrying out an action (however quirky) he knew would be expected by the assessor? Are assessors simply delivering the wrong message?

Ed . Do you stop the game for players to retie their boots? I probably would for a youth game, but not for adults. I reckon they're old enough to tie up their boots properly in the first place . Just tell them to get knotted!

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What Would You Do?

(answers to ~~September~~ issue)

October

Q1. You are refereeing a tight 1-0 cup tie. The winning Red side are outraged that you have played more than the 4 minutes of added time indicted by the fourth official. The manager and the captain, who is already on a yellow card, scream at you to blow the final whistle. What would you do?

A1. The time displayed by the 4th official is a minimum, not a maximum. If you view the complaints as unduly aggressive then caution the captain for dissent, followed by a red. If not a firm word will suffice. Issue a warning to the manager.

Q2. The ball is curled into the penalty area from the right wing. An attacker executes an overhead kick and knocks out a stooping defender as the ball flies into the back of the net. The defenders claim dangerous play; the attackers claim a goal. What would you do?

A2. The striker has performed an overhead kick with complete disregard to the danger of his opponent. Call on the medics, disallow the goal, caution the player for being reckless, and award a DFK to the defending team.

Q3. You blow your whistle for the crucial penalty to be taken, but the taker loses his nerve as he runs-in. He panics and steps over the ball. The attackers asks another player to take the kick. What do you do?

A3. The kick has not been taken, so another (identified) player can take the kick. The kick starts when the taker kicks the ball and it moves forward.

Q4. You award a throw-in to Reds. As the throw-in is taken the thrower slips outside the touchline and continues to take the throw while kneeling. A Red colleague collects the ball and volleys it into the opponents' goal. What would you do?

A4. Allow the goal. Restart with a kick off. Law 15 has not been infringed.

Q5. You are refereeing a cup tie with Blues leading 1-0 in added time. A Blue defender collects the ball and blasts it into touch to consume time. But it is stopped by the assistant referee. A Red winger picks it up and quickly throws it to a colleague who kicks it into the net. What would you do?

A5. Allow the goal. Restart with a kick off. No offence had been committed

Q6. You award a goal kick to Blues defenders. A Blues full-back takes a quick kick, but the ball hits you the referee standing outside the penalty area. The ball rebounds to the original kicker who picks it up and places it for a second attempt at the goal kick. What would you do?

A6. The ball was in play, so award a penalty kick (Law 16 bullet 4) for handball.

Q7. You award an indirect free kick after the keeper had held the ball for 12 secs. The keeper then places it on the ground, puts his foot on it and berates the referee who has his arm aloft. An attacker dashes in and toe-pokes the ball from under his foot into the net. What do you do?

A7. Disallow the goal. Caution the goalkeeper for dissent, and retake the kick.

(Ed. Questions 1-3 were from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion.

Questions 4-6 were set by Sid Harrison for the National RA Quiz, 2012

Question 7 was set by Sid Harrison for the National RA Quiz, 2013)

Courtesy of the Chiltern Referee

What Would You Do?

Question 1. Two of the away team's substitutes are warming up behind their own goal, in front of their own fans, who are very noisy. The home manager protests claiming it is distracting his strikers. What would you do?



Question 2. A player, already on a yellow card, takes his side's crucial fifth kick in a penalty shoot-out to decide a cup tie. As he runs in he stutters, does the Ali shuffle, then blasts the ball into the net. The defenders are outraged, claiming foul play. What would you do?

Question 3. In a robust game a Red striker bursts clear. However, a Blue defender flies in from the side with a totally committed challenge - the toe of his trailing foot touching the ground. The Red striker leaps into the air to avoid contact, and the Blue defender wins possession of the ball. What would you do?

Question 4. In a crucial game with only a few minutes to go you award a corner kick to Reds. As the Red No. 7 is about to take the corner kick, he spots his own goalkeeper dashing up to join the attackers, so he drives the ball back towards him. However, the goalkeeper actually misses the ball and it ends up in his own net. What would you do?

Question 5. A long pass up field from a Blue defender is heading for Blue attacker "A" in an offside position. A Red defender intercepts and controls the ball but in so doing he slices his intended clearance to Blue attacker "B", who is also in an offside position. Blue attacker "B" controls the ball and passes it to "A" who is now in an onside position. What would you do?

Question 6. You are managing "kicks from the penalty mark" to decide a semi-final cup match. On the seventh kick a chip shot from Blues No. 6 strikes the bar. The excited Red goalkeeper leaps up in celebration and the ball rebounds onto his upraised hand and into the net. Blues claim a goal; Reds assert the kick was "saved". What would you do?

Question 7. A winger is running with the ball into the penalty area close to the goal-line. A defender runs fast at him and charges him to send him crashing into an advertising hoarding. The ball is static in play. What would you do?

(Ed. Questions 1-3 were from "You Are The Ref" by Keith Hackett and Paul Trevillion. Questions 4-6 were set by Sid Harrison for the National RA Quiz, 2012. Question 7 was set by Sid Harrison for the National RA Quiz, 2013)

WARBLER REFERENCE GUIDE

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