

# THE WARBLER

Monthly Magazine of the Woking Referees' Society

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Season 2019/2020 November Edition

# WOKING REFEREES ' SOCIETY

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

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

## AGENDA

- ♦ **7pm Academy Meeting**  
*Pre –Match Preparation*
- ♦ **8pm Chairman's Welcome**
- ♦ **Guest Speaker**  
**Tim Lawrence & Farai Hallam**  
**"Where's the Ref?"**
- ♦ **Raffle**
- ♦ **Society Business**



The December meeting will be our Christmas Dinner on  
Monday 16th December  
The deadline for December Warbler is  
Friday 24th November

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

## Chairman's Chatter

Welcome to another addition of the Warbler – I hope you've all been enjoying your games since the last meeting in September, and that your warm-ups and warm-downs have been exemplary....?!!

This month we welcome two familiar faces to Loop Road; Tim Lawrence needs no introduction as our ever-reliable and friendly-faced RDO (although more on him later!!).

Farai Hallam returns to see us after what feels like very little time although if I could be bothered to look it up (I'm writing this in work time so don't shout at me!!) it will probably be over two years since he was last presenting to us.

Farai is now operating as a Level 3 referee, National League South Assistant Referee and 4<sup>th</sup> Official on the National League Premier and it's great to see him progressing quickly through the ranks – I'm sure there's no additional pressure put on him to succeed from his bosses at his "day job" which I'm sure you'll all remember is Senior Referee Officer within the FA Referees Dept. at Wembley Stadium!!



Going back to Tim, I imagine you're all now are of the news that in February 2020, Tim will be retiring from his role at Surrey FA HQ.

I spoke to Tim on the phone a week or so ago and during that conversation, I asked him how old he was – the answer surprised me (in a good way, he doesn't look a day over 65!!) but it also got me thinking about how lucky we are and have been to have had Tim as our RDO.

Whoever takes over will have some VERY big shoes to fill and here's why – I'm not sure how much we all realise or take for granted Tim's dedication to the role and to the county FA. We have been unbelievably fortunate to have someone who not only works as hard as he does between 9am and 5pm but then goes out nearly every night of the week to either deliver courses, observe referees or sit on committees to ensure the future of refereeing within the county.

On top of all the above, I know Tim is very proud of the Surrey Development Group which he has helped nurture over the years. This is evident within our own ranks with young referees such as Callum Peter, Will Siegmund, Tom Ellsmore, Max van den Berg and Jonty Bolland as examples of our own members who have benefitted from this group.

I hope you'll all take the time to wish Tim well for his upcoming retirement at the meeting and to thank him for his massive contribution to refereeing within Surrey. And don't panic, if you can't make the meeting, you'll be able to see him at our Xmas Meal in December as I know he'd never miss the opportunity to spend a night with his favourite society!! Thank you, Tim, for all that you've done.

Finally, I think it's pertinent after the events at the weekend in the Haringey Borough vs Yeovil Town game to remind ourselves to be very aware of unsavoury incidents that can occur in any of our games at any stage. Please reacquaint yourselves with the protocol of what you should do, should you hear or see anything that involves racial, homophobic, sexist comments/incidents etc. If you have any questions around this, please contact me or visit the Referees section on the FA website.

Don't forget the Surrey RA-FA evening on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October at Imber Court, Esher. Premier League referee Kevin Friend will be the guest speaker and I know this will be another top-class night arranged by the county – it would be good to see Woking Society represented well on the night.

Enjoy your games and see you on Mon 4<sup>th</sup> November – keep spreading the word about our great Society!!

Cheers

**Andy**

## Just a Sec!

- **Christmas Dinner.** You will find on the next page the menu for this year's Christmas Dinner, which will be held at Hoebridge Golf Centre on Monday 16th December. Martin Read has once again managed to keep the price down to £25 per head, which for 4 courses is remarkable and quite frankly an absolute bargain. Another association to which I belong are paying that for just 2 courses at a local pub this December.



There will also be our Mega Raffle (we had over 50 prizes last year — donations most welcome. ) plus Martin's fun quiz and coin spin game. Guests are more than welcome but please make sure you get your menu choices to Martin by 9th December and payment to Bryan, although you can also pay on the night. I can guarantee a great evening!

- There is still time for you to buy a "stick on" poppy from Callum for you to wear on your ref's shirt over the Remembrance weekend. Only £1.30 each. The money obviously going to the Royal British Legion. Make sure you catch him at the November meeting.



**Mac**

# Membership and Accounts

2019/20 Memberships renewed	2019/20 Current Status	
85 Full Members	General	£2,532.69
6 Friends	Supplies	£147.23
2 Affiliate Members	Belgium	£0.00
23 Referees trained in 2019/2020	Training Fund	£219.07
	Youth Fund	£113.50
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£3,012.49</b>

## Massey-Ellis appointed to first UEFA match

Massey-Ellis is a PGMOL Select Group 1 official and has been officiating in Premier League matches for nine years but this will be her first UEFA match, working alongside referee Chris Kavanagh and fellow assistant Dan Cook.

Mike Mullarkey, PGMOL's Head of Assistant Referees, said Massey-Ellis's appointment was a reward for and a demonstration of the commitment and focus required to reach the highest level of the game as an assistant referee.

"She has always been a very positive role model for aspiring officials and her appointment tomorrow night is testament to her dedication and performances," Mullarkey added.

"It was really exciting when I found out, and I was obviously chuffed for Chris Kavanagh as well," Massey-Ellis said.

"In fact, when the appointment first came out, we tried to ring each other at the exact same moment and we both got each other's answerphone!

"But it's a big achievement for me personally. It's been a dream of mine to officiate in a European competition and I'm delighted to be able to tick it off.

"I've had great support from PGMOL and The FA, from the likes of Mike Mullarkey and Mike Riley, to name just two, and their trust in putting me on games is something I'm hugely grateful for.

"I think that it's definitely becoming more normal to see female officials in the men's game. Stephanie Frappart refereeing the UEFA Super Cup was a big moment.

"Ultimately, it shouldn't matter what gender, race or religion anyone is, it's about going out there and doing your job as best you can."

# Woking RA Christmas Dinner

**Monday 16th December, 7.30 pm for 8 pm.  
Hoebridge Golf Centre, Old Woking, GU22 8JH**

## Starters

Roast Butternut Soup with Crisp Parsnip Croutons  
and Coconut Cream (V)

Chicken Liver Parfait, Cranberry & Red Onion Chutney  
With Melba Toast

Warm Peppered Mackerel with a Pomegranate and  
Clementine Dressing with Micro Leaves

## Mains

Roasted Turkey Breast, Cranberry Stuffing, Rosemary Infused  
Roasted Potatoes, Chipolata Sausages & Pan Gravy  
(with Roasted Carrots, Parsnips, Buttered Sprouts , Green Beans )

Grilled Sea Bass on a Sweet Potato Rosti, Mangetout  
Served with a Dill & Caper Sauce

Roasted Root Vegetables, Onion Marmalade and Cheese Tartlet  
Served with New Potatoes, & Fresh green Salad (V)

## Desserts

Festive Pudding with Brandy Cherries & Cinnamon Custard

Chocolate Mousse with Hazelnut Biscuit  
& White Chocolate Shard

A Selection of Cheeses with Biscuits & Fruit Chutney

\*\*\*\*\*

Coffee & Mince Pies with Brandy Butter

## Plus

***Martin's festive Christmas Quiz***

***Jacko's Never Ending Raffle***

***Spin2Win Game***

***"Ref'd assured it will be a good night - Yule be crackers not to go" !!***

**Cost £25 per person (same as the last year)**

Cheques payable to Bryan Jackson made out to Woking RA.  
Or Bank Transfer to a/c 02710897 sort code 30 94 77

**Menu choices by 9th December to**

**[martin.read5@btinternet.com](mailto:martin.read5@btinternet.com)**

***Dress Smart Causal***

# October Meeting

Chairman Andy Bennett welcomed 27 members and our guest speaker Andy Tomkins to the October meeting. Apologies received from Paul Saunders, Roy Butler, Dave Cooper, Dave Lawton, Nick Eke.

Andy is a physiotherapist who specialises in sports therapy and his talk was all about the importance of warming up and cooling down before and after a game in order to prevent injury. Something I'm sure most of us have experienced in the past.

Andy spoke of how the warm up should consist of 3 parts, ideally about 7 minutes for each one. First is a jog / gentle run to increase the heart rate and warm the muscles. This should then be followed by stretching exercises, concentrating on the calves, hamstrings, glutes and quads. A more intense and dynamic movements session should then follow.

The question was then asked about the time often spent after warm up in the changing room exchanging team sheets etc and at half time? Andy suggested that we should continue with gentle stretching exercises, concentrating perhaps on any problem areas/muscles.

He then went on to explain the importance of cooling down. Something, it was suggested, that few of us do properly—if at all. Again Andy split this into 3 parts. First the heart rate should be brought down slowly with low intensity exercise followed by long hold gentle stretching and finally rehydrating and refuelling.

Andy then demonstrated the best techniques for stretching the muscles. Starting with calves, moving onto hamstrings, then the glutes followed by the quads. Holding the stretch for 10 to 15 seconds and repeating 3 times. He pointed out the importance of not overdoing it. We should stretch to the point of pain. If it hurts then stop!

Chairman Andy thanked Andy T for an excellent and very informative talk and presented him with our customary bottles of wine, whilst they both demonstrated the technique of stretching the gluteal muscles.

Andy (chairman) then showed the meeting a number of videos, including one where he was the referee and opened the floor for discussion. The first two demonstrated what can happen when you either react to a situation too quickly i.e. playing an advantage or lose concentration following a kick off/ injury.

David Payne then spoke about an incident where he was appointed as referee at an FA Youth Cup game when one of the A/Rs turned out to be a "ringer". It transpired that the Assistant who had been appointed had, for reasons unknown, asked a friend to take his place. As both their first names were the same, David initially didn't realise the swap although he did wonder why the guy wasn't wearing the mandatory shirt and tie and was actually a rubbish A/R. It was when he was sorting out the expenses that he realised the surnames were different and the truth came out.

Andy closed the meeting at 10.15 after thanking the members for a great turnout, , Richard for manning the bar and reminding us that Callum has a supply of stick on poppies for remembrance Sunday.

Next month's meeting is on Monday 4th November when our guest speaker will be Tim Lawrence, Surrey FA's RDO who will be accompanied by Farai Hallum who is the Senior Referee Officer in the FA Referees Dept. It promises to be great evening

## Mac



Two Andys demonstrating how to stretch the Glute muscles whilst presenting a couple of bottles of wine.

Left  
Andy Tomkins

Right  
Andy Bennett

# Academy News

Hi Everyone

Thanks to everyone who attended the October meeting – Finding the right mind set, the session focused on getting your mind set right in order to referee with confidence and not be intimidated by the challenges ahead. Everyone who came along gave the best input to a session I have presented for a long time. Everyone had different ways of preparing for games and we can only learn from each other and all our collective experiences, it was especially nice to have our younger referees Jenny and Josh with us giving their ideas on how they prepare mentally, so I'm really looking forward to this month's meeting.

This month we will be focusing on Pre-match preparation this session will focus on your arrival at the ground and what steps you should take to get ready for kick off, so please come along and join in from 7pm just before the main meeting

**Pat**

## *Mac's Musings*

I'm sure you will have all read the news that Tim Lawrence is retiring at the end of February. All I can say is that he will be sorely missed and will be a hard act to follow. There cannot be a referee in the County who has not at some time during their refereeing career not benefitted from Tim's knowledge, encouragement and assistance during his 12 years as our RDO. We all at Woking wish him a well deserved long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing him again at our meeting on 4th November

As we all know, there is a revised law regarding the drop ball. As in my previous musings, the question once more arises "how much should we "teach" the players?" It was an U17s game and during the game I managed to get in the way ( what's new I hear you say) and the ball deflected off me and went straight to the opposition. I duly stopped the game and explained to the nearest players that I was going to drop the ball to the team that had last kicked it ( i.e. had possession) . The players duly lined up and I moved all the players, except the chap receiving the ball, away the prescribed 4 metres. " Do I kick it back to the keeper" said the fellow to whom I was about to drop the ball.

" Well you could" I said ( we were 10 metres inside the opposition half.) "but it's yours to do with what you like" He immediately kicked it to one of his forwards who raced off towards the goal. I realised that he opposition were still just watching , and the goal keeper was standing with his arms folded. I could see trouble brewing, but at that moment the club linesman flagged for offside and I gave a sigh off relief.

After the game the said keeper came up to me and said he'd thought that the ball was coming back to him, so I once more explained the new law .

I've now started asking the players whilst I've got them together to check their boots, whether they are aware of the new drop ball law. I usually get a bunch of blank faces so give them a quick update. I reckon it could save a lot of grief later.

We also now have sin bins for the adult leagues on our patch and I've taken to giving a word of warning to the captains at the toss. So far they have been great and have jumped in when one of their players has started to sound off. I'm just waiting for a captain to "forget" and start having a rant at me.

The question and answer below which appeared in the October Warbler, was discussed at the October meeting.—

**Question 5.** A Red attacker shoots and the ball bursts when it strikes the crossbar and rolls onto the roof of the net. What would you do?

**A5.** Restart with a dropped ball on the 6-yard line.

It was unanimously agreed that we would all restart with a goal kick. However with the new drop ball law, the ball would automatically be dropped to the keeper anyway.

Don' t forget to sign up for the Christmas Dinner !

**Mac**

# This Month's Speakers

## Tim Lawrence and Farai Hallam



Woking referees welcome our guest speakers Tim and Farai to the November meeting.

I'm sure we all know Tim, who has been the Surrey FA RDO for the last 12 years and has been a regular visitor to Woking during this time.

Farai who according to the FA website is the National Referees Manager at the FA Referees Department and is also a level 3 Referee. Farai was our guest speaker a couple of years ago and we extend him and Tim a warm welcome return.

The subject of their talk is "Where is the Ref?" It is an interactive session with video clips and is all about positioning.

### Tim Lawrence to Retire

Tim Lawrence, Surrey FA's Referee Development Officer, has announced that he will retire at the end of February.

He has been Surrey FA's Referee Development Officer for almost 12 years and has seen a huge amount of change in both the organisation and the laws of the game in his time with us.

Tim joined Surrey FA in June 2008 and developed a strong relationship with our referees and County Members, providing mentoring and support for officials in addition to running training courses and development events. Over the 12 years, Tim estimates that he has trained over 2,000 new referees – including a number of members of the Surrey FA workforce!

## The Who's Who of Football

With the new season well under way, I thought I'd prepare a guide to those people we should try and avoid during the months to come. I am sure you can all put your own names to the personalities described.

### ***The Club Secretary***

Usually difficult to find as he's doing jobs that everybody else should be doing. Usually swears blind that every other official they've had that season has been better than you. Doesn't know how to mark referees fairly and can only count up to five.

### ***The Club Treasurer***

Even harder to find. Will definitely try to avoid you and will question the mileage. Never has the correct change, or on the contrary if you've had a bad game, will pay you with the pocket money pennies he's been saving for his grandson's coming holiday.

### ***The Club Chairman***

Not really worth worrying about as usually four winds to the sail and too busy talking to fellow directors, sponsors etc, to want to have anything to do with you.

### ***The Manager***

A wild thing who loves to shout abuse at everybody around him. Doesn't know the meaning of the word praise or advantage. Treats his players like little pets who have to bow and scrape to his every whim. Gets high on ego trips and never buys you a pint.

### ***The Groundsman***

These are monosyllabic non-obliging creatures who like to swear and moan about everything and everyone, especially you. Suffering from verbal diarrhoea before you've inspected their water-logged pitch but suddenly stricken with laryngitis when you say it's fit to play on!

### ***The Assessor/Observer***

Experts in disguise and usually determined to contradict completely the one who watched you last time. Rarely practised what they now preach. Don't most failed referees become one?

### ***The County Officer***

Will pretend to know all about you when they meet you for the first time and then proceed to embarrass you and themselves by asking questions to which neither of you know the answer.

### ***The Press***

Avoid like the plague. Don't say - "Don't quote me on that"- because they will, but wildly inaccurately, especially if from *The Sun*.

***The Supporter***

A two-faced son of a bitch, will say you are the best thing since sliced bread when you go in favour of his team, but question your parent-hood, sex and bodily parts if you dare give the wrong decision. These too are faceless beings who threaten sometimes to sort you out after the game, but who oddly, can never be seen in the bar after the match. Of course, all are experts on the LOTG and have refereed a game before, even if it were 20 years ago.

***The Fellow Referee***

What an odd bunch this lot are, full of their own importance, forever bragging about the fact that they've officiated with the best, and never happy unless talking football and away from the missus and domestic chores. Always tell you that he was the highest marked referee.

I came across one the other day on the South Midlands League. I swear I've never seen him before yet he says he'd lined to me. He told me his lowest mark was 8. I got home and looked his name up in the Directory – he wasn't even there! He even gave me his telephone number to ring when I'd got a game so he could come and watch me!! It transpired he never completed his training course,

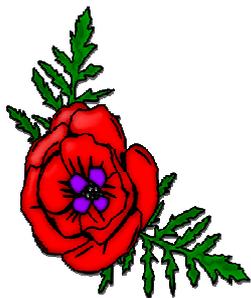
Well having listed the above, that just leaves The *Players*, but that's a whole new subject. Yes, a cynical and hopefully amusing look at some characters in the game.

***The Moral***

We can always learn something from them. Remember ...

**... the way these characters act and interact with us depends to a large extent on how we treat them!** *Like the players we have to manage them.* There are certainly right and wrong ways of doing it. *As referees we must never expect to be treated like royalty.* We are not the most important person in the game, but merely, like most others, servants of it. Make sure you do the game a service and enjoy your season, be it your 1st or 21st!

*(Ed. This was taken from the Milton Keynes magazine from a few years ago, and spotted in the Chiltern Referee. It was written by Paul Swannell - do you recognise anyone?)*

**Remembrance Sunday**

Callum has bought a limited number of "stick on" poppies for you to wear on your referees shirt when you are officiating over the Remembrance weekend (9th/ 10th November)  
Only £1.30 each

**Lest We Forget.**

## GENUINELY TIME TO MOVE AWAY

As I'm sure every referee knows, the changes this season to the goal kick brought expressions of disquiet across the world of football. These were probably in line with my own reservations. This was that the opponents, who must be outside the penalty area until the ball is kicked and clearly moves, can in fact challenge for the ball if they haven't left the penalty area. The memorandum that was sent to Football Associations and Confederations throughout the world jointly by David Elleray and Pierluigi Collina, said that defenders who take a quick free kick are trying to gain an advantage and therefore this must be balanced by allowing any opposing players who are still in the penalty area to play the ball. Opposing players who deliberately remain inside the penalty area are trying to gain an unfair advantage which should not be allowed.

It put the onus firmly on the referee to decide whether the opposing players have genuinely had time to leave the penalty area. Referees, they said, are skilled in the management of 9.15m at free kicks and they should apply these skills to the management of goal kicks and defending team free kicks in their own penalty area,

It made me wonder how skilled we are at free kicks regarding the 9.15m. It is a very similar situation to the goal kick. If an opponent is closer to the ball than the 9.15m when the kick is taken, the Law says the kick must be retaken, unless the kicker's team has an advantage, If however a player takes a quick free kick and an opponent who is less than 9.15m, intercepts the ball, play is allowed to continue. This was as we were told at the time, is only if the opponent didn't have time to retreat the required distance.

Shouldn't we then treat free kicks in the same way as we should for a goal kick? In other words, should we be more attentive to whether players have attempted to move the 9.15m as required. I'm sure we all experience week in and week out where players make no effort to move away without some degree of coercion, or even encroach before the kick is taken. I remember a Watford game last season where after a free kick was awarded, an opponent crept up behind the kicker and intercepted the ball as soon as it was kicked and before it reached the teammate to who it was intended. He made off down field with the ball at his feet and took a shot at goal. Is this not the same as an opponent entering the penalty area before a goal kick is taken?

I had a similar incident earlier this season when at a free kick, a team mate to the kicker was standing a few yards away. An opponent anticipating a pass hovered behind and as soon as the kick was taken tackled for the ball. I blew up for a free kick to the old cry of 'What was that for? Not retreating, was my answer.

It has made me much keener to check opponents movements at free kicks. Although there are no line markings to help as with the penalty area for goal kicks, it is obvious that many players intention at a free kick is to intercept rather than retire the required 9.15m.

Of course I may be preaching to the converted and you may say that you have always pulled up players who have genuinely had the time to retire but chosen not to before the kick is taken , I take my hat off to you but I'm not sure that we all use the skills that Messrs Ellera and Collina applaud us for.

*Dick Sawdon Smith*



## You must be joking!



If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they'd eventually find me attractive.

I find it ironic that the colours red, white, and blue stand for freedom, until they're flashing behind you.

Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool, so I gave him a glass of water.

I changed my password to "incorrect" so whenever I forget it the computer will say, "Your password is incorrect."

Artificial intelligence is no match for natural stupidity.

I'm great at multi-tasking--I can waste time, be unproductive, and procrastinate all at once.

Take my advice — I'm not using it.

My wife and I were happy for twenty five years; then we met.

I hate it when people use big words just to make themselves sound perspicacious.

Hospitality is the art of making guests feel like they're at home when you wish they were.

Every time someone comes up with a foolproof solution, along comes a more-talented fool.

## Coventry's Corner

### *The Age of Football*

If Bill Shankly's famous dictum that football is a much more serious matter than life or death still resonates in certain sections of society, then Terry Pratchett's pronouncement that 'the thing about football – the important thing about football – is that it is not just about football' is perhaps more pertinent in our own age. Certainly, in Goldblatt's magnificent global survey of the state of play in the modern game, this would appear to be unarguably the case.

At the heart of the book is the story of the effects of economic globalisation on football in the past two decades and the consequences of the attempts by the political classes to control the game and bend it to their own unscrupulous ends. Culminating in last year's surprisingly smooth World Cup tournament in Russia, the breath-taking litany of corruption, human rights abuses, death and destruction.

In Africa, Chinese investment has resulted in the construction of huge stadia, miles from the populace, now empty and decaying, and the migration of its best talent; in the Middle East the interplay of religion and authoritarianism dominates the sports governance; in Eastern Europe, football has become a hotbed of rabid right-wing, anti-Semitic, Islamophobic sentiment; in South America, financial irregularities and the involvement of the "narcos" have led to murders and the non-payment of players; in Asia, match-fixing is rife and in danger of submerging the sport in that region. Within all this, it is hardly surprising that women's football has struggled to establish itself in the face of unfettered paternalism.

This is not a comfortable read. It is dense, comprehensive and prodigiously researched – there are more than 70 pages of notes alone – with an array of fascinating information and mind-boggling statistics on every page (for example, sports betting, over 80% of it on football, has a turnover of at least \$500 billion per annum) The picture that emerges is of a sport rotten to the core. The degree of venality prevalent at the highest levels is simply breath-taking: what shines out from these pages is the absolute collusion of FIFA in the manipulation of the 'beautiful game' by unscrupulous regimes and institutions and Goldblatt rightly devotes a whole chapter to the criminality within this self-serving organisation.

Goldblatt is the doyen of sports historians and brings to this account his customary forensic and telling eye for detail, methodically tackling the globe continent by continent, country by country. His writing is fluent, witty and informed; his sense of despair at the extraordinary number of lives lost or blighted is evident throughout.

So, *pace* Terry Pratchett, this is not a book solely about football; it is snapshot of the modern world seen through the prism of football, showing how the game reflects society and vice versa how global capitalism has unequivocally triumphed. As the new season kicks off another cycle of self-aggrandisement, *The Age of Football* is a necessary corrective to the greed and iniquity at its heart (*ends*).

**Mike Coventry** *writing in The Chiltern Referee*

## New Law 16 Clarification

### More on that New Goal Kick Law

Law 16 – The Goal kick – clarifications The changes to the Laws of the Game 2019/20 have proved successful as seen at the FIFA Women's World Cup™, FIFA u20 World Cup™ and in confederation and national competitions.

The changes to Law 16 – The Goal Kick have often led to the game being re-started quickly and positively but there are two situations which have generated questions from across the football world which we would like to clarify.

*Goalkeeper 'lifting' the ball to a team mate who heads/chests it back to the goalkeeper .*

There has been much debate about whether, at a goal kick, the goalkeeper is permitted to 'lift' the ball to a team mate to head or chest it back to the goalkeeper to catch and then put into play. The views of technical and refereeing experts about whether this is within the 'spirit' of the Laws is divided so the matter will be discussed by The IFAB Technical Sub Committee. Until then, this practice should not be permitted nor should it be penalised - if it occurs the referee should order the goal kick to be re-taken (but no disciplinary action).

*Opponent in the penalty area when a goal kick is taken.*

Law 16 requires all opponents to be outside the penalty area until the goal kick is taken and if an opponent remains inside or enters the penalty area before the kick is taken and plays, challenges or touches the ball, the goal kick is retaken. However, Law 16 also applies the 'quick' free kick principles outlined in Law 13 Free Kicks – Offences and sanctions that if any opponents are in the penalty areas because they did not have time to leave, the referee allows play to continue. In practical terms, this means that referees should manage goal kicks (and defending team free kicks in their own penalty area) in the same way as they manage free kicks.

**Thanks to Touchlines and Peter Watson for the above**

### Spotted in The Chiltern Referee



## MURPHY'S MEANDERINGS

It was a Saturday afternoon local junior league game played in a private ground. The home team were new to the league and came with a poor reputation, both on and off the pitch. One story was that they had been quietly asked to move on, another that they had been victimised and unfairly treated by their previous league. Whatever the truth, a new league was seen to be the answer by all parties. However, the season was not very old and already there had been several complaints about them.

Following these complaints, the league had appointed a very experienced local official, one who also refereed regularly on a senior league, to control the game. He was well known and respected and seen as a referee who liked to resolve problems with common sense before resorting to disciplinary action. On arrival at the ground he was met by an extremely friendly home club Secretary who went out of his way to be helpful and passed off the complaints as other club's exaggerations and tales.

From the start the referee had problems. The home team lacked discipline and were extremely physical in their approach. When their opponents complained, they were aggressive and argumentative. The referee tried to calm matters by talking to both teams but the home team were not interested. His comments fell on deaf ears and the home team's behaviour and attitude to both opponents and referee deteriorated even further. The referee realised he needed to become more involved to maintain control and started to caution home players, which had the effect of further antagonising them. It wasn't long before one home player, quickly followed by a second, were sent off for arguing and using foul and abusive language to the referee.

This settled the game down but the home team's attitude did not change and nothing the referee did pleased them. They continued to play in a very physical way and moaned and disagreed with his decisions, whilst he did his best to keep control and get through the game without further major problems. Unfortunately, with a few minutes remaining, another home player was dismissed when he lost control and assaulted an opponent who had complained about a foul tackle made on him. The home player left the pitch loudly letting everybody know what he thought of the referee and the opponent and what he'd like to do to them.

Unhappy at the way the game had gone, a very dejected referee sat in the changing room after the game considering what he could, and maybe should, have done to handle things better.

His mood was not improved when the home team's Secretary came in to pay him. No more mister nice guy. He was extremely unfriendly and angry with the referee and ranted at him saying that he had ruined the game and lost control. He accused him of prejudging his team, treating them harshly and unfairly, being biased and of overreaction. He told the referee he would be giving him the lowest mark possible and that the club would be appealing against all cautions and dismissals. The referee had heard it all before so the Secretary's comments didn't upset him, it just didn't make him feel any better.

He left the changing room in a dark mood and it got darker when he got to his car. Two of the tyres on his car had been punctured. He returned to the clubhouse and spoke to the Secretary who was not interested. He denied that anybody connected with the home club were involved and said it was vandals. When asked, nobody had seen or heard anything, and there was sniggering when it was mentioned. Nobody wanted to know. Eventually the referee was able to get the tyres replaced and go home.

The referee sent the disciplinary reports, together with reports regarding the damage to his car tyres and the club Secretary's behaviour, to the County Football Association, who held an inquiry into the match. All disciplinary action taken by the referee was upheld and players fined and suspended, and the club Secretary and club were fined and warned as to their future conduct. In addition, the club were ordered to pay for the replacement of the tyres on the referee's car and any expenses he had incurred. As no culprits had been caught, and the club blamed vandals, they appealed, but lost the appeal and forfeited the appeal fee.

\*\*\*\*\*

Floodlights are regarded as one of the wonders of modern soccer. But how many people realize that matches were being played under artificial light long before the end of the nineteenth century? The first reference to a "floodlight" game is in records dated 1887, which tells of a game being played at Sheffield by candlelight! This is a difficult scene to imagine but the players managed somehow.

It is impossible to tell when football was first taught to other countries but we do know that British sailors had a lot to do with it. The British Navies, Royal and Merchant, were at the height of their power and influence in the fifty years between 1875 and 1925, and it was during this half century that the game was taken around the world. Sailors on leave abroad often played football among themselves; local inhabitants watched with interest, learned quickly, and soon challenged the soccer "missionaries" and sometimes beat them.

(The Observer's Book of Association Football by Albert Sewell 1972)

**Tony Murphy**

## Dates for your Diary 2019/20

<b>4th November</b>	<b>Society Meeting - Tim Lawrence RDO and Farai Hallam</b>
16th December	Society Christmas Dinner
6th January	Society Meeting - Steve Worsley
3rd February	Society Meeting - Tim Robinson
2nd March	Society Meeting and AGM
6th April	Society Meeting - TBA
4th May	Society Meeting - TBA



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# PlumTree

## **Surrey Senior Cup Preliminary Round**

Chertsey Town v Carshalton Athletic

Referee : Tom Ellsmore

A/R : David Payne

## **FA Trophy First Qualifying Round –**

Marlow v Sholing

A/R : David Payne

## **Surrey Intermediate County Cup**

Lightwater v AFC Spelthorne Sports.

Referee: Carl Jones

## **Surrey FA Saturday Premier Cup**

Godalming Town v Dorkinians

A/R : Will Siegmund

## **Surrey County Cup**

Woking Veterans Reserves v Ash Community Reserves.

Ref : Stephen Brown

## **Surrey FA Saturday County Cup .**

**Horsell v Kew Park Rangers**

Referee : Max van den Berg

## **FA Trophy**

Barking v Margate.

Referee : Tom Ellsmore

## **Surrey Premier County Cup**

Ash United Vs AFC Croydon

Referee : Callum Peter.

A/R : Roy Lawrence

## **FA Youth Cup 3rd Qualifying Round .**

Sutton Common Rovers v Leverstock Town

A/R : Gareth Heighes .

## **Surrey County Cup U16**

Chessington and Hook v Windlesham Fc.

Referee : Gareth Heighes

## **FA Cup 4th Qualifying Round:**

Potters Bat Town vs Barnet

AR1: Andy Bennett

(As seen on the BBC Red Button channel!!)



## **FA Trophy**

Didcot Town vs Larkhall Athletic

Referee : Andy Bennett

## **Premier League International Cup**

Valencia CF vs VfL Wolfsburg

AR1: Andy Bennett.

## **Surrey County Junior Cup**

Keens Park Rangers v Worplesdon

Phoenix

Referee : Mac McBirnie

Guildford Park v AFC Malden

Referee : Mac McBirnie.

Burpham v Farleigh Rovers Res

Erno Vajda

## **FA Senior Cup**

Old Ignatians First-v-Enfield Old

Grammarians First,

A/R Keith Hiller

### **Service !**

Read below and remember the meaning behind it before moaning about the price of a service you have had.

A giant ship engine failed. The ship's owners tried one expert after another, but none of them could figure but how to fix the engine.

Then they brought in an old man who had been fixing ships since he was a young. He carried a large bag of tools with him, and when he arrived, he immediately went to work. He inspected the engine very carefully, top to bottom. Two of the ship's owners were there, watching this man, hoping he would know what to do.

After looking things over, the old man reached into his bag and pulled out a small hammer. He gently tapped something. Instantly, the engine lurched into life. He carefully put his hammer away. The engine was fixed!

A week later, the owners received a bill from the old man for ten thousand dollars. "What?!" the owners exclaimed. "He hardly did anything!" So they wrote the old man a note saying, "Please send us an itemized bill"

The man sent a bill that read:

Tapping with a hammer.....	\$ 2.00
Knowing where to tap.....	\$ 9,998.00

Effort is important, but knowing where to make an effort makes all the difference! It takes a lot time and energy to learn and gather experience to give a great service to the customer.

*Spotted by Adie Freeman*

### **Referee In Yeovil Game Sends Off Every Single One Of Their Ball Boys In Bizarre Incident**

**Referee Aaron Johnson let the power of running a football match go to his head during Yeovil Town vs. Bromley.**

He inexplicably sent off every Yeovil ball boy in their Conference Premier fixture against Bromley on Saturday.

Johnson deemed the ball boys too slow as they handed the ball back to Bromley players.

In the 84th minute, when Yeovil were leading 3-1, the referee sent off one of their ball boys. A minute later, he subsequently sent them all off after consulting with a steward in a bizarre incident.

The West Country club took to social media to express their dismay and confusion at the mass sending offs.

"84 ' The referee has, no joke, just sent off one of our ball boys," the club posted, before providing an update on the situation.

*NASIR JABBAR writing in Sport Bible via Mal Davies*

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Flags- £4.50

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Surrey FA badge- £4

Referee socks- £2.50

Various Donated Nike Referee Kit and Training Gear  
(make me an offer)



## Adie's Grandmother May Be Sucking Eggs

I have been observing with growing interest the controversies surrounding VAR. There seems to be a lot of differing opinions but for me the main issue is that 'the Referees decision is Final' seems to have gone by the wayside. It is an indisputable fact that no two Referees will officiate exactly the same as we all have our own tolerance level.

It does seem to me that although the 'Referees Screen' is available, no official seems to be using it in the Premier League. It was used extensively in the Women's World Cup to great effect. My other concern is that the Assistant Referees will probably start to refrain from indicating off-sides or offences. All that said it is with us for this season so we have to live with it but I do hope that the FA will review the policy of how it is used.

On to more Local issues. I may well be teaching my Grandmother to suck eggs here but something which came up at the Guildford RA which triggered a memory in my head. When you caution/dismiss or report misconduct you must update the offences in the order they occurred during the game. I had a Referee inform me the website would not allow him to report a Sin Bin offence on a certain player. It turned out that he had already reported the second offence which was a dismissal. The WGS simply won't allow you to do that as the player had already been dismissed. I think that as we all read the instructions a few years ago most of us adhere to the advice but it does no harm to have a reminder.

On the home front, the weather has been somewhat inclement so I have not been attacking my wood pile. We have had a couple of cold evenings so I lit the wood-burner. Although I prefer the summer there is something very comforting about sitting in the lounge with the wood-burner radiating heat, trouble is I get so comfortable I fall asleep!! It has given me the opportunity to work on the sewing box. I have obtained some pieces of wonderful African wood so the tulip design will be made from some lovely grained material that I have been cutting out on the scroll-saw.

On my final note you will have noticed there are no mother-in law items. Sadly we were notified that last Wednesday she suffered a stroke that happened during the night so the rapid treatment we hear about on the TV did not happen. Although it was a small stroke it seems the damage has been extensive so Diane and I have been driving to Ashford Kent on numerous days. I'm afraid there is not much hope she will recover but please bear with me if I am not about. I will continue in my duties as Ref Sec but may not be as accessible as normal. No doubt I shall be back to my humorous self in the not too distant future.



**Adie**

## Referees Wanted for the Farnham & District Sunday Veterans League



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## **Willy the 'Red Card' Referee**

### ***The show must go on***

<b>Match:</b>	<b>Salt Beef City -v- Sporting Bagels</b>
<b>League:</b>	<b>Division One - Sunday Park League (North)</b>
<b>Hospitality:</b>	<b>First class from both teams</b>
<b>Later tonight:</b>	<b>Recovering from all the food I had eaten</b>

The match was between two of my favourite teams. Not so much for the football as they were both mid table teams who generally never challenged for any titles or cups but they were definitely winners as they both produced first class hospitality.

This was the *'El Classico'* between the two local deli's. There was no 'love' in the air when these two teams met. They both wanted to beat each other not only at football but to be the best side for 'hospitality'. Throughout the season there was never a need for any referee to leave the club house and go home to eat their dinner. Quite simply wonderful food on offer pre match, at half time and especially after the match.

I arrived early and saw the Sporting Bagels team arriving. Their manager saw me and immediately offered me a mini bagel which I accepted. Why not I thought it would be impolite to refuse. I entered the club house munching the bagel and the home team manager challenged me with *'So our food is not good enough? You have to eat theirs instead? Do you not like our food?'*

I knew that I had to eat 'humble pie' and apologised profusely (My apologies for the play on words). This was an unusual situation but I had learned my lesson and that is to *only* accept what is on offer from the *home* team.

Anyhow enough of food and back to the match in hand. It was literally in the second minute when the City defender stuck his leg out and the opposing player with the ball at his feet crushed to the ground. This occurred in the penalty area and I immediately pointed to the penalty mark and shouted *'Penalty'*. The challenge was reckless and the defender had made absolutely no effort at all to play the ball. This is why they play in bottom division and not the top division.

Amazingly no one challenged my decision and the guilty defender even muttered to me *'Yes ref, I know, sorry!'* What was happening to my 'red card reputation'?

I duly cautioned the offending player and prepared myself and the players for the forthcoming penalty. The checklist was as follows -

- Walk across the edge of the penalty area and warn the players of *'No encroachment'*
- Identify the penalty taker and tell him *'On my whistle'*

- Check the ball had been placed correctly
- Have a word with the goal keeper not to push the goal posts or cross bar and to have at least one foot on or over the goal line

This is difficult for the referee with no neutral assistants. If I watch for encroachment I cannot observe the goal keeper or the other way round. By standing mid-way between the penalty mark and the goal keeper a referee can watch the run up and the goal keeper's movements.

I blew my whistle and as the taker was one step away from the ball the goal keeper had taken two steps forward and produced a wonderful save to prevent the ball from entering the goal.

Alas, I blew my whistle and awarded a retake. Naturally the goal keeper claimed he did have one foot over the goal line as did his team mates and in the other ear I had the 'Begals' players confirming '*Of course he moved before the kick was taken*'.

This time the goal keeper kept both feet firmly on the goal line and made very little effort to move as the kick was retaken.

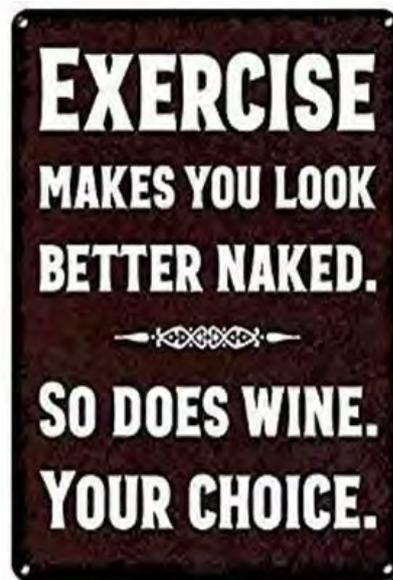
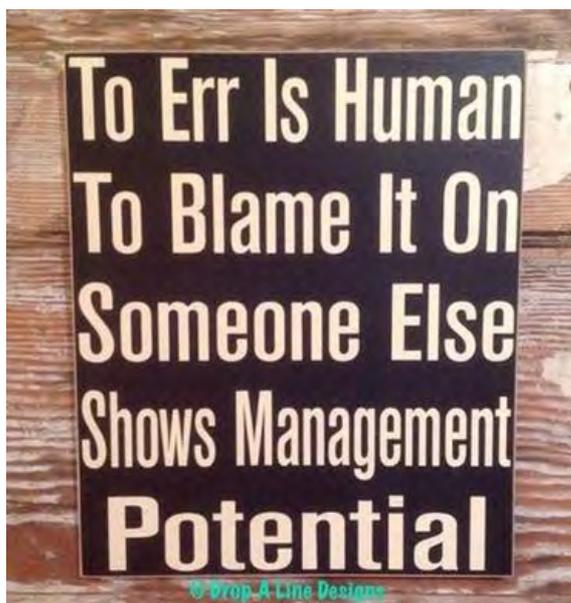
For the record, at grass roots level football if the referees focused on encroachment for all penalties awarded they would all have to be retaken about three times.

**By now we should all be familiar with the new laws. Keep up the good work,**

**Willy 'The Red Card' Ref**



### Signs of the times



## Observers 'blocking' black referees from progressing to pro game

Black referees are being blocked from climbing the league ladder by observers at county level, according to Ref Support UK's ambassador for black, Asian and minority ethnic officials.

Reuben Simon, (right) a former non-league referee, believes this is due to overt racism or unconscious bias, with the only solution to use mystery shopper-style 'ghost observers' to assess the assessors.



Uriah Rennie was the last black referee to officiate in the higher reaches of the English game before retiring in 2009.

There are no BAME referees currently working in the top four divisions, and only one in the National League. "It's a myth that there's a lack of black referees – there are loads at grassroots level but they are not progressing up the pyramid," Simon told Press Association Sport.

"Why? They are being blocked. There is a ceiling for black referees and it is non-league. "When a footballer is very good it's obvious and it's in the manager's interest to pick them. So even managers with racist views have picked black footballers. "It's the same with salesmen. You might have a racist manager but he cannot say you're not a good salesman if you have the most sales.

But decisions about referees are more subjective." Simon, who tweets on refereeing issues at @radical\_referee, explained that referees who reach the county level must be assessed by observers if they want to climb the ranks. "These observers will almost always be white chaps of a particular age," he said. "Nothing wrong with that and most try to be as fair as possible.

But there is also no question there is a lot of unconscious bias in the ratings." continued Simon, who reached the level just below the National League before retiring in 2014, said he has given the Football Association a solution to this problem. "They need to go back through the Match Official Administration System, which is where all the assessments are logged, and analyse the data," he said. "They should look for assessors who, on average, give black referees worse marks than white refs. "Now, let's pretend that every black ref is rubbish – it's possible, not probable – but let's check that by sending out a ghost observer to the same games as those assessors who give black refs poor marks. And let's do it a few times, just to make sure."

Simon denied there would be any issues with data protection rules – an excuse which has been given for not taking his advice – and said identities would be protected and any observer proven to be unfair on BAME referees would be given a chance to address their actions.

Asked why BAME referees are not applying to become observers themselves, Simon said: "Because they think the system is broken. The solution is to get black refs up the ladder – it's not rocket science and there is a solution."

The FA is well aware of the issue and in 2012 launched the 'Widening the Net' initiative to increase the number of BAME officials.

At the time, the national governing body estimated that only four per cent of its 28,000 registered referees were BAME and it set a target of reaching 10 per cent by 2016.

Progress has been made but the target was missed and Simon believes the current figure is around nine per cent.

In a statement released to PA Sport, an FA spokesperson said: "The FA recognises the value of a diverse group of referees and we continue to offer support and development opportunities for referees from all backgrounds and across all levels of the game. "The face of refereeing is continually changing and becoming a better representation of the football community. "We see a rise in the number of women and BAME referees in English football and we encourage people of all backgrounds to join the refereeing community."

The professional game is also taking steps to address the situation. The Premier League recently agreed to work with the organisation that provides its referees, Professional Game Match Officials Limited, on a BAME scheme. A PGMOL spokesperson told PA Sport: "We are committed to working with the FA to provide better opportunities to referees from different backgrounds, and we welcome the recent offer from the Premier League to support the development of a BAME refereeing programme.

"During this process we will consult with a range of stakeholders from refereeing bodies and wider football, and will of course seek to draw on the experiences of current and former BAME referees."

**Courtesy of Touchlines**



**That's the second time your wife's passed the ball to your secretary by mistake!**





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