



**“Working Together For Better Refereeing”
AFA & London Society of Association Referees
Our next meeting will be held on**

THURSDAY 13 OCTOBER 2011

**at Old Salesians Football Club
when our speaker will be**

DAVID LEWIS

Society Executive Committee Member



“Sadly, David's time in the UK is up and he will return home in November. David is a Level 4 referee with loads of experience refereeing in Australia, UK and other countries. And before he leaves he wants to share some thoughts about football and refereeing in the UK.”

Please come along for a wonderful evening, see elsewhere in Argus for fuller details and a map.

You can be sure of a warm welcome with an excellent bar and free sandwiches. We always have a great time at Old Salesians FC and as the club is set in the rolling Surrey countryside this pleasant idyll is a delight to visit.

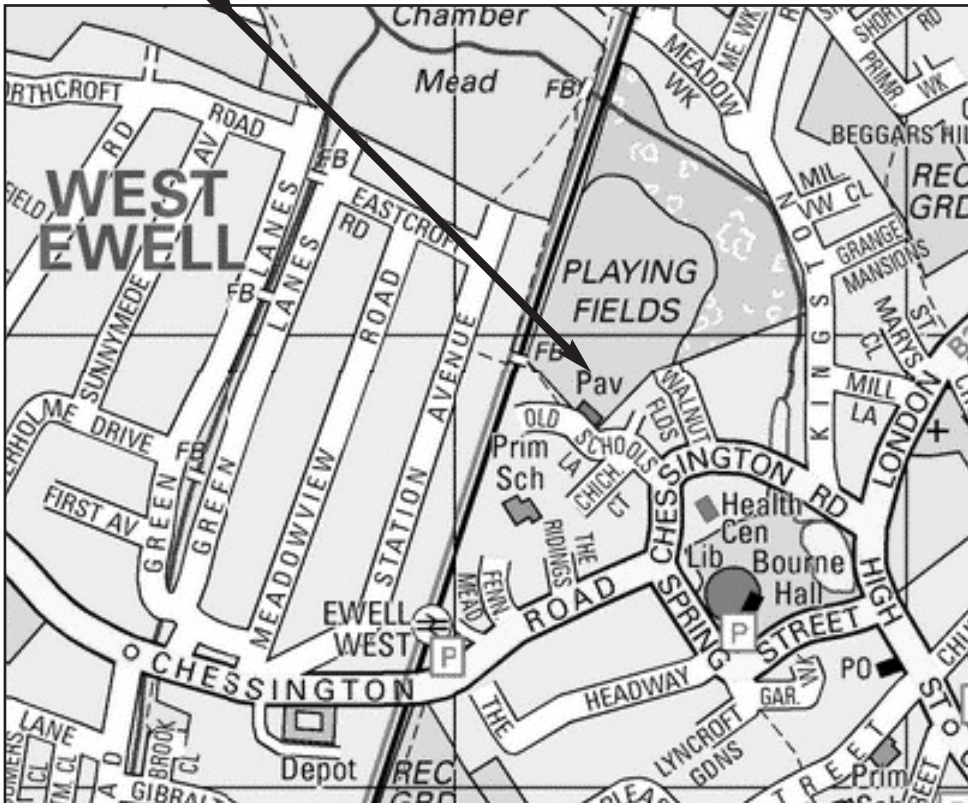
And who knows, perhaps by taking the waters of the nearby River Ewell you might become as good a referee as the many produced by Old Salesians FC. The water incidentally can be taken with the local ale delivered from behind the bar by Old Salesian Football Club Chairman Kevin Lawler and under the supervision of Club President Pat Morrissey.

The Schedule for the evening is likely to be as follows:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 6.30 Bar opens; | Salesian, Peter Georgiou: match incidents, LOTG queries and a short training presentation; |
| 7.25 Fill your glasses and take your seats; | 8.30 David Lewis: “A view from the middle”; |
| 7.30 Chairman opens meeting with routine Society business; | 9.20 Q&A and vote of thanks; |
| 7.45 Society Assistant Referee Training Officer and Level 3 Referee and Old | 9.30 Raffle and 100 Club Plus draw; |
| | 9.40 Meeting ends. |



Old Salesians Football Ground



From the pages of the Manchester Evening Times.

Last Wednesday a passenger in a taxi heading for Salford station leaned over to ask the driver a question and gently tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention.

The driver screamed, lost control of the cab, nearly hit a bus, drove up over the curb and stopped just inches from a large plate window.

For a few moments everything was silent in the cab. Then, the shaking driver said "are you OK? I'm so sorry, but you scared the daylight out of me."

The badly shaken passenger apologized to the driver and said, "I didn't realize that a mere tap on the shoulder would startle someone so badly."

The driver replied, "No, no, I'm the one who is sorry, it's entirely my fault. Today is my very first day driving a cab. I've been driving a hearse for 25 years."



Dates For Your Diary 2011/12

17 November

At CSC; speaker to be announced;

8 December

At CSC:

Speaker: David Dixon M Sc

Lecturer in Sport Nutrition and Exercise Physiology, University of East London and FA Futsal Talent Group Sports Scientist; [Author of the article on Pages 18 to 22 of the latest issue of "Refereeing"]

2012

12 January

At Alexandra Park FC

Speaker: Dean Mohareb, PGMOL

9 February

At CSC: speaker to be announced;

8 March

At St John's Ambulance HQ,
Richmond

Speaker: Jim de Rennes

12 April

At Norseman FC

Speaker: Ed Stone

10 May

At CSC: speaker to be confirmed.

OUR WEBSITE

Just a reminder to members
that our website address is
www.afalonsar.co.uk

Michael Hayden is doing a
grand job keeping it up to date.

Please visit it!

REFEREEING ACADEMY AT SOCIETY MEETINGS

Training Officer and AFA Referee Development Officer John Cooke will be pleased to receive any problems of members at monthly meetings, and also to analyse and debate recent incidents recorded from the professional game on video. Members with video recorded incidents are always welcome to bring them to meetings and they will be examined, time permitting. If possible, please telephone John in advance.

**COPY FOR
NOVEMBER ARGUS
MUST
BE WITH THE EDITOR BY
FRIDAY
4th NOVEMBER 2011
OR SOONER IF POSSIBLE.**



Chairman's Comment

Isn't it a joy to be refereeing at this time of the year? The weather is warm and sunny, the FsOP are covered with lush grass hiding all those nasty bumps and potholes and even the players' behaviour seems good natured. In spite of two dismissals [both for aggravated dissent which turned into OFFINABUS on a Sunday morning] in just 12 games, I am impressed by the good behaviour of the players and their positive reaction to the pre-match "Respect" briefing.

Player stupidity and ignorance: While assessing recently I saw the ugly side of grass roots football with the awful treatment of a teenage referee of promise by a bunch of players and club officials. I waded into both packs of players after the game as they were making disparaging remarks about the young referee's performance. The flashpoint of the game was when he correctly awarded an IFK to the attacking side for impeding in the defending team's penalty area. A defender had deliberately impeded an attacker without touching him thus denying him a chance of running onto a ball from which he might have scored. Certainly it wasn't DOGSO as no contact occurred nor was there a clear goal-scoring opportunity. In anger I rattled off the number of offences for which an IFK is awarded to an attacker in the opponent's penalty area which were greeted with disbelief by both sets of players. Hopefully the young referee will recover and take all this in his stride. But the incident again illustrates players' ignorance of the LOTG, the root of much player dissent and frustration.

Respect, is the FA winning the battle? Last weekend was one of AFA cup matches and for me with the "battle of the banks" [BB Eagles and Lloyds TSB] a game of real zip and endeavour played in a very sporting manner by both sets of players. The pre-match "Respect" briefing [about which elsewhere in this issue] appears to be paying dividends at least in AFA football. Briefing the captains and then involving them when appropriate seems to be working and gaining their support which is vital to a referee's handling of a game. I was pleased to report the game's result via the **FA Respect Programme** electronically; I hope you are all participating in this excellent initiative.

It's kids stuff: I recently enjoyed a wonderful experience courtesy of Old Actonian's FC when I refereed two junior games on a Sunday morning. Again conditions were ideal and thanks to both sets of club officials, coaches, players and parents the back-to-back games were played in a wonderful spirit. I was particularly impressed with the behaviour of the four sets of parents who while encouraging their charges did so politely and in a sporting spirit. And I was fascinated to see the skills, confidence and behaviour of the players: perhaps England has a footballing future after all.

It could only happen here: I was reminded recently of **Brian Moore's** excellent presentation back in May when he said that only in Association Football could a player by dint of his own stupidity and foolishness be dismissed from the



FOP thus reducing greatly his team's chances of victory and be applauded by his supporters as he exited the FOP. I saw it last weekend and no doubt will see it several times again during the season. A player behaves like a Muppet or a thug, is correctly dismissed from the FOP and is then warmly applauded by his team's supporters. Strange!

Support your County Representative Teams: Elsewhere in this issue you will find a matrix of the fixtures, dates, venues and opponents of the various AFA representative teams. *Please try to get to some of the games* during the season as the players are often playing against other county teams with sizable numbers of supporters. So let's support our teams and our four referee colleagues [at home games]. Please see also the AFA website www.amateur-fa.com for further details and the results of the games, venues and opponents. See you there!

Whistleblower: I am grateful for the positive comments received about Pat Morrissey's article in the September issue. Pat always writes excellent stuff for publication based on thorough research and years of experience in journalism, football and refereeing. Please read again his September piece and ask yourself about how English football is ever going to dig itself out of the financial mess it is in. As Pat highlights, we lack sufficient coaches [by tens of thousands], the FA lacks strategy and direction in youth development and in spite of football having a huge turnover too little of this is being put back into grass roots football. In my view not enough money is being spent on the vital all male, adult, eleven-a-side game which after all is a major source of interest and revenue. If the male, adult, eleven-a-side game declines further then God help us as a footballing nation. The FA appears to be suffering also the consequences of the financial mill-stone round its neck in the form of Wembley Stadium built at a staggering cost of £750,000,000. In spite of the price tag it is still only Europe's second biggest stadium surpassed by a Spanish club's ground. Incidentally, the original Wembley Stadium was built in a remarkable 300 working days at a cost of £750,000.

September Society Meeting: Our first meeting of the 2011/12 season went well and most of you commented favourably on the suitability and comfort of our new premises at the Civil Service Club. It was a little tight with 28 members present but the evening was enjoyed nevertheless with a useful Q&A on the LOTG, a showing of the film "Referees" and a training slot by Society Training Officer, John Cooke on the changes to the LOTG. It was wonderful too to greet a number of new members and I hope to see them at future meetings. The majority attending took to the excellent bar like ducks to water after the meeting.

Old Salesians FC on 13 October: will be our next gathering and this promises to be a good meeting in the sunny Surry countryside. David Lewis will be our guest speaker and this will be his last public appearance before he returns to Australia and hopefully he will let rip vocally with his views of English football and refereeing. But apart from David, we always have a good time at Old Salesians FC and I hope you will all try to get down there. The sandwiches are





"One dictator to another: Now look, it's easy staying on top just bribe your weak opponents, discredit the tougher ones and always watch your back when the English are around."

great! See elsewhere in this issue for timings, agenda and location. See you there.

FIFA and ARGUS: Its official, Sepp Blatter does read Argus! In the last issue we featured a rather uncomplimentary photograph the Fifa President shaking hands with that awful criminal Robert Mugabe. No sooner had the magazine hit the streets than the Swiss-based dictator retaliated by saying *"the English are trying to destroy the Fifa presidency due to my [unopposed] re-election as President in June 2011."* [Blatter and Mugabe must have talked for hours about this!] Although Blatter didn't mention the "Yellow Peril" by name he described an FA proposal during FIFA's congress in Zurich to postpone the election in the wake of a series of corruption scandals as an *"act of revenge for having lost the Fifa presidency in 1974."* He described England as "bad losers" and that *"any animosity comes from England because they failed to win the right to host the 2018 World Cup."* Summing up an interview granted to a Brazilian newspaper the aged supremo said *"Let me tell you the truth: all this has been an act of revenge for [Sir Stanley Rous] having lost the Fifa presidency in 1974 to Brazil's [Joao Havelange]. Since then they cannot regain the presidency, they decided they would try to destroy it."* Against this background is there any point in our national side pursuing a place in the World Cup finals in Brazil? Watch this space.

Could you help? In addition to refereeing I, along with others, have been busy of late as a Tutor [formerly Instructor] with County FA's "In Service Training" [IST] days with both AFA and London. Hopefully, via short 45 minute presentations of a



theoretical or practical nature we can help referees reach the next level. County FA's are *always* looking for suitable volunteers and if you are interested please contact your County RDO. Mentoring too has kept me busy with a fresh batch of newly-qualified referees who although capable of refereeing find comfort in having an experienced referee on the end of a telephone or contactable by e-mail to float some of those queries that arise in the early months of refereeing. Again, please speak to your RDO if you believe you can help. And finally, I have been busy too as an Assessor of referees who having indicated their preparedness to compete for promotion and having successfully negotiated the written examination during the compulsory IST day willingly subject themselves to examination by an assessor over several matches during the reporting period. Again, if you are interested please make yourself known to your RDO. Assessing requires a good knowledge of the LOTG, experience as a referee, the patience to watch a perhaps uninspiring game, ability to watch and read a game and perhaps most importantly an aptitude to inspire confidence in an aspiring referee while carefully pointing out areas where he/she could perhaps do better [known euphemistically as "development areas".]

Tutors, Mentors and Assessors are vital for referee development. Volunteers are always needed. Perhaps one or more of these roles would suit you, if so please contact your RDO for further details. It is worth remembering the role these people played in your referee development which made you the great referees you are. The RDOs are doing a great job recruiting new referees, putting them through their initial basic training, getting them through the examination and then introducing them to various leagues. We as a Society can greatly help this process by acting as a Mentors, Assessors or Tutors. Please do your bit for the future of refereeing; believe me, it gives one a warm feeling knowing you are putting something back into the game.

AFA Referees' Committee has a new chairman in the shape of **Robert Hanison, Society Life Vice President and AFA Life Vice-President**. He will bring to this important role years of refereeing experience and service with the Society and we wish him well in his endeavours. Also serving on this important committee which supports the overall activities of the AFA Council is **Society Vice-Chairman David Cunningham**. Stepping down from the chairmanship after 4 years is **Ray Holmes, AFA Life Vice-President** who trod the greensward from 1968-97 achieving Class 1 in old money. He will remain active however on the AFA Council. We wish all three all the best in their work on behalf of AFA grass roots football and thank them for their efforts.

And finally . . . Congratulations to Phil Dowd for an excellent performance on 18 September in an exciting game between Manchester United and Chelsea. I was impressed by his decision in the game when Javier Hernandez, Manchester United shot from very close range the ball striking the post and going out of play. As he shot Ashley Cole, Chelsea lunged in with a disgraceful tackle almost breaking his opponent's leg. Watching on TV, [and with no love for Chelsea—and





not much for the Old Trafford team either since you ask], it looked like a penalty and for Cole the prospect of an early bath. But I was puzzled when Phil Dowd cautioned Cole and re-started the game with a goal-kick. However, all became clear when following a conversation with his AR the referee judged that the sequence of events had been: shot, ball out of play, foul tackle. In these circumstances he was spot on with his decision but it would have been so easy to have given a penalty and dismissed Cole from the FOP.

P.S. Still waddling around Gunnersbury Park each morning which seems to be paying some dividends if only by becoming friendly with the squirrels!

Have a good one!

Gordon Kirby, Chairman

Chad and Lorraine being presented to FA Chairman (and Old Finchleian) David Bernstein prior to the kick off in the FA Cup preliminary round between Broxbourne Borough and Hoddesdon Town a couple of weeks ago.



Whistleblower's Opinion

Football Betting - a stairway to heaven - or hell?

Betting is always going to be a controversial topic. Some people think there is nothing wrong with a small wager on a football match, for instance on the number or timing of goals and cards. Winning always seems within reach. On-line in-play betting adds to the excitement. "You've got to be in it to win it." "It could be You".

Other people think betting is 'the stairway to hell' because the odds are always stacked against the punter, and the 'get rich quick' appeal will always attract and exploit the poor, the less intelligent and those more prone to gambling addiction.

With the majority of English Premier League clubs sponsored by betting companies one would imagine that the FA would be in the "stairway to heaven" camp in relation to betting. Indeed, just two years ago in desperate need of funding, the FA searched unsuccessfully for a betting sponsor for itself.

The new FA Rule

However, The FA has now announced a change and a strengthening of its Rule E8 firstly in relation to betting by Match Officials, referee coaches and assessors at levels 1, 2 and 3, and secondly the use of 'Inside Information' by Participants AT ALL LEVELS for betting by themselves or others. It is set out in the latest issue of 'Refereeing' Magazine on page 44.

"There is a complete prohibition on betting (or the instructing of someone else to bet) on football by Match Officials, referee coaches and assessors at levels 1, 2 and 3. This covers bets on

- (i) the result, progress or conduct of any specific match; or*
- (ii) the result, progress or conduct of any competition; or*
- (iii) any other matter concerning or related to football sanctioned by The FA(for example, 'next manager' markets, or disciplinary matters).*

There is a complete prohibition on Participants (which includes all Match Officials, referee coaches and assessors) using 'Inside Information' for the purpose of betting themselves, or the passing on of such information to someone else for that purpose."

Inside Information is information to which an individual has access due to his or her position in football that is not publicly available at the time (eg team selection, player availability etc.).

Why has the FA done this?

Many managers and players are alleged to have links with the betting industry. There are obvious problems where players before or during a game can see live odds on the likelihood of some event within their immediate control (for example timing of the first throw-in or who gets a yellow card and when.)



There are also concerns about these tie-ups in that the bookies may get insider information as a result of the relationship. And to quote one commentator in this field "Many firms do not accept bets from winning clients unless you are providing the firm with primary or secondary level inside information."

And the threat to the integrity of our Premiership referees is intensified by these strong Club relationships with the betting industry. Keith Hackett, during his visit to the AFA Society a few seasons ago, stated that protecting his referees from the gambling industry was his biggest current worry.

But the biggest threat is match fixing. In August 2011 UEFA President Michel Platini said "I can see lots of red lights flashing and I am afraid for the future of football which is going pear-shaped in some areas. Perhaps I am being alarmist, but we have to face up to match fixing, corruption, illegal betting." He has urged all European countries to outlaw match fixing as a criminal offence.

Link between online betting and match fixing

And again in a September 2011 speech to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, Platini warned that criminal gangs fixing matches for multi-million profits was getting out of hand and was impossible to contain by UEFA alone. "European sport is afraid because of a match fixing phenomenon that is developing in connection with large scale online betting activities. The growth of betting related match fixing is alarming, especially because it is a problem to which no sport and no country is immune. This is why I believe the Council of Europe now needs to intervene. We need politicians to join our efforts to combat this scourge."

This month, the Turkish Football Federation withdrew Fenerbahçe from the lucrative Champions League while it is under suspicion in a criminal match fixing probe. Match fixing has also spread to Italy, Israel and Greece, all linked to Asian gambling rings.

"The growing number of fixed matches connected to online betting is alarming, it doesn't spare any discipline and no country is safe," said Platini. "These fixed matches are orchestrated by criminal organisations."

Credibility and Integrity

So it is absolutely clear why the FA had to act for the credibility of the game. There will be protests and accusations of 'over reaction' from those who do not understand the 'stairway to hell' argument, and from mouthpieces for gambling groups who understand the stairway process only too well. But keeping the game clean is worth some restriction on our activities, rather than the nightmare of loss of credibility in match results and the integrity of our match officials.

Patrick Morrissey



AFA Representative Team Fixtures 2011-12

Team	Fixture	Competition	Home /		Day	Date and		Venue
			Home	Away			Kick-off Time	
Under 18s	Surrey FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	25th September	KO 1.00pm	South Park FC, Redhill
Seniors	Oxford University	Friendly	Home		Wednesday	5th October	KO 7.30 pm	Hanwell Town
Under 18s	Norfolk FA	FA County Youth Cup R2	Away		Saturday	8th October	KO 2.00 pm	Dereham Town
Seniors	Cambridge University	Friendly	Home		Wednesday	12th October	KO 7:30 pm	Potters Bar Town
Under 16s	Kent FA	SECYC	Away		Thursday	20th October	KO 7.00pm	Faversham Town
Seniors	Sussex FA	Southern Counties Cup	Home		Wednesday	2nd November	KO 7.30 pm	Dulwich Hamlet
Seniors	Royal Navy FA	Southern Counties Cup	Away		Wednesday	16th November	KO 7.30 pm	Portsmouth
Under 18s	Middlesex FA	SECYC	Home		Sunday	20th November	KO 1.00pm	Potters Bar Town
Under 16s	Surrey FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	27th November	KO1.00pm	South Park FC, Redhill
Under 18s	Sussex FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	11th December	KO 1.00pm	Lancing
Under 16s	Sussex FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	15th January	KO 1.00pm	Lancing
Seniors	The Army FA	Southern Counties Cup	Home		Wednesday	18th January	KO 7.30 pm	Corinthian Casuals
Under 18s	Royal Navy FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	29th January	KO 1.00pm	Portsmouth
Seniors	The RAF FA	Friendly	Away		Wednesday	8th February	(Provisional) KO TBA	TBA(London Area)
Under 16s	Middlesex FA	SECYC	Away		Sunday	19th February	KO 1.00pm	TBA
Under 18s	Kent FA	SECYC	Home		Thursday	23rd February	KO 1.00pm	TBA
Seniors	Middlesex FA	Southern Counties Cup	Away		Wednesday	29th February	KO 7.30 pm	TBA
Seniors	London FA	Southern Counties Cup	Home*		Wednesday	14th March	KO 7.30 pm	Dulwich Hamlet
Under 16s	London FA	SECYC	Home		Sunday	18th March	KO 1.00pm	Potters Bar Town
Under 18s	London FA	SECYC	Home		Sunday	25th March	KO 1.00pm	Colney Heath

Easter Sunday = 8th April



**AFA & LONDON SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION REFEREES MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 8 2011 at THE CIVIL SERVICE CLUB,
GREAT SCOTLAND YARD, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1A 2HJ**

- 1 The Chairman opened the evening by welcoming everyone to a new season and to new venue at Great Scotland Yard. The accommodation was a little tight with 28 members present but the meeting room was well-appointed and comfortable. He wished to thank the following new members who were present and congratulate most of them on taking up the whistle: **Sean Brooks; James Caley; Wally James; Chris Henry; Jimi Ahmed; Tom Sanger; Stuart Lock; and Tarig Abdul-Rahman.** Each received a signed membership certificate and would soon receive a Society whistle.
- 2 Almost everyone present had received their copies of Argus in time for the meeting plus the e-mail trigger message. Gordon had a few spare copies for anyone who hadn't received theirs. The Chairman asked colleagues to let him have comments about the new venue, good or bad. But so far reactions were positive and that was before members had sampled the bar supplies at very reasonable prices. No-one had had difficulty in entering the building but the receptionist had been given a list of members' names. Members should always be prepared to show some ID if asked. He added that the Society had been fortunate to secure the venue on the back of our nearly 20 years at Chadwick Street and at the same price per session. The Society would meet here in November, December, February, and May with the four other meetings at: Old Salesians FC [on 13 October], and the other three at Alexandra Park, Norseman FC and St. John's Ambulance Base, Richmond on [8 March 2012] when our speaker would be Jim de Rennes. He had also secured Dean Mohareb for the 12 January meeting but the venue was yet to be determined.
- 3 As mentioned in Argus finding top-level speakers is proving very difficult this season and the Chairman has spent many hours trying to engage Select Group officials, ARs, assessors etc with little success. He said he remained unconvinced about the fairness of the new RA-FA/PGMOL procedure for ensuring that speakers are fairly distributed among societies and have always an audience appropriate to their status. He had submitted the Society's request for speakers for the coming season, in fact he had asked for Howard Webb plus two others bearing in mind that the Society is the third biggest in England and is based in the capital and can potentially attract a large audience for the right speaker. The response so far from the RA indicates that *"all requests have been received by the PGMOL, however priority is being given to RA-FA events and with the number of our top officials having appointments in Europe it is getting more difficult to arrange speakers. As you appreciate we now have to send three referees for each match in the Europa League and Champions League."* Gordon said that Select Group referees are not born in a special referee heaven but have their



roots and origins in grass roots football with humble referees' societies. Society members want to see their heroes and heroines speaking locally with attendance enhanced by members and guests from neighbouring societies and not at special RA-FA events as good as they were. We had attracted an audience 90 for Howard Webb before his world cup final. The Society stands ready to hire a special venue perhaps for an audience of 110-120 when he is our guest again hopefully this season. We would happily stand the extra cost of doing this, possibly around £400. Given these difficulties members should be prepared for some changes to our recent pattern of meetings. Tonight we have such a change in that we shall show the film "Referees" which is dramatic, informative and exciting showing the 2008 UEFA European Football Championship and features Howard Webb, Mike Mullarkey and Darren Cann. The film would last for 75 minutes and would begin at 8.15.

4 Gordon thanked members who bought RA Grand Draw raffle tickets. We sold some £320 worth and have received 50% of that back as our share of the proceeds. This showed the value of this initiative and he hoped members would buy more tickets next year. The income would pay for the rent of this room three times over. He thanked all those ExCom members past and present who had helped in this exercise.

5 The meeting then stood in silence to pay our respects and remember the sad passing of **Vince Yeudall, Vice Chairman of the North Middlesex Referees Society** who passed away on September 1 after suffering a stroke whilst on holiday in the Isle of Wight. Our condolences go out to his wife Ann and family. The funeral will be held on Monday 12 September at New Southgate Crematorium, Brunswick Park Road, New Southgate, and London, N11 1JJ.

6 In the absence of John Cooke, Society Training Officer who was delayed in traffic, Gordon asked for questions relating to LOTG and match incidents. The two questions asked were very interesting:

Q1. During a game a defender in his own penalty area has the ball at his feet. It is stationary. His goalkeeper signals to him and moves towards the player and picks up the ball with the intention of kicking it from his hands down the FOP. However, as soon as the GK handles the ball the referee blows his whistle and awards an IFK to the attacking team apparently for "the GK touching the ball with his hands after it has been deliberately kicked to him by a team mate." In these circumstances was the Referee correct?

A1. Following a lively discussion it was felt by members that the referee might have got it wrong in that the ball was stationary and had not "been deliberately kicked to him by a player."

[John Cooke comments - This is actually a clear case of the referee getting it right, assuming that the ball has last been played with the foot by one of the goalkeeper's teammates. If the ball is played with the foot (kicked) with the



deliberate intention of the goalkeeper picking it up, even though the ball is stationary, the defender has intentionally left the ball for the goalkeeper to receive the ball into his possession. As soon as the goalkeeper handles the ball he has committed the offence for which the punishment is and indirect free kick.]

Q2. During a game an attacker was running with the ball at his feet towards the opponent's goal, as he entered the penalty area he was tackled simultaneously by two chasing defenders one of which was the "last defender": one tripped his left leg and the other the right leg. What decision[s] did the referee make and what other action[s] did he take?

A2. It was felt that this was a very unlikely scenario that both defenders would foul the attacker at exactly the same time and with the same intensity. However, it was judged that had one defender arrived first and committed the first foul he should be the one who is punished more severely. But accepting that they both arrived at exactly the same time then both should be dismissed from the FOP, one for a DOGSO offence and the other for serious foul play. A penalty should also be awarded. Some members thought this too severe and that a caution might suffice for the second offender.

[John Cooke comments – the punishment for a careless trip is just a direct free kick, a reckless trip would attract a yellow card, and a trip with excessive force would be a red. If it denies an obvious goal-scoring opportunity then it is a red card regardless of the severity of the challenge. The question does not appear to state the severity of the offence, but my judgement would be that the intention of both defenders simultaneously (OK, highly unlikely) was to deny the attacker the opportunity of shooting, quite probably coming into the category of DOGSO and therefore both warrant being dismissed. The Law of course does not make mention of a "last defender". If one could be judged to have fouled the attacker first then he would be sent off and the second offender would be cautioned. In practical refereeing terms I think I would have seen one foul before the other, and most likely it would be the one who had been giving me stick all game!]

- 7 Members then watched the film and by common view it was thoroughly enjoyed.
- 8 The Chairman then introduced John Cooke, Society Training Officer and AFA Referees' Development Officer for a brief training session focussed on the changes to the Laws of the Game for season 2011-12. Full details of these are shown in the current LOTG and in the September issue of "Refereeing" issued by RA and FA and are available on both the FIFA and FA websites.
- 9 The raffle followed courtesy of Mike Naylor. There was no 100 Club Plus draw this month as the list was being held up due to a rush of last-minute investors.
- 10 The Chairman closed the evening by thanking members for attending. Our



next meeting will be at **Old Salesians Football Club, on Thursday 13 October** when our guest speaker will be Society Executive Committee member David Lewis. Sadly, David's time in the UK is up and he will return to Australia in November. David is a Level 4 referee with loads of experience refereeing in Australia, UK and other countries. And before he leaves us he wants to share some revealing thoughts with us about football and refereeing in the UK. Please come along, see Argus for full details. We can be sure of a warm and pleasant welcome and atmosphere with an excellent bar and sandwiches.

Gordon Kirby, Chairman



"THANK GOODNESS FOOTBALL ISN'T
CORRUPT LIKE CRICKET, EH REF?"

Struck in the Wall

In the middle of the defensive wall at a free kick, the left back took the ball right in the middle of the crotch and he passed out in pain. When he woke up he found himself in the local hospital. Though still in pain, he asked the doctor.

"Doc, is it bad? Will I be able to play again?"

"Yes you should be able to", replied the doctor.

"Oh, great. So I can play for my club again?" said the man, feeling much relieved.

"Well, just as long as they have a women's team," said the doctor.
See you about

Trevor Weaver



100 CLUB PLUS

With BIG CASH prizes in 2011/12

The **100 CLUB PLUS** prizes are designed to give more to **Society members** and to encourage you to attend **Society meetings**.

Cash prizes will be: **£25, £15 and £10** for each draw, but if the winning member is at the meeting when the draw is made prizes will increase

From £25 to £40

From £15 to £30

From £10 to £25

The cost of each **100 club share** is **£12**, and you can buy as many you like!

If you were to attend all the meetings and win the top prize, you could come away with

£400!

*So, come on join the
100 CLUB PLUS
in time for the next draw*



AFA & LONDON SOCIETY OF ASSOCIATION REFEREES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

15 May 2011

- **AGM for season 2010/11:** Gordon Kirby, Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests: Brain Moore, Speaker; and RA Board member Eddie McGrath.
- **Apologies for absence:** Bart O'Toole; Peter King; Joe Patterson, and Ezra O'Neil.
- **Minutes of AGM 2010:** The minutes of the AGM 2010 were accepted as a true record [they had been reproduced in the May 2011 issue of Argus].
- **Matters Arising:** There were no matters arising.
- **Chairman's Annual Report was reproduced in full in ARGUS however several key points are listed as follows:]**

SOCIETY MEETINGS: During the 2010/11 season the Society had held 11 reasonably well-attended meetings including 4 regional meetings.

GUEST SPEAKERS: The Society had maintained a good variety of speakers in spite of the restrictions imposed by PGMOL on Societies preventing them from directly approaching Select Group Referees. This restriction is apparently because in a few cases these speakers, who are in great demand, had been asked to travel long distances to speak to just a handful of members at meetings. PGMOL is seeking to centralise requests using the offices of the RA. However, the Chairman said that this should not be the case for AFA & London Society as we are the third largest referees' society in England and the largest in the Home Counties and can guarantee a large attendance for any Select Group Referee as Guest Speaker. We therefore deserve special treatment and he was unashamed in asking for this.

FINANCES: The Society constantly monitors its income and expenditure and the Chairman expressed thanks for this being done efficiently by Mike Naylor, Treasurer. During the period under review expenditure had exceeded income in spite of rigorous financial management.

ARGUS: Without re-opening the debate the majority of our expenditure went on Argus the Society's flag-ship project.

RA MEMBERSHIP: Additionally, a large part of what members pay to the Society is immediately passed onto the Referees' Association. The Chairman was always keen to review closely just which benefits members get from the RA. RA membership is falling, not only in our Society but across the board. We need to consider ways of boosting income – perhaps by seeking revenue from advertisements in Argus.

COUNTY FAs: Regarding membership, thanks to our colleagues at the AFA and London FA Society officers were able to attend a number of basic referee training courses which has allowed a number of members to be recruited. We are seeking



to work with the AFA and LFA on this front.

- Financial Report [Treasurer]: Mike Naylor, Treasurer, presented the accounts. These showed that the income from our investments of the Dave McCarthy legacy helped balance our expenditure and income. An image of certified and audited copies was shown and members declared themselves satisfied with the accounts.
- **Auditors' Report [Mr Alan Hayden and Robert Hanison] report to be read out.** Robert Hanison confirmed his satisfaction with the accounts and that they reflect the true state of the Society's income and expenditure. Alan Hayden, the independent auditor, confirmed that the accounts properly reflected the true state of affairs of the Society. Robert Hanison was stepping down as Society auditor and going forward this duty would fall to Mr Alan Hayden. The Chairman thanked Mr Hanison for his services over the years.
- **Rule Changes [see May 2011 ARGUS pages 5-10]:** The proposed rule changes detailed in the Argus were adopted at the meeting.

The Chairman asked members present to vote en bloc for the nominees for the Officers, Committee Members, Vice-President and Auditors as proposed. The officers of the Executive Committee (ExCom) were duly elected. Kevin Carpenter was elected as a new member to the ExCom as Secretary. It was noted that John Maskell was omitted from the list as a Vice President but his position was confirmed.

- Any Other Business: Thomas Jaggs, addressed the meeting. He is the Referee Secretary for the Central London Super Sunday League. The league is seeking referees and would like to ask Society members if they would register with the league. The teams play in Clapham, Hackney and Regents Park.
- With no other items of business tabled the Chairman closed the AGM for 2010/11.

AGM CLOSED

Monthly Society Meeting

- The Chairman said that this would be the last Society meeting to be held at Chadwick Street after nearly 20 years. He understood that the building was to be demolished. In view of this bad news at short notice the Society would have to find quickly a new central London venue. This may prove difficult and any solution might be expensive. Given this uncertainty this might mean that meetings may have to be held in the regions at perhaps Alexandra Park FC, Norseman FC, and Old Salesians FC and perhaps at new venues in Mortlake and Richmond. He asked all members who knew of a suitable venue at a suitable price to get in touch with him as he would have to find the Society a new home in the coming weeks.
- Pat Morrissey, Life President, offered a vote of thanks to Gordon Kirby for his hard work and dedication to the Society through the year. In reply Gordon



said his role was made much easier by the support of talented and hard-working members of the Executive Committee who did most of the hard work.

“Respect? Don’t make me laugh!”

Brian Moore



The Chairman then introduced **Brian Moore**, ex-England and British & Irish Lions, rugby international and now writer and sports journalist, as the guest speaker for the night. Brian provided us with his insights into football and why, from his perspective, football gets the refereeing that it deserves or cultivates. The thrust of Brian’s views was that other sports are not so different from football: however, other sports do not tolerate the [abusive] behaviour in the way that football does. The truth is that footballers believe that they can get away with poor behaviour both on and off the FOP.

Brian showed a series of clips – some bordering on the ridiculous when seen cold. The answer to the question as to why they did it was simply: because they can! Brian put forward the argument that there was a culture in football to seek to deceive or to harangue the referee. In rugby union a player who lost his team points or caused his team to lose yardage would be berated by his team mates. In football when the referee penalizes a player the immediate reaction of his team mates is not to berate the player for his misconduct but to berate the referee for seeking to enforce the LOTG. Brian said that Rugby was as much about cheating as football; largely because so much of the code’s enforcement is about discretion. However, this only went to the point that the referee stepped in – once this happened the cheating stopped. If the player continued, it would be his fault and not the referees.

Other things were not acceptable e.g. feigning injury. In Rugby, players exerted peer group pressure as to what was acceptable behaviour. In football no one in the team says: “Don’t do that!” This could be seen with individuals who played rugby one day and football on another – the behaviour and approach of the same individual in the two sports is different – in one there is self and peer control and in the other this is non-existent. Guess which is which. Brian asked how a beneficial change might be brought about. He argued that The FA has to want to make a change and be prepared to have to fight for this objective for a period, perhaps a couple of seasons. But that period would be relatively short-lived if change was really wanted. Fining top players for misdemeanours had no impact – what is £5,000 or £20,000 to top players? With players earning obscene amounts of money what matters to the teams and players is points. If a player is continually being banned for his behaviour both he and his team would soon get fed up; if a



team was being docked points for player behaviour that behaviour would soon stop. Players are not [completely] stupid!

Brian also spoke on technology and whether it should be brought into football. In discussing the use of technology in football, once those against its introduction came to an impasse the argument that they fell back on was: "This is football. We don't do that in football." This is not an argument – it is like a child stamping their feet and saying: "Because! Because!" Football argues that technology would break up the game and remove tension. This is no different from Rugby and other games. What technology has done in these games is to introduce a different tension while waiting for the technology verdict. For Brian, the vested interests in football don't want change. There is a conflict of interest. The solution would require there to be 6 weeks of mayhem. Players banned; points deducted.

But do The FA and other bodies have the stomach for the fight? Football has no inhibitors to poor player behaviour. In rugby the inhibitors are: other players, managers, clubs, organising bodies and the fans. When a player transgress and loses his team points or an advantage, all these others turn on him and blame the player and not the referee for simply enforcing the laws of the game. In football it is this revolution that is needed. For football to start changing needs those in power to be prepared for the fight. If sanctions are to be applied they need to be meaningful – players must be banned and points deducted and not given meaningless fines. Alex Ferguson would soon stop haranguing the referee and start punishing the culprit player.

A warm vote of thanks was offered to Brian for a thought provoking and in some ways controversial presentation that asked football to look at itself.

Following the raffle and 100 Club Plus draw the Chairman brought the meeting to a close and wished members a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Errol Walker, Hon. Secretary

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Do you have news of members - including yourself?

Would it interest other members?

**If so, please let the Editor know by post, phone call or e-mail
and it**

will be published in the next Argus.

**Anything in good taste is acceptable - e.g. news of awards,
promotion, appointments, injuries or return after injury.**



REFEREES' TALKBACK

Ever wanted to talk through an incident with another referee after a game but found no other colleagues available? A number of highly-experienced referees within the Society invariably return to their club houses on Saturday evenings and will be pleased to meet and greet you. If you're in their area, just call in after about 6.00 p.m. This scheme provides a network of AFA club locations around London where referees can expect a warm reception and a friendly chat after receiving club hospitality. The following clubs are currently available:

NORTH

Latymer Old Boys
Botany Bay Cricket Club
East Lodge Lane
Enfield
Middlesex

Tel: 020 8363 4482

Referees:

Trevor Syms, Ian Kerr
Tony Hemmings,
John Cooke, John Faithfull,

NORTH

Old Finchleians
Southover
Woodside Park
Finchley
London N12

Tel: 020 8445 7406

Referees:

Robert Hanison
Society Friend:
Danny McConnell

SOUTH WEST

Old Salesians FC
Salesian College Playing Fields
Old School Lane
Ewell West
Surrey

Tel: 020 8393 9820

Referees:

Pat Morrissey, Peter Kosciolk
Peter Georgiou, Brian Mallins
Phil Cook, Treavor Weaver
Stephen O'Sullivan, Chris Phillips
Bart O'Toole

NORTH EAST

Old Parkonians, Oakfield Playing Fields, Forest Road, Fairlop, Ilford, Essex IG6 3HD
Referees: Bill Taylor, Peter Robbins, Clive Last, John Dixon

West

Polytechnic FC, Chiswick Sports Centre, Cavendish Road, Chiswick, London W4 3UJ
Referees: John Keane, Terry Hillier, Gordon Kirby

Can you add your club's name to the list? If so call Gordon Kirby 020 8995 7529.

A. P. Clinic

of Physical Medicine

Naina Patel BSc (Hons) MCSP (State Registered Practitioner)

- physiotherapy
- sports injuries
- back/neck pain
- massage

020 8444 1920/2030

www.apclinic.co.uk

353 Muswell Hill Broadway London N10 1BX



ADVERTISEMENT**Roquetas de Mar, Almeria, Andalucía, Spain**

We have two one bed-roomed apartments for rental throughout the year both south facing, fully equipped including UK satellite TV. They are close to the beach, bars, restaurants and all amenities and are ideally suited for single occupancy, a couple alone, or perhaps a couple with a child. We also operate a small supermarket stocked entirely with UK sourced goods.

Roquetas de Mar is a small, modern development south west of the port of Almeria. It has pleasant villas with gardens and many wide tree-lined avenues. There is a large UK community and there are plenty of bars serving all day breakfasts and offering UK television particularly football. But there are lots of local bars and restaurants with excellent Spanish and international menus.

Excursions can be arranged by local tour agents to Sierra Nevada, Alhambra, Cordoba and Cartagena. The nearest airport is Almeria which is two and a half hours flying time from Gatwick. There are connections from Birmingham, Manchester and Stanstead. Transfers to and from the airport can be arranged at reasonable prices.

**Please contact us on [Home] 0034950334544 or
[Business] 0034950334081 or on internet
[momowade@hotmail.com]
for further details of availability and prices.
Ken and Maureen Wade**

[Highly recommended by Gordon Kirby, JP, Chairman]

**RDO EVENTS CORNER - LONDON FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

London FA's Course Calendar is shown below. Anyone requiring more information should contact its Referee Development Officers, Adrian Shorter (adrian.shorter@londonfa.com or 020 7610 8375) or Andy Porter (andy.porter@londonfa.com or 020 7610 8362).

Second Assessor Update

Evening of Thursday 13th October 2011 (targeted at all FA and London FA Accredited Referee Assessors who do not attend the First Assessor Update).

New Mentor Training

Evening of Monday 17th October 2011 (targeted at officials who would like to become London FA Accredited Referee Mentors).

New Assessor Training

Morning and afternoon of Sunday 23rd October 2011 (targeted at London FA referees with a credible refereeing background who would like to become FA Accredited Referee Assessors).

Level 4 Coaching Group

Morning and afternoon of Sunday 6th November 2011 (targeted at Level 4 officials identified as

having the potential to achieve further promotion).

Spot On Group

Evening of Monday 7th November 2011 (targeted at officials under 25 years of age who have been identified as having the potential to progress to at least Level 4).

Assessment Review Evening

Evening of Thursday 10th November 2011 (targeted at all candidates on the London FA 2011/12 Promotion Scheme).

FA Female Referee Development Event

Morning and afternoon of Sunday 13th November 2011 (targeted at all female officials).

Young Referees Support Group

Evening of Thursday 24th November 2011 (targeted at referees up to 25 years of age).



RDO Events Corner from John Cooke

IST

Promotion Candidates' In-Service Training session was held at Old Finchleians on 18th September and 16 attended; many thanks to the club for making their facilities available again and for supporting AFA refereeing. A second session to sweep-up those unable to make the first session will now be held in November at a date and venue to be arranged.

Fitness Test

Steve Tate is setting up a fitness test for all 6-5 and 5-4 candidates. This is likely to be held at Battersea Park on a midweek evening in November.

Mentor Training

The first FA mentor training session was held at the Abbey Centre on Thursday 29th September. The mentor panel has been augmented and now stands at around 50. This is good but we would welcome further offers of mentoring from our referees to help support those coming through the system. Mentors are key in helping convert our level 9 trainees to level 7/8 fully qualified referees, particularly with help in their first 6 games. Those who attended the training were keen to find out more about the procedures involved in the newer style modular training courses and CRB and Child Protection training so they are on the same wavelength as those they are mentoring. Information sheets will be sent out to all mentors as a follow-up action to up-skill them. Good practise was emphasised with all present making a valuable contribution. A spin-off benefit will be the opportunity to identify talent and nominate the referee you are mentoring for a future school of excellence with the satisfaction of knowing you have had a big hand in that referee's development. Further sessions are envisaged so eventually all mentors will have the opportunity to get up to speed. We currently have 110 level 9 trainees who have not yet completed their 6 matches. Imagine the difference it would make to match coverage if they all become fully qualified!

Basic Courses

We are experiencing a decline in numbers booking on our basic training courses. There are a number of possible reasons for this and we are naturally reviewing how our courses are marketed. We have just started a new course at Old Parkonians and with a massive effort by all concerned it has proved viable, running on Saturday mornings only throughout October. Another course will kick off at Carshalton on 11 October with Peter Georgiou, with the main teaching sessions on the following two Sundays. A further course is due to start at Wanstead Flats on 17th November with the main teaching on the following 2 Saturdays. Finally Winchmore Hill hosts a course on 29th November with the main teaching sessions on the following two Sundays. With a potential course at Old Actonians in the New Year these course cover London, North South East and West.

Module 5s

These call-back sessions are the final piece of the jigsaw for trainee referees to attend to receive their certificate, 3 Lions badge and County badge, together with an opportunity to discuss any



problems which have arisen during their first matches. We take the opportunity to offer them some more training and outline their next steps in their career. We have already held

Assessor Training

Assessor training for both new and existing assessors will be arranged in November. There are increased numbers of promotion candidates this year so there is need for more assessors to make themselves available to support the development of those trying to move up the refereeing ladder.

Tutors

John Spoerry has joined the ranks of tutors (previously called Instructors) and has already made an impact. He replaces retiring Instructors of the calibre of Jim Hale, Mick Osborn and Trevor Syms who all deserve our thanks for their unstinting efforts over a long period of time serving the AFA. The FA offer one place to each County each year on the National Tutor Training Course, so if you are interested, please contact John Cooke to discuss.

Have Your Say

On Thursday 3rd November we will host a one-off RA-FA event at The Abbey Centre at 19:00 to which all referees across the County are invited to participate in shaping future RA and FA policy. This is the opportunity to voice your opinion on any referee-related topic (use the following list to stimulate your thoughts): -

- RA membership (values, numbers, purpose, improvements, priorities)
- How the RA might be supported and promoted by counties, RDOs, Societies
- Changes to the Incentive Scheme
- The Assessing Scheme
- RDO focus for improving standards
- How effective your RDO is
- League Referee Secretaries
- Involvement in the volunteer workforce (Tutor, Assessor, Mentor, Coach)
- National Referee Development Programme
- Importance of mentoring
- Motivation to referee
- Achieving your refereeing ambition
- Involvement in Futsal or small-sided football
- IST from the FA
- How the FA can develop referees
- Improvements to the Basic Training Course
- Thoughts on on-line learning and e-learning
- Referee development in education (schools, FE, HE)

There will also be a top level guest speaker from the PGMOL who will be announced soon. Please make every effort to attend so you can "Have Your Say" – refreshments will be provided free of charge.

