

THE WHISTLING BUSTARD

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE DORSET AND WILTS SOCIETY OF RUGBY UNION REFEREES

December 2007

YOUR COMMITTEE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF WISHING ALL MEMBERS A HAPPY



CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.*

BILL BYHAM

Most of you will know by now that Bill Byham resigned as Treasurer on 31 October after playing various roles in a long career with the Society. I have been digging back in the archives and I have discovered just how much Bill did contribute. He first joined Dorset & Wilts as a referee in 1966 and progressed through the various grades to reach B1 in January 1971. Shortly after that he was selected by the Southern Group to be added to the A4 list. This was equivalent to being a member of today's panel of Group Level 5 referees and it identified those who were being actively considered for promotion to the National Panel. The procedure then was that A4 referees were given one first class game at which they were watched by an official assessor. Clearly this was a less reliable system than that used today where members of the Group Squad are assessed on about 12 games at levels 5 or 4 during a season. Bill did not make the Panel but he continued to referee regularly with the Society as a B1 until 1983. After that he became a qualified adviser and regularly coached referees until 2005.

In parallel with these contributions on the field Bill was also an active member of the Society's Executive Committee for much of the time. He was first elected as the Wiltshire Representative in 1971 and filled that role until 1974. He then took over the post of Wiltshire Organiser with responsibility for appointing referees to all games in that County. Bill continued in this post until 1977 when he was

elected as Treasurer, a position that he continued to hold until this year apart from a four year break in 1984 – 1988. Bill thus served on the Committee in various roles for a total of 32 years and this was recognised by the Society when he was presented with a tankard in 2006.

Bill spent most of his rugby career in the amateur days and was not happy about some of the outcomes of professionalism. He was convinced that refereeing in Dorset & Wilts should continue to be seen as a person's hobby which could be enjoyed in friendly relationships with the clubs within Community Rugby

I have enjoyed working with Bill over the years and greatly admired his commitment and efficiency in his various roles. It will be strange to attend future Committee meetings without his presence.

Alan Avery

LAW POSERS

1. A player who has both feet in touch knocks the ball in field with a hand before the ball has crossed the touch line.
2. The ball crosses the touch line, a player who was in the field of play, jumps and knocks the ball back into the field of play and then he lands in touch. When he played the ball he had both feet above the field of play.
3. A defending player passes the ball back into the in-goal close to touch-in-goal, an attacking player catches the ball but is bundled into touch-in-goal before the attacker can ground the ball in in-goal.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly Training Meetings will be held as follows:

Joint Meetings will be held:

December 3 at Salisbury RFC. Rob Clilverd, who is the Dorset and Wilts Chair of Coach Development will talk to us.

January 14 at 1930 at Salisbury RFC. Andy Melrose and Steve Harland will talk to us.

DORSET at the Langton Arms on Mondays at 1930 hrs:

February 4: Maul.

March 3: Tackle / Ruck.

WILTSHIRE at Devizes RFC on Thursdays at 1930 hrs:

February 7 Maul.

March 6: Tackle / Ruck.

There will also be a Wessex Federation Training Day at Frome RFC on Sunday 11 May for senior referees and all advisers. Please put this one in your diary.

REFEREES' and REFEREE COACHES' COURSES

Please note the changes from the last Newsletter.

ENTRY LEVEL REFEREE AWARD

The schedule is appended to this Newsletter.

CONTINUOUS REFEREE DEVELOPMENT AWARD

The course scheduled for 18 November was cancelled, due to a shortage of attendees. I will run another in the New Year, if sufficient referees want to come.

Please contact me.

These Sundays are intended for those who are unable to attend monthly Training Meetings, where much of the course material will be covered over the next year or so.

TOUCH JUDGE COURSES

I will run another course in the New Year for both Club and Society Touch Judges if there is sufficient interest. Please contact me.

SOCIETY REFEREE COACH/ADVISER COURSES: Stephen Dowse will arrange courses if necessary.

CRIMINAL RECORDS BUREAU CHECKS

Yet another reminder that, for you to be appointed to a junior game, you must have a CRB clearance via the Rugby Football Union. This is mandatory. Checks done through other organisations, such as schools or police, can no longer be transferred; you must start again.

The Society does not wish to be in a position that we cannot cover junior games because we do not have sufficient cleared referees.

Forms may be obtained from either Alan Avery or myself. Either of us can sign off the forms; if you are unable to come to meetings, please contact either of us to make alternative arrangements.

BOB STOCK AWARD

Please fill in your cards, or the spreadsheet, and sent the results to Alan Avery.

SHIRTS

I have a stock of Society:

Polo Shirts: All sizes, cost £15.00.

Track Suits: All sizes, cost £20.00.

Red Shirts: M and L only, free. More have been ordered.

Blue Shirts: S only, free.

More shirts have been ordered.

I will bring stocks to Training Meetings.

Colin Parks has:

Ties £7.80.

Blazer/Shirt badges £1.20

ANSWERS TO LAW POSERS

1. The touch judge does not signal touch.
2. The touch judge does not signal touch.
3. The touch judge signals a 5 metre scrum

Any suggestions for future content to:

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ELRA Course Schedule - Dorset & Wilts

Date (2007)	Days of Week	Location
15 and 16 December	Saturday and Sunday	Swindon RFC
Other County Courses* *open to all	See website: RFU Home/Community Rugby/ Referee&Officiate/Courses/Fin d a Course/ ELRA Course Calendar	
FOR ALL COURSES	<p>TIMINGS: 9:30am – 4:30pm</p> <p>COST: £40 (includes both days)</p> <p>Application forms downloadable from www.rfu.com/communityrugby which should be returned at least 10 days before the course in order for individual materials to be dispatched.</p> <p>Forms should be returned to Lindsay Piper Referee Department, Rugby House, Rugby Road, Twickenham, TW1 1DS</p>	