

THE WHISTLING BUSTARD

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

March 2007

MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly Training Meetings will be held as follows:

DORSET at the Langton Arms on Mondays at 1930 hrs:

March: 5 March, The Training and Advancement of Rugby and Football Referees, and Cricket Umpires.

WILTSHIRE at Devizes RFC on Thursdays at 1930 hrs:

March: 8 Mar, The Training and Advancement of Rugby and Football Referees, and Cricket Umpires.

The Cricket presenter at the Dorset meeting will be Geoff Lowden, who is the national Chairman of the Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers.

The Wiltshire presenter will be Tim Parry, who is a Wiltshire trainer of umpires.

John Read, a current rugby referee, but an ex-soccer referee will be unable to be with us, but I will transpose his thoughts on soccer referees for you.

These should be good evenings, so that we can exchange ideas with other sports. The RFU courses are being revised, and it is also an opportunity for you to propose improvements in the way we train and develop rugby referees.

Please make an effort to attend.

LAW POSERS

1. Before the ball is thrown in to the lineout, a Red prop grasps the bottom of the jumper's shorts.
2. Before the ball is thrown in to the lineout, a Red prop grasps the waistband of the jumper's shorts.
3. A Red player tackles a Blue player (who has the ball). The Blue player releases the ball. The Red player, having released the Blue player, gets to his feet, picks up the ball, and is tackled by the Blue player who is still on the ground, and has not regained his feet.

TRAVEL CLAIMS

Referees are reminded that the end of season Travel Claims should be sent initially to the Appointments Secretary, Dave Masters, in order that he can confirm that the games have in fact taken place. Advisers should send their claims to Stephen Dowse for endorsement.

SCRUMMAGE

At the end of the second month of the new laws, I make the following subjective observations, based on the local matches, both junior and senior, and all levels 6-10, (NOT the televised ones) that I have watched.

Where referees have stuck to "Crouch" "Touch" "Pause" "Engage", with a clear time interval between each command, the games have had fewer reset, collapsed or wheeled scrums, and scrums tended to be stationary and square when the ball was thrown in.

Referees are reminded that when the referee calls "Pause" after "Touch", props must withdraw their arms.

Please also let me know details of any games where there have been uncontested scrums.

SHIRTS AND TRIBAL ITEMS

The Society has a variety of items for sale.

I have for sale at monthly meetings:

Polo Shirts, sizes M, L, XL, XXL £15.00.

Shirts, Powder Blue, size S, £10.00.

Shirts, Yellow, Only sizes L and 46".

Shorts, navy, 42 (1) £8.00.

Track Suits, all sizes, £20.00

Bill Byham has:

Ties £7.80.

Blazer/Shirt badges £1.20

ANNUAL CONSTITUENT BODY AND REFEREES' SOCIETY DINNER

This will be held on the evening of Friday 8^h June 2007 at the Emblems Restaurant near Fovant.

Please get your returns in by 31 March.

A COMEDY OF ERRORS

(3 weeks in the Life of a Secretary)

6 Jan I receive the tickets for the 6 Nations home internationals and send them to members

9 Jan Jim receives the sealed envelope but phones to say that his two tickets are missing

10 Jan I contact the Ticket Office and arrange for replacement tickets to be collected on the day of the match

12 Jan. The two missing tickets turn up at Twickenham. The recipient there is not aware that they have been reported missing and assumes that I have returned them and therefore arranges a refund of the money

17 Jan I am surprised to receive a cheque for £140. I ring the ticket office and learn that they have the original tickets. It is decided that I will return the cheque and they will forward the tickets to Jim. I send off the cheque.

19 Jan The cheque is received in the ticket office by someone who is not aware of the story. They assume that I do not want the refund but would like tickets instead.

20 Jan I receive two tickets and without checking the numbers I assume that the ticket office has sent the two originals to me instead of Jim. I therefore forward them to him.

22 Jan Jim phones to say that he now has 4 tickets.

23 Jan The ticket office advise that Jim should retain the two original tickets and return the others.

25 Jan Jim returns the tickets addressed personally to one member of the staff who knows the whole history

27 Jan Relief. At last Jim has his two tickets and I have received no further correspondence from the ticket office.

Alan Avery

Please do volunteer; a new face will provide a changed perspective from one who is way past his sell by date.

Old trainers do not die; they only look as if they had already.

WESSEX FEDERATION SEMINAR FOR ADVISERS AND SENIOR REFEREES

The Wessex Federation Committee is preparing a Seminar Day for senior referees and advisers, somewhere on the Dorset/Wiltshire/Somerset borders in May, possibly either 13 or 20 May.

Further details will be made available when known.

REFEREES' and REFEREE COACHES' COURSES

ENTRY LEVEL REFEREES' AWARD. This has now replaced Foundation Parts 1 and 2. Contact Nigel Cowley, nigelcowley@rfu.com

TOUCH JUDGE: Will be run if needed.

SOCIETY REFEREE: The next course will be run next year. The RFU intends to revise this course during the close season.

DEVELOPMENT REFEREE: Will be run on a Federation basis if needed.

DEVELOPMENT REFEREE COACH: Will be run on a Federation basis if needed.

ANSWERS TO LAW POSERS

1. Free Kick to Blue.
2. Play on.
3. Penalty to Red.

TRAINING ASSISTANCE

Your committee still seeks any members who are prepared to contribute to Society Training Evenings or those courses which the Society runs.

Training material is available, and the RFU may be running Train the Trainer Courses, but you do not have to be a RFU Certified Trainer to deliver some of the material.

Any suggestions for future content to:

Richard Shore

4 Kingsley Close

Bournemouth

Dorset BH6 4JQ

Tel: 01202 426524

shore.rg@virgin.net