

# CORNWALL FA REFEREE NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the second edition of your referee newsletter, we hope you find it useful and enjoy the updates from the start of the season!



## Words from our Referee Workforce Officer, Stuart Kane

As we approach the festive season I would like to thank each and every one of you for all the support received over the past year. In what has been a year of transition and new ideas I am pleased that so many of you have offered encouraging words and helpful advice at vital times.

As a county, we are only as good as our referees so thank you again for attending the development days and development sessions including fitness test's that we have put on.

2019 will be no different with even more opportunity's to attend development sessions being offered to all. There will be many events across the county, so I implore you to attend where possible.

Please also remember that applications for promotion during season 2019-2020 are now being taken via email to me. If you are still unsure if promotion is for you or, you would like to discuss the process, then please do contact me. I will be happy to discuss any reservations you may have.

Don't forget that the festive period is a very busy time for football and with so many fixtures happening over the festive period it is vital that you get the required rest between fixtures and make sure all reports (league and discipline) are completed in a timely manner.

All that remains from me is to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a happy new year!



Equality = Sameness

GIVING EVERYONE THE SAME THING → It only works if everyone starts from the same place



Equity = Fairness

ACCESS TO THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES → We must first ensure equity before we can enjoy equality

# LAWS OF THE GAME QUIZ



**Can a player leave the field of play at any time to have a drink without prior permission from the referee?**

- (a) Yes, during a break in play.
- (b) Yes, at any time.
- (c) Yes, all players need to drink liquids.
- (d) No



**A player takes a throw-in correctly. The ball does not enter the field of play but remains outside the touch line.**

- (a) The referee awards a new throw-in to the opposing team.
- (b) A different player from the same team retakes the throw-in.
- (c) The referee orders the throw-in to be retaken by the same team.
- (d) The referee cautions the player for delaying the restart of play. The throw-in is retaken by the same team.



**A defender pulls the shirt of the right winger and stops a promising attack 20 metres from the goal. The referee?**

- (a) Gives a yellow card for unsporting behaviour and restarts with a direct free kick
- (b) Gives a yellow card for unsporting behaviour and restarts with an indirect free kick.
- (c) Gives the defender a warning and restarts with a direct free kick.
- (d) Any number of players.



**A player is guilty of serious foul play if...**

- (a) he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent or anyone when challenging for the ball.
- (b) he uses excessive force or brutality against anyone when challenging for a ball in play.
- (c) he uses excessive force or brutality against an opponent when challenging for a ball in play.
- (d) None of the answers is correct.

## MEET THE REFS...

### IAN SPURLING

Age: 58

Year Qualified: 1993/94

Current Level: 5

#### Hobbies and interests outside refereeing?

Watching rugby and speedway but most importantly my family and grand kids

#### Why did you become a ref?

Because I was a rubbish player and a worse manager so I thought maybe I could make a set. By the way some players moan at me I think I've hit all three.

#### Who is your refereeing role model?

I have no real role models but I must say a lot of people have and still are helping me with refereeing

#### What is your greatest refereeing achievement to date?

I was lucky enough to officiate Sheffield United the season they reached the premiership. I have been involved in nearly all cup finals that are available for me to do. Proudest moment was be able to Ref the Cornwall Junior Cup Final at my home town ground and having my Dad getting to watch me for the last time before he died. But by far my greatest refereeing achievement is being able to officiate every Saturday where ever I am sent.

#### What is your favourite Cornish ground?

By far the best surface on a pitch was Penryn when I was doing south western League, I do enjoy many pitch and grounds as I'm always made to feel welcome.

#### What is the one Law you would change/bring into football and why?

None really as the basic laws have been around for many years, so a little tinkering here and there does help but if it isn't broke don't try and fix it!

### ANDREW MCKNIGHT

Age: 46

Year Qualified: Can't remember!

Current Level: 5

Tell us an interesting fact about yourself? In my early teens I was one of the fastest 100m runners in London, where I grew up.

#### Hobbies and interests outside refereeing?

Watching my two boys play their various sports they partake in. One is a very keen rugby player and the other loves basketball in particular! I am an active golfer although the handicap is going the wrong way. I also enjoy quizzes, music and watching Liverpool FC!

#### Why did you become a ref?

I had a serious ankle injury which prevented me playing and felt that I could do a better job than some of the referee's I had seen (sorry to those refs at the time)!

#### Who is your refereeing role model?

Anyone who works with the teams and players and doesn't want to be the star of the show. In the Premier league I think Michael Oliver is excellent and his positioning and decision making appear to be pretty much spot on all the time without being overly fussy.

#### What is your greatest refereeing achievement to date?

I have been very lucky to have refereed many cup finals and had some excellent appointments throughout my time with the whistle. I just enjoy being part of the game and contributing to the game itself. This to me is the greatest achievement a referee can have.

#### What is your favourite Cornish ground?

Anywhere where you are greeted warmly and looked after and there is a warm shower for me after the game. There are many grounds where this is the case and it goes a long way to starting the game off properly and making you feel welcomed and valued. Thank you to each club that does so!

## An update from the Referee Appointment Officer, Paul Murphy...

Christmas Day is celebrated, for many reasons, by many people, secular and religious, and rightly so. Coincidentally it marks for me the 'half-way' stage in my appointing season and gives me a chance to step-back from all the usual hassle for a couple of days and put family first (well nearly!!). It also allows me to look back on how much I am helped in my job by my colleagues (club officers, league secretaries, referees, Observers and those at CCFA - to say nothing of the tolerance I get from my wife Clare) and to say a sincere 'Thank you' to all of you for the co-operation, support and flexibility you show, not only this year, but for the many years I have been privileged to have this role. My job would be impossible without your support.

Now I know a few of you like to give me feedback on good banter you have overheard so I thought I would share the following: A few weekends ago when the weather was appalling, one game survived. It appears that the referee was adamant that the game would go ahead despite a waterlogged pitch, standing water in one goalmouth and no 'lines' visible (I know he needed the money!!). At the coin toss the winning captain was asked which end he wanted. After a moment's thought he said: "We'll take the shallow end!"

In a recent youth game one of our 'older' referees was talking with the U16 Captain at half time. He asked him whether his coach talked to him about 'team spirit' and what a 'team is'. The player nodded. Then the ref asked him whether he was taught by the coach to respect his decisions e.g. when he gave offside, or did not give a foul; about not arguing with and swearing at the ref. About Respect. Again the player nodded. "Good", said the ref, "Now go over there and explain it to your parents!"

Not long ago Stuart Kane asked me to help him with designing a 'flyer' that he could send out to all clubs asking them to see if they could get players interested in becoming a referee. I offered the following but I don't think many of them found their way into the final version:

### DO YOU:

1. Love football, but can't quite understand the rules.
2. Have the strange desire to run aimlessly around in the wind, rain, hail and snow.
3. Love the sound of verbal abuse.
4. Find it hard to make decisions, and whenever you do, you're always wrong.
5. Enjoy changing your clothes in run-down sheds.

THEN YOU HAVE ALL THE ATTRIBUTES TO BECOME AN OUTSTANDING REFEREE!!

I hope you all have a great Christmas and I look forward to working with you in 2019.

Paul



## A festive message from your Referee Representative, Dave Dodson...

The end of November and the beginning of December has been a busy month with several issues raised by concerned referees in Cornwall, from referees changing facilities, payments not made, player and spectator attitudes through to individual views of refs about support and discipline to the condition of certain pitches. Not to mention report writing and the correct way to handle it.

I have enjoyed going around parts of the county and talking to all concerned regarding individual queries and problems, a couple of points I will be taking to the Cornwall F. A. Council meeting in January. This has made me realise how important it is that we as referees need to support each other, through the problems that can arise on match days to the detrimental remarks being placed on social media websites. We also need to recognise how much we are supported by Cornwall County F.A. which I personally think should give us all the knowledge that although at times we feel low and question ourselves the support put in place to help us all is invaluable. Please keep using it.

A date that I wish to flag up with all referees in Cornwall is Monday 4th February 2019.

CRT R.A has the National RA coming to Holman's Sports club in Camborne with their roadshow. I will circulate times nearer to the event. It would be great to see as many there as possible.

If anyone has any queries, problems, needs support or just someone to listen or come and watch them please feel free to call me or email. Only too willing to help out and support you all. Phone number 07547 690889 or email [shellseekers@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:shellseekers@hotmail.co.uk).

Have a great Christmas; enjoy the games that you have over the festive period and a Happy New Year to you all.

Keep blowing the whistle.

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