

# Norfolk County FA

## Referees' Bulletin January 2019

### WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the January edition of the Norfolk County FA Referees' Bulletin and a very Happy New Year to you all.

### ADOPTING AN AGGRESSIVE ATTITUDE

Not a sub-heading you might expect to start the year with, but a topic that has been much debated here at County Towers just recently.

So firstly, what is it? If you browse through our bible, The Laws of the Game, you won't find any mention of it! When you enter a discipline report you will find it however, as one of the options for a caution under 'Unsporting Behaviour', in fact the very first one, coded 'AA'.

It is certainly a common occurrence, so far this season it has been reported 257 times out of 3,710 cautions (8.93%). Historically, figures are consistent too: 249 out of 3,524 to this point last season and 256 out of 3,655 in 2016.

This seems a lot to me but then again maybe I'm just not getting out there enough to see all these angry players! However I would certainly welcome your comments and feedback. In my humble opinion, adopting an aggressive attitude is solely for 'player on player' scenarios. Typical examples would be:

- Two players 'squaring up to each other'



- An aggressive reaction to an opponent after a tackle or collision

However, there's always a slight exception such as:

- Confronting members of the technical area or a spectator or spectators

What I would say is that it **definitely doesn't include** angrily confronting a match official. For this we have 'dissent by word or action' which should result in a yellow card caution and a 10 minute sin bin (in Adult football) or, if combined with language which is offensive, insulting or abusive (in the Referee's opinion), this becomes a red card and a send-off.

As I said, I'd appreciate your feedback and hopefully I'll update this topic with your comments next time.

### JANUARY DIARY

Date	Time	Event	Venue
4 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Unit 6 (Refs Course)	FDC
8 <sup>th</sup>	20:00	Fitness Training	FDC
11 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Refs Taster & Unit 1	Lynnport
15 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	YRG Meeting	FDC
15 <sup>th</sup>	20:00	Fitness Training	FDC
18 <sup>th</sup>	19:00	Refs Taster & Unit 1	FDC
22 <sup>nd</sup>	19.45	Senior Cup QF	Diss F.C.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	20:00	Fitness Training	FDC
26 <sup>th</sup>	13:30	Senior Cup QFs	Various
29 <sup>th</sup>	20:00	Fitness Training	FDC

### ANGLIAN COMBINATION UPDATE

Just a few points for Referees to bear in mind when operating on the Anglian Combination Leagues:

**RESPECT HANDSHAKE:** Please ALWAYS conduct a team handshake before EVERY match. This has been a League rule now for some time yet I am still getting Observation reports in where a Referee has been marked down for not conducting this!

**SUBSTITUTES' BIBS:** The League have gone to some expense to provide teams with lime green warm up bibs. Do make sure the named substitutes wear them, it identifies who is who and should therefore make your job easier!

**SUBSTITUTION BOARDS:** Premier League teams have been provided with boards, again, at the expense of the League. I know they are not posh electronic versions, but the correct use of them makes matches more professional and it's easy for match officials to note down the players' numbers. If a team does not use their board, make sure you mention this on the Survey Monkey report, they do get chased up.

### THE FA NEW REFEREES COURSE

We continue to recruit new Referees and our next Introductory Evening and Taster sessions will be held at Alive Leisure (Lynnport) starting on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> January and then at the FDC @ Bowthorpe a week later on Friday 18<sup>th</sup>.

Alongside the 50% discount for adults living in Norfolk, the North West Norfolk League also have an incentive for any new Referee who qualifies and completes 7 games on their League (appointed by Norfolk FA) – they will provide a £50 'cashback' bursary effectively reducing the course cost to just £25!

If you know of anyone interested in taking up the whistle, please ask them to get in touch. Full details are available [HERE](#).



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## REFEREE PROMOTION

It's the time of year when we invite applications for promotion for the next 'promotion season', starting on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2019. If you are interested in furthering your refereeing career either to Senior County referee level or to advance through the National FA system and officiate on the Contributory Leagues and above, your first step is here, and the application window is open until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

We have revamped our programme again this year which should greatly enhance the learning experience. Firstly, we have updated the content of the County Seminars for Level 7s and 6s wishing to move to Level 6 or 5. Candidates must attend one of the seminars on either Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February or Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> February at County HQ. Not only will the tests on the Laws of the Game be completed at these events, but we will be able to tell you exactly what is required from you in terms of commitment, to help you achieve your target in the year ahead.

Continuous training will be delivered through The FA's HIVE online portal which will provide candidates with modules to complete from home. Content and understanding of these modules will be discussed and tested at a series of one hour workshops held prior to fitness training on a Tuesday evening at the FDC in Bowthorpe. It will be a requirement that a certain number of these events are attended during the season.

If you are interested in applying for promotion, please carefully check the criteria below and apply by completing the Survey Monkey questionnaire appropriate to your refereeing level.

If you are currently on the promotion list, please apply for the next level (as if you have achieved your target for this year). i.e. If you have been on the Level 7 to 6 promotion programme, apply as a level 6 now, to go to Level 5.

Level 7s: If you qualified as a Referee (fully completed your course) prior to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 and will complete at least 20 games as a Referee during the current season (1<sup>st</sup> July 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019), a minimum of 70% (14) of which must be in Adult football, please proceed to the application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/T2V3F9M>

Level 6s: In order to apply for promotion to Level 5 you must complete 20 games as a Referee during the current season (1st July 2018 to 31st May 2019) in Adult Football. If you are a current Level 6 or a level 7 currently on the promotion list to go to Level 6, please proceed to the application form at: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/R6XC5QT>

Level 5s: In order to apply for nomination to National FA for promotion to Level 4 you must complete 20 games as a Referee and 5 games as an Assistant Referee during the current season (1st July 2018 to 31st May 2019) in Adult Football. Please bear in mind that the criteria outlined in the online application form are set by The FA and are subject to amendment until 1st December 2019. Fulfilling the criteria alone will not guarantee that a promotion will be offered to Supply League Referee and Contributory League Assistant Referee as this will depend on National FA requirements at the time. If you are a current Level 5 or a level 6 currently on the [promotion list to go to Level 5](#), please proceed to the application form at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/SKG2CHC>

If you have any questions about promotion, please don't hesitate to get in touch by contacting David Robinson on 01603 704050 (Options 1, 1 & 3) or at: [David.Robinson@NorfolkFA.com](mailto:David.Robinson@NorfolkFA.com)

## GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL NATIONAL REFEREES' DEVELOPMENT DAY

The event is aimed at female officials operating at level 6 & 7 and youth referees with the desire to progress and offers the opportunity to visit the iconic FA venue of St Georges Park. The day will consist of both practical and technical sessions lead by qualified tutors and senior women referees who will deliver a quality development opportunity as well as inspire those in attendance.

**Date: Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

**Location: St Georges Park**

**Time: 10.30 - 16.30**

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please register your interest by following the link posted in the Norfolk FA Female Referee Group.

## NORFOLK FA REFEREES' SHOP

For the exclusive use of registered Norfolk officials for new kit and accessories. Remember to use the "RESPECT" discount code. Click on the logo below to access the shop.



## FURTHER READING

[Refereeing World \(online\)](#)

[You Are the Ref \(online\)](#)

**David Robinson**  
Referee Development Officer