

WELCOME

Hello and welcome to the March edition of the Norfolk County FA Referees' Bulletin.

NORFOLK COUNTY CUP FINALS < LINK >

The Cup Finals are slowly taking shape and the initial dates and details are on the website which can be accessed via the link in the heading above.

I'm delighted to announce the first referee appointments are as follows, congratulations to all those appointed:

Norfolk Sunday Junior Cup: Long Stratton vs Easton, the FDC, Friday 20th March, KO 7.30pm.

Referee: Egidijus Amsiejus. Assistants: Harry Amey & Jaden Lister. Fourth Official: Ollie Sadd.

Norfolk Senior Cup: Dereham Town vs UEA, Carrow Road, Monday 23rd March, KO 7.45pm.

Referee: Tom Harvey. Assistants: Murray Grant & Dario Matthewson. Fourth Official: Ryan Head.

Norfolk Primary Cup: Dussindale Rovers Res vs Dersingham Rovers Res, Friday 27th March, KO 7.30pm.

Referee: Rob Bunting. Assistants: James Sneddon & Tom Rampling. Fourth Official: Ashley Tyne.

THE MONTHLY QUESTION < LINK >

We are always keen to get your feedback which constantly improves our service to you.

Last month, we asked you about Sin Bins, and whether you would be in favour of an extension to the sin bin penalty for other offences. Just 18% felt that other technical offences such as simulation should be added, with a massive 82% in favour of restricting Sin Bins to dissent only.

This month we want to ask you about our annual CPD training and I hope you will help determine the programme that we provide for you in the summer. Please click on the link in the header of this paragraph to share your thoughts. It will literally take you less than a minute to reply!

MENTAL HEALTH GUIDANCE < LINK >

The FA have produced some guidance to help people spot the warning signs of mental health problems which is a great initiative. I've added the document under the 'Safeguarding' heading on our Refereeing Support page which you can access via the link in the title above.

We do have our own support policies of course, however, we accept that there is a need for more help for referee's who suffer problems in a game and need immediate support, guidance or reassurance, which is something that our CEO Gavin Lemmon is raising with The FA in his role on Council.

NEW SAFEGUARDING STANDARDS

Further to my piece last month on this, those of you involved in Youth football should have received an email from the Safeguarding Team detailing your current situation and advising you if or when you need to complete a Safeguarding Workshop or an Online Renewal. Please note the dates quoted were in 'American format' with the month before the day – apologies if this caused confusion!

Thank you to those of you who have already booked on a workshop or completed an online renewal. Going forward there will be a monthly reminder sent out if your Safeguarding is due to expire (as per DBS renewals), please ignore this if you are waiting to attend a course, the system can't tell that you are booked on I'm afraid!

THE REFEREES' BUSINESS DIRECTORY < LINK >

With nearly 500 people involved in our wonderful Norfolk Refereeing Community, it occurred to me that many of you are involved in offering goods and services to people in your employment or as part of your own businesses. By setting up a work directory we can enable your refereeing colleagues to contact you if they wish to be your potential customers.

If you'd like to be listed in this directory to promote your business or offer the services of the company you work for, simply fill in the details on the form via the link in the header above and we'll start to create our guide and make it available to all Referees later in the year. Hopefully it will build into our very own 'Trust a Trader' directory!

PITCHSIDE REFS & CONFIRMATIONS



Don't forget to keep your Pitchside Refs calendars up to date with any Closed Dates that

you have, preferably up to four weeks in advance. Thank you for confirming your appointments with us so promptly, we have been working hard with Leagues to ask Clubs to confirm with you. **Please always acknowledge their text or email when they contact you.**

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 to access the shop.

David Robinson
Referee Development Officer