



Chairman: Ron Westerman

Welcome to the February issue, with Christmas and New Year now a distant memory its time to get back to Football. During this month we hope the weather is kind to us but don't hold your breath as we have had snow at Easter on many occasions.

We have recently had a manager withdraw his team from the field of play telling the opposition that they could have the game.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES should any team withdraw their team. If for whatever reason you consider you would prefer to remove your team **DON'T**. The correct procedure is inform the referee of your concerns. If this fails you will need to complete the game and then submit a report to the League with regards your concerns and the League will take up your case.

If you do remove your team you are in BIG trouble. This League considers this the ultimate disregard to the whole ethos of the game with regards the referee being in charge. Once you start taking these actions into your own hands then the game is finished!

Consequences You will Face
Your team may be expelled from the competition. The Club official/s may be expelled and or face a hefty fine along with points being deducted. Please consider **YOUR** actions very seriously as you and your club may live to regret them at a later date.

We are now in the back end of the season and myself and the committee have been preparing for next season for some time now. With 9 v 9 playing a major factor. The quarter finals of the Cup are now drawn and we have some interesting games to come. Good look to all.

Thankfully the fines are slowing down and teams are eventually completing the results in the correct manner. Some have even taken our advice made at the AGM and Fixture Meeting. Clubs who have elected one person to input all the teams results have seen major improvements. If a club would like to have this option, then your secretary should contact the League secretary, who will be more than pleased to issue a global password for the club so that one person can either input or over see all results for the club.

DEADLINE TO SIGN PLAYERS

With the 1st of March approaching fast, this date is the final date to sign on any new players. Only under special circumstances is this rule relaxed.

WHY DO PLAYERS SUFFER FROM INJURY ?

Soccer is a fast moving and often explosive game, which over stretches parts of the body, in particular the legs and ankles. The football player is also required to bend and twist the legs and knees and often very rapidly. This less natural movement, coupled with the physical contact element of the game often leads to injuries which can be serious. Fortunately for children their bodies are still developing and any injury sustained playing football may not be with them indefinitely, and over time a serious injury should heal, though all injuries should be treated properly to aid rehabilitation.

LACK OF PREPARATION

A warm-up and a warm-down are important before and after participating in any sport. Proper preparation including a warm-up and warm-down is a discipline and should form the basis for any soccer player. Failing to prepare with a warm-up would be the main reason for pulling or tearing soft tissue during a game; warming down and stretching the muscles reduces lactic acid and removes the risk of muscle strain after playing.

TOO MUCH FOOTBALL

playing too much can cause injury. The repetitive nature of kicking a football can cause problems with the knees and ankles. Too much football also causes tiredness and leads to over-stretching of the muscles, also sloppy play can cause late challenges and potential accidents.

PLAYING IN AN UNSAFE ENVIRONMENT

Local football pitches are not kept as well as Wembley Stadium, and some may contain holes, rocks or other protrusions. A foot caught in a hole could result in a sprained ankle or a fracture. A stone or rock could cause cuts and bruises if fallen on.

PLAYING WHEN INJURED

If a child attempts to continue playing football with an injury they risk further problems and a much longer healing time. If a young footballer does become injured it is often best to have complete rest, especially soon after the injury has occurred. Only play on with an injury as part of a rehabilitation programme. It is vital that a child should not play and stress the injury even if medication kills the pain.

REFEREES

Love them or loath them, every game needs one, and we support anybody who is prepared to stand in the middle and give it their best. Referees are not always right **HOWEVER** as I used to say to my players, the ref is right even if you think they are wrong. You can think what you like after the game but the referee is the sole arbitrator of the game and what they say goes.

Have you ever made a mistake ?

So do Referee's. They don't become FIFA standard overnight They have to learn their trade just like everyone else. How would you feel if the referee started shouting abuse and foul language at you because the nets weren't tied up properly or there were no corner flags or no changing rooms We all make mistakes some of the time and referee's aren't perfect so give them a break.



SILLY RESULTS

If your team is winning easily, then give the other side a break - Don't try to score more goals and humiliate them even more just for the sake of something that doesn't count, due to the fact that many teams may concede in each game, therefore no goals can be counted for that game, making it an unfair system. If two or more teams are tied for a League title, pl ay offs are used to determine the winners.



PRECEDENT

In order to understand why some rules are imposed, it's important to understand Precedent. In a nutshell Precedent means 'What's OK for one is OK for all'. So, for instance, if a manager plays an ineligible player in the Cup, It's very often an honest mistake and the manager has no intention of cheating. The problem is that, if the League Committee allow the mistake, they are setting a precedent. The precedent would then allow teams to play, ineligible players at any time and simply say they made a mistake.



ENHANCED INSURANCE POLICY 2012-2013

The League are in discussion with an insurer, to offer an alternative personal accident policy, which covers Managers and Assistant Managers, should they be off work through injury during training or match days and a weekly benefit would be available. More details will be available at the AGM.

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YOUR COMMENTS

In this section of the News, we shall be publishing your comments and any interesting stories. If you would like any questions answered by the League committee then send us your requests and we shall aim to publish these. Send to news@midlincs.com

Q:FINISHED 3RD BUT WENT TO THE B DIVISION ?

A:There is no hard and fast rule, but generally the system we ideally would operate is 2 up and 2 down **BUT** other factors come into play, including the number of entries in each age group, this is kids football and the Leagues objective is to always place a team and the players in the correct division. However for new teams and existing teams, we rely on your secretary informing us your views on what division your team should be placed in and we encourage this every season. So if you feel your team may get put in the wrong division let your secretary know, so he or she, can inform us before we formulate the Leagues.

Q:WHY DOESN'T GOAL DIFFERENCE COUNT ?

A:Very few Youth Leagues count goal difference because we do not encourage a team to go out and score silly amounts of goals and totally demoralise the other team. Football is about having fun for **BOTH** teams and a team winning 21-0 does nothing for either team. We have all seen parents shouting on the line score more goals but It doesn't mean little Johnny is going to be the next David Beckham because he scored 6 goals against a weaker team, so managers be brave and give ALL the kids a chance.

Q:WHY ARE WE ONLY ALLOWED 3 SUBS ?

A:You would be surprised on how many 11 aside teams run on just 8 or 9 players and imagine facing a team with 5 subs (16 players) to your 8 or 9 players is that fair ?

Q: WHY DONT YOU PUBLISH TOP GOAL SCORERS

A: This League is here to encourage young people to enjoy sport and take part in a **TEAM** game. To publish a top scorers list is unfair on other players who make just as big a contribution to the team, but don't have the opportunity to score goals. Could the top striker score without the mid field or win a game if the defence and goal keeper are not the same standard **NO** its about team work.

FOREIGN NATIONALS

The FA require that international clearance is attained for any child 12 yrs and older who crosses the borders of England Scotland and Wales. If a player has already played in this League previously, providing we have been informed previously, then nothing needs doing. If you are unsure contact your registrar.

MISCONDUCT REPORT

This season has again seen a drop in misconduct reports being received by this League. However we have already received two cases of abandoned games by mangers who think they know best and these will be strictly dealt with by the committee.



Q: I was not happy with the way the referee was handling the game so I took my players off the pitch in protest. What happens now

A: You're big in trouble - If you have any doubts about a referees ability, then this must be dealt with before the game starts. In other words once the game has started the referee, whoever they may be, has the full status of an official referee and any action by a player or club official not agreed by the referee which might cause the abandonment of a game is likely to be deemed as serious misconduct.

This League will not tolerate any manger who thinks he knows better than the referee and will take every action in its power to stop Managers taking the game into their own hands.

We all watch the premiersip and every game the referee makes mistakes, that's called life. Imagine Sir Alex Ferguson taking his team off because he didn't agree with the referees decision ? Would that be fine ? we are not the Premier League, however the **SAME FA RULES APPLY.**

Q:THEIR LINES MAN IS CHEATING WHAT CAN I DO ?

A:Get the referees attention and explain your concerns, only they have the authority to remove the linesman.

REMEMBER

If **YOU** are unable to control your emotions at a Junior Football game, please stay at home and get help.



01708 344001



FA Basic Referees Course

Course Duration: 24 hours + 6 Games
Who is it for: 14 or over :
Ideally suited to those wanting to become a referee involved in the 11 a side game both in Youth and Adult football.

Course Content:

The course is run over 5 modules including the completion of 6 matches as a trainee referee, two of which should be observed by a referee coach. The course can either be predominantly theory or practically based dependant on venue and can be run over a weekend or several sessions again depending on resources.

Module 1- Introduction

This module will introduce some key aspects in the following:
Laws of the Game The role of the Referee Consider the skills require to control a game of football.

Module 2- Practical Element

Practical elements of the course will provide an introduction to:
Warming up and cooling down activities
Positioning & movement at both set pieces & in open play
Managing game situations
Signals & communication techniques

Module 3 - Examination

Both a multiple choice examination paper and a practical on field assessment are used to establish theory & practical knowledge.

1. Written element - both theoretical & practical courses
2. Theory DVD - used in mainly theory based courses
3. Practical on field assessment for use on practical based courses.

Module 4 - Refereeing

6 games are used to establish both the knowledge as well as the practicalities of refereeing. 2 of the games are observed by a referee mentor who offers immediate feedback and development points.

Module 5 - The next Steps

A 3 hour workshop designed to reflect on a trainee referees first experiences of refereeing and to offer development pointers.

**CONTACT :Lincs FA
LINCOLNSHIRE FA
COURSE DATE 13/02/12
08449 67 07 08**