

# Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees

March 2017

Next members' meeting will be MONDAY 27 March 2017 at Belgrave RFC, 7pm for 7.30pm. The topic will be 'the tackle' and is an RFU CMOD module.

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Dates for your diary:

**Friday 21 April 2017-** Annual Dinner at Leicester Tigers RFC. The speaker will be Andy Goode <http://www.lsrur.co.uk/images/LSRUR-Poster.pdf>

For those that are interested in the menu:

Pork & Chicken Liver Pate, Granary Bread & Red Onion Jam

Breast of Chicken, stuffed with a Cream Cheese & Garlic Mousse, White Wine Sauce

Apple Crumble Tart, with Vanilla Pod Ice Cream

Cheese & Biscuits with port.

Coffee and tea.



**Wednesday 3 May-** Colts County Cup and Senior County Cup Finals at Welford Road.

Colts @ 18.00.

Officials: Elliott Coombes, Mark Elliott, Peter Bower, and Kerrel Wills  
Seniors @19.30, Melton Mowbray v Syston

Officials: George Richardson, Wayne Spencer, Stephen Gammage and Mark Elliott

## Note from the Chairman

I can't believe that it's start of British Summertime already and another season is coming rapidly to an end. I'm told it's my age, but time really does seem to fly these days!

We continue to cover all games that come in to us, almost without exception. This is down to the hard work of our appointments secretaries and yourselves, by having great availability and flexibility. The demographics of the games we are covering are slowly changing, with more and more midweek and Sunday games and a gradual decline in the total number of Saturday appointments.

The increase in the number of school and junior games and the decline in the number of clubs running more than two or three teams on a Saturday may explain this. The increase in youth participation in our game will hopefully continue and it should, in theory, lead to a resurgence in the senior game, as the players move upwards in age groups.

The retention of these players within the game is a challenge that the RFU have been trying to meet for some time now. It may well lead to an increase in junior members of the Society, as refereeing becomes an alternative to playing. Myself and our Training Officer have met with local RFU trainers within the last month to discuss strategies we may want to consider to accommodate these changes.

Sadly, I do have to report that we have had several cases of abuse of match officials over the past few weeks. The LRU discipline committee have experienced a rise in cases of this nature, over the course of the season. As a committee, we are absolutely committed to dealing with this increasing problem. Our Secretary and myself have been in touch with the LRU and they will shortly be sending out a letter to all clubs, reminding them of their responsibilities to match officials.

We also plan to meet with all clubs before the start of next season, to have an open discussion about what we both expect on match day. It is a two way street and we, as referees, have a responsibility to the clubs and in return, we expect to be treated fairly and with respect.

Please remember that all such abuse must be reported so that we can deal with it. You do not have to put up with it. Rest assured, we will support you, as will the LRU discipline committee. Any doubts, just call myself or our Secretary and we will give you advice. I am very passionate about this subject and its increase at the local level must be stopped now.

To finish on a positive note, I have had the pleasure of watching our members at some high profile games over the past week. Teams of three officiated at both County Cup semi finals and also the ladies and mens Varsity games, held at Welford Road. All performed magnificently and were a credit to the Society. Well done.

Continue to enjoy our wonderful game to the end of the season and remember, we are all involved in Rugby for our enjoyment and passion for the game and nobody should be able to dampen that, whoever they are!

Mark Elliott  
Chairman  
LSRUR

## EXPENSES SYSTEM

For those new members who are not aware and those members who may have forgotten the system for claiming expenses is:

### Internal Games.

We pay the expenses twice a year in December and May. You can either send me your expenses monthly or twice a year to catch those payment timings. If you do send twice a year please do not put a month per sheet but just continue down the sheet until you have filled it.

### Exchange Games

There is a different document to be completed and should be sent to me during the week after the game. This will then be paid immediately or as soon as I can get on the computer. Make sure you fill in all the boxes including other referees travelling with you.

Both forms are downloaded from the website and the appropriate form must be used. Send by email if possible to [nickl\\_kibworth@hotmail.com](mailto:nickl_kibworth@hotmail.com)

If you are late or forget to send on time let me know and I will normally be able to sort a payment but it does help the Society if the above timings are kept to.

Make sure I have your bank details to pay directly into your bank.

Nick Lacey.

## Sundays:

Even though the end of the season is fast approaching, there are still plenty of Sunday fixtures available with many touring teams visiting Leicestershire and if you are getting frustrated with the limited opportunities on a Saturday, then Sunday may be your answer !!

Looking ahead, the Syston 7s tournament is being held on Sunday 7th May, which usually provides a high standard of play and an enjoyable end to the season for everyone concerned, so please let me know if you are interested as we will need a minimum of 8 referees.

Thank-you for your continued support and, as ever, I can be contacted by email to [sunday@lsrur.co.uk](mailto:sunday@lsrur.co.uk) or my mobile is 07896 202382.

