

Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees

MARCH 2019

The next members' meeting takes place on Monday 25 March 2019 **starting at 7pm**. The *infamous* "Chairman's Quiz" hosted by Mark Elliott, which never fails to entertain! Ian Wells, Tom Fraser and Billy Richards are all due to be presented with their LSRUR kit.

Please dig out your name badges you were provided with and wear them to the meeting.

Dates for your diary:

Monday 25 March 2019- Members' meeting, Belgrave RFC 7pm.

Saturday 6 April 2019- Curry night, get it in your diary!

Friday 12 April 2019- LSRUR Annual Dinner at Welford Road. The guest speaker will be... MAGGIE ALPHONSI

Monday 13 May 2019- AGM at Viper RFC more details to follow.

NEW, INEXPERIENCED OR JUST UNSURE?

If you find yourself in a situation where you are ever unsure of whether or not you could have managed something different in your game or if you have encountered any problems on a Saturday afternoon please feel free to give any of the committee members a call. We will all gladly talk through any scenarios/matches especially, we are here to help you!

Alternatively, attending the Members' Meeting is a great opportunity to pick a more experienced referee's brains and find the answers to problems you encounter.

Note from the Chairman

I can't believe that the end of the season is fast approaching and that it will be our last members meeting on Monday! It has been another successful season for the Society with our appointments team covering almost 100% of the games that we have been notified of.

In the past weeks I have had the pleasure of watching two teams of 3 officiate at Welford Road, in the Ladies and Mens Varsity matches. Luke Thompson assisted by Tom Brucciani and Dan Slavin in the Ladies game and Simon Hincks, assisted by Duncan Chandler and Kerrel Wills, in the Mens game. Both Teams had excellent games and did the reputation of the Society proud; well done to you all.

From a personal point of view, my rehab from knee replacement continues apace and I made my return to 'active' duties, by running touch in the Leicestershire U17's County game on Wednesday night. It felt great to pull my kit on once again and contribute to the game.

It has also been a sad time, with the passing of Dennis Belton. As you can see from the Eulogy contained within this newsletter, Dennis was an absolute stalwart of our Society, having been an active member, in many roles, for over 53 years! Dennis and his wife Mary, were personal friends of mine (along with many other members) and it was desperately sad to hear of his death. Dennis was a true Gentleman and I will always have very fond memories of him. I'm sure you will join me in offering condolences to Mary and her family at this difficult time.

Our annual dinner is fast approaching, on Friday 12th April at Welford Road. I would urge you all to buy a ticket for the event, if you haven't already done so. It is always a good night and it will be a chance to socialise with other referees and players alike, away from the Rugby field. Two excellent speakers in Maggie Alfonsi and John Stiles and a 3 course dinner + Port; what more could you want?

Hopefully see many of you at the members meeting on Monday 25th March at Belgrave RFC; there will be the infamous 'Chairmans Quiz,' a delight not to be missed !

Mark

Mark Elliott

Chairman

Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees

Dennis Belton 1933-2019.

Dennis has been one of the longest serving members of our Society, having joined on the 26th August 1965 and so has been a member for well over 50 years!

He started his love of rugby when he and his family were evacuated from London to Wales during the war. Later he was playing for Nuneaton when he was seriously injured. So when he and Mary moved to Glenfield he decided to try refereeing and joined the Leicestershire Society.



Since then Denis has been referee, Touch Judge, referee coach/mentor and has held the roles of Chairman, President and various other Committee roles. Dennis was prominent in the introduction of the first electronic appointments system EasyRef, which paved the way for our current system of appointing to games.

Dennis was a true gentleman and will be fondly remembered in the rugby circles of Leicestershire; a true stalwart of the Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees.



Annual Dinner

Friday 12th April 2019 7.15 for 8pm

Leicester Tigers Aylestone Road Leicester LE2 7TR

Speakers...



Speaker...

Maggie Alphonsi

The face of international women's rugby, Maggie Alphonsi (MBE) has represented England no less than 74 times, helped her country win a record-breaking seven consecutive Six Nations crowns, and was key to the team's first World Cup victory in 20 years in 2014.

As a motivational speaker, Maggie draws on her prolific sporting career to share tactics for tackling challenges head-on, performing under pressure and challenging perceptions.



Comedian...

John Stiles

John is a former professional footballer, but always lived in the shadow of his famous father Nobby, and uncle, Johnny Giles. Always the joker in the changing room, has made the natural progression to comedian. He now entertains at conferences, sporting dinners and company events, where he delivers a personalised witty take on life. His uncanny ability to mimic has meant he really brings his stories to life and whilst the theme is tongue in cheek, it is never offensive to anyone, and his warmth will always ensure he is well received off as well as on stage.

Reserve your tickets now..

Email johnhaggart64@sky.com

Tickets £37.50 Members of LSRUR £35.00 Table of 10 £350

SUNDAYS

Since last month's Newsletter, it has been full-on for Sundays with over 100 appointments for the last 5 Sundays – and thank-you to everyone who had made themselves available.

Within the 100+ appointments were the Oakham and Uppingham Schools 7s tournaments and following feedback from a number of referees, it has been agreed by the Committee there will be a slightly different approach next year with a set number of referees being provided (morning/afternoon) with the relevant schools having to make up the shortfall from their own resources.

The number of Sunday games continue to flow in and if you do not have a game on a Saturday, then please consider refereeing on the Sunday – I am always looking for willing volunteers !!

As a quick reminder, the Syston 7s tournament is being held on Sunday 5th May and is always a great way to finish the season – so if you want to have a last blow of your whistle or flash a few cards (mentioning no names in particular) before hanging your boots up for the summer, then please let me know.

As ever, I can be contacted by email to sunday@lsrur.co.uk or by text/call to 07896 202382.

Duncan Chandler

Sunday Appointments