

# Leicestershire Society of Rugby Union Referees

November 2016

Next members meeting will be MONDAY 28 November 2016 at Vipers RFC, 7pm for 7.30pm.

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**Monday 28 November 2016-** Boris Stankovic on the scrum!

An interesting quote from Boris is set out below, why not come along and ask him if he still holds the view! (Credit to the Coventry Telegraph <http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/sport/rugby/former-leicester-tigers-star-set-11422884>)

“The scrum generally comes down to the interpretation of the referee and, no disrespect to them but the vast majority have never actually been in a scrum before which is why you get a lot of different rulings and perceptions.

“All we can do is concentrate and do everything by the rules, and that’s the way I’m going to be coaching it.

“I like to think I’ve got a bit of experience in the matter, and we will train to adjust to what’s being refereed.” Boris Stankovich , June 2016

**PLEASE CAN ALL ACTIVE MEMBERS MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND**

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Dates for your diary:

**Monday 05 December-** Beer and Curry Social starting at the Parcelyard, contact Andrew Forysthe (details below) to RSVP.

**Monday 19 December-** Mid-season Grading Committee, get your coaching reports sent in to Pete Bower (if applicable), if you would like to be assessed contact Geoff Blackburn

**Friday 21 April 2017-** Annual Dinner at Leicester Tigers RFC. Our guest speaker will be **Andy Goode**.

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LSRUR have tickets available for the 2017 SIX NATIONS matches. If you are interested please contact John Hill. If demand exceeds the ticket allocation, they will go to a ballot.

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If you have not already sent your December and January availability to Mark Elliott and Kerrel Wills, please send it to them now because appointments are now being allocated.

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If you have a serious injury in your match please call John Hill as soon as you can after the match to give him a heads up, and the general gist of what happened. This is incredibly helpful if legal proceedings are taken up, either against the referee or a club or even other players.

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## WHISTLERS' TROPHY

We are changing the way that members vote for the Whistlers' Trophy.

Members will still vote twice a season- once in December and once in March, but from now on voting will take place online, a link will be sent out to active referees in the week commencing 12 December with replies closing on the 19 December.



### Whistlers Trophy

The Whistlers Trophy is voted by referees for the Clubs that provide the best overall welcoming experience to the season and in March for the second half. The winner is announced and the trophy presented at the LS

Your Name (\*)

Your Email (\*)

Mobile Number

Club - 1 (\*)

Club - 2 (\*)

Club - 3 (\*)

(\*)

For our newer members, the Whistlers' Trophy is awarded to the most hospitable club in the county. Obviously each individual referee has their own unique understanding of what they like to see when they walk into the clubhouse on match day or how they like to be received in the bar afterwards! This is a prestigious honour for the clubs and is presented at the Annual Dinner.



## **SUNDAYS:**

December sees two key events in the run up to Christmas and here's your excuse to avoid being dragged round the shops Christmas shopping:

Sunday 4th - Girls Midland County Championships at Syston with 12 County teams participating at U15 and U18 with 13 referees already appointed but additional referees are required to cover Junior friendlies and Ladies' games.

Sunday 18th December - Junior Plate quarter finals with 12 referees already appointed and, again, additional referees are required to cover Junior friendlies and Ladies' games.

As Sunday Secretary, I have been talking to many junior coaches (and parents) who are very supportive and complimentary towards the standard of Society referees but there is one common theme amongst many of them and that is the scrum configuration when a team goes down to 7 players due to injury or sin bin. Law 20 provides clear guidance to referees that the No.8 should not take part in the scrum and 'pack down' in a 3-4 formation, ie. no No.8 for either team.

As ever, a big thank-you to everyone who has helped out on a Sunday so far this season which has increased in numbers month-on-month with nearly 60 referees being appointed in November.

If you want a good run out before Christmas, then please contact me by e-mail to [sunday@lsrur.co.uk](mailto:sunday@lsrur.co.uk) or to my mobile 07896 202382

Duncan

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## **CHRISTMAS CURRY**

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Andrew Forsythe is kindly organising a Christmas Curry night on the 05 December 2016. Members are invited to meet at the Parcel Yard pub on London road around 6.30 and then to head to Clowes for 8pm for a curry.

If you are interested or would like to come please inform Andrew as he may need to book in advance.

Please register your interest by emailing Andrew at [andrew.forsythe@wplcdigital.com](mailto:andrew.forsythe@wplcdigital.com) or by text on 07831265954.

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## **TRAINING**

During October and November we have had sessions on Understanding the Game, Player Management and we watched George Richardson reffing the County U18 game at Hinckley.

Attendance to training is the best it's ever been so hopefully this will continue for the rest of the season.

In February we will be putting on one of the new Continuing Match Official Development sessions at our members' meeting. It will be on 'The Tackle'. This will require people attending to register via the RFU course finder website. That way the RFU have a record of what training referees are accessing. I will give a demo of how this is done at a members' meeting.

Thank you to those of you who have done the online Headcase module. And those of you registered with the new England Rugby Referees Association will have seen one of our previous members, Christophe Ridley, presenting a short clip on 'The Tackle'!

## **WITH REGRET,**

It is with deep regret that we inform you of the passing of Nigel Biswell, and Ted Sewell.

Nigel Biswell played for Westleigh for many years has recently died after a long illness bravely fought. Nigel was one of the best local props in an era when there were many to choose from. He was also great entertainment off the pitch when socialising with the opposition long into the evening was the norm. Nigel was very active in the merger of Wigston and Westleigh to form the Lions and was on the committee for the first few years.

It will be some of our older members who will remember Nigel as his illness had prevented him from attending games at the Lions regularly.

Nigel's funeral will be held on Wednesday 30th November, 2.30pm at Skeffington Church. Apparently parking is very restricted so if you are attending can you try and fill a car to make it easier. Afterwards the family have invited mourners to Leicester Lions Rugby Club in Blaby

One of our longest serving members, Ted Sewell, passed away this month aged 81. Ted joined the Society in the early 1970s after playing for Aylestone Athletic. He had been ill for some time and was in and out of hospital many times. Although in poor health, Ted attended the Members' meeting until two years ago, helped by his good friend Richard Sharp. Unfortunately, his funeral was on Monday, so none of us were able to attend.

Our Society owes a great deal to Ted as it was he who pioneered the system of mentoring new recruits to the Society. Hitherto, anyone joining was left to get on with it without any advice or coaching and some were not assessed before completing over a year's refereeing. Like Noel, he did more for recruitment and retention than anyone else and accompanied many current society referees to their first games.

He was a very keen member of the County Cricket and went to most home games. His son, Andy, was a member of the Vipers and later played and coached Belgrave. Ted was a fine gentleman and dedicated member of the Society.

## OCTOBER MEMBERS MEETING

The October Meeting was a success, Dave Morris (Loughborough Students), Dave Johnson (Lutterworth) and Ivan Bills (Vipers) provided great insight and discussion in relation to what coaches want to see from Leicestershire referees and whether or not we have been delivering in the first half of the season. This honesty will open doors in terms of making sure we maximise the positive impact we can have in our services to rugby in Leicestershire.



(From left to right: Dave Morris, David 'Bomber' Wells (who fancied being the focal point of the picture), Ivan Bills and Dave Johnson.

## THE PRESIDENT'S LUNCH

Many members enjoyed a very civilised lunch at Ansty Hall on the 6 November 2016. Thank you for Jeff Knight for his photography skills and to both John Haggart and David Flick for their organisation.



