

## **Some advice to referees regarding behavior on match days**

It is self-evident that, as match officials, we referees bear a responsibility to act in a becoming manner when on duty.

Just as we expect players, coaches and spectators to observe certain standards of behavior, so we should be scrupulous in ensuring our own conduct sets the correct tone and example to those around us.

While all of us will already have a good idea of what such standards are, it does no harm to put basic examples down in print. This is meant solely as a guide and should not be construed as criticism of current members or their behavior.

### **Communications**

- Members should observe basic courtesies in dealing with those who need to contact them regarding match. Ensure your contact details are up to date, respond to messages promptly and, if necessary, initiate contact with the home club to confirm all details of the match in good time.
- If your circumstances change and you cannot referee a game, please tell the Re-Appointments Sec. as soon as you can and try to inform the Fixtures Secretary of your general availability at the start of each month.

### **Dress**

- When refereeing a league or cup match, LSRUR expects members to dress smartly. This means shirt and Society tie off the pitch and clean society kit on the pitch. Ideally you should dress in a similar way for all games to which you are officially appointed.

### **At the club**

- Arrive in good time – ideally at least an hour before kickoff.
- On arrival, introduce yourself so that they know the referee has arrived.
- Meet the home and visiting captains and agree a suitable time for checks and briefings with them.
- Respect privacy of all changing rooms – DO NOT ENTER unless invited to do so (knock & ask if necessary, but never simply walk in).

### **U18's/Matches involving members of the opposite sex**

- We strongly advise that when refereeing these matches, you conduct all checks and briefings on the pitch and avoid entering the changing rooms altogether.
- Pay particular care when moving through the changing room areas to avoid placing you or any one else in a potentially embarrassing situation.
- Walk with circumspection, especially post match when players may be showering.

### **Post Match**

- Ensure all match cards are completed and returned promptly if appropriate
- Represent LSRUR positively after the game – if you can, take time to talk to both teams, captains and coaches. Make yourself available for conversation in the bar. After all they have just given you a free beer.