



Season's Greetings



A Christmas

Middlesex
Hockey
Umpires
Association



BULLY FOR YOU



10th DECEMBER 2008

SEASON
2008/09
NUMBER
2

Despite the best endeavours of the gremlins of technology, the demons of work and the misery of the weather, nothing can stand in the way of your intrepid scribe, Ian Taylor's Moustache. Nothing will stop me, nothing, I say.... Oops sorry, getting carried away there. Nothing will stop your Association getting you the biggest, best and most colourful (or gaudy, depends on your viewpoint) Newsletter out there.

Hopefully you've all been out there strutting your funky stuff, tooting your Fox40 and hollering "play on, play on, play the game" at the top of your voice. It's been a fun first half of the season, albeit we are now into the "so cold and wet it shouldn't be allowed, this is cruel and inhuman treatment, sending us out in this...." time of the season....

Some have already succumbed, your author has to report that one of our luminaries was spotted umpiring in *gloves* no less! He (for yes it was a "man") shall remain nameless, save to say that, apparently, he was so cold he had to fly to Goa for a fortnight to recover!

In this Christmas (Festive Season) Issue, you will find the usual news and updates, the answer to Colin's Conundrum from the Sept. Issue, a few scattered hockey anagrams and much much more (well ok not *that* much more actually, but, hey, what do you expect me to say....!

Finally, after extensive debate between myself and my brother, John Hurst's Moustache, we have decided to scrap the amazingly successful "2 column format" in favour of something far more sensible, solid and infinitely more easy to fit onto the screen – don't worry we're not going tabloid, this is our own Berliner, we're calling it the Blackaller format!

Ciao
ITM



FIRST ANAGRAMS OF THE DAY

Now you didn't expect clues did you!?!?!?! Really?? How disappointed you will be! They're all MHUA linked! Not enough, ok they're all people who are luminaries in MHUA/SCHUA. (That's your lot!)

Ah, clod in row (5,6)

Napalm jeer (4,6)

SEPTEMBER SOCIAL

A very well attended and successful evening as ever. Thanks to Eastcote HC for hosting, Arthur et al for catering and lastly (but certainly never least) Al Clark for his informative and enlightening talk (with video clips no less – yes MHUA drag-flicked kicking and screaming into the 1980's!). Keep your eyes and ears open for the next social.....

One interesting issue coming from Al's talk was the question of defender(s) breaking early at short corners. What do we do? The general consensus (and apparently guidance at the top level) would seem to be just to blow immediately for a retake – issues of safety and certainty at play. Don't forget the personal penalties and possible upgrade for repeat early-breaking!

On the subject of Short Corners.....

COLIN'S CONUNDRUM – SEPTEMBER ANSWER

In the last letter we asked in what circumstances a defender could commit an offence at a penalty corner without there being i) a corner (short or long), ii) a penalty stroke or a goal awarded? Shame shame shame! Very few of you got this. Colin was chuckling into his pint for weeks! This is a confoundingly simple one! *The offence is committed by a defender outside the circle but within 5 metres of it – so the penalty corner is still running but the offence leads to a free hit to the attackers just outside the circle.*

December's conundrum :

Q. If there is no injury or suspension, can any player be substituted during a penalty corner before it is complete?

Answers on a postcard, first correct answer will be met with shock and the realisation it's from Colin!

Here are the rules but you WON'T be needing recourse to them now will you?

http://www.englishhockey.co.uk/core/core_picker/download.asp?id=175&filetitle=Rules+of+Hockey+%28Outdoors%29+2007%2D08&log_stat=true

A COUPLE MORE ANAGRAMS

Sour rash rate (6,6)

OCTOBER EFFORTS

A worthy mention for the committed souls who should be commended, no sorry, who should be commended for trotting out to officiate at the Corporate Games at Brunel University in the middle of October – Cecil, Colin, Ian Fitz., John B. and yer man Arthur.

Talking of yer man Arthur.....

JUNIOR UMPIRES

We can only thrive as an Association, Hockey can only thrive as a sport if young potential umpires are taken in hand and given every support and help possible. We need to refresh our gene pool a bit with some new blood, so if you know of, have heard of or even can uncover a young potential umpire, then a certain Mr Soares would love to hear from you. Do drop him a line and he can fill you in on "the necessary". And no you don't get a commission! 10% of nothing is yep you guessed it, a big fat nothing!

CLUB UMPIRES

(no not an invitation to a new dance venue!)

Here's a little of helpful advice for all you club umpires.....

- You must umpire the whole game – not halves;
- **NO** coaching (did you get that : **NO** coaching) during the match, including half-time;
- Substitutes are under your control (old Jedi mind-trick) – so if a sub is giving you too much lip, you CAN card him, and if yellow / red, they must then take off one of the 11 playing! It was done at a BA game at the end of November;
- Much the same goes for coach / manager, save, in the event of a card, there is no taking off one of the 11 playing;
- You can ask the relevant team captain / manager to control or send away unruly spectators ('cos you will have a lot of spectators at a club-umpire level game, obviously!)

NEW RULES ARE A-COMIN' IN, LOUDLY SING CUCKOO

Well ok, they're not actually, but I liked the Headline too much not to use it! As many of you will know by now, the "new" Rules 2009/10 will be promulgated in due course, and take effect on June 1st 2009.

As the Secretary to the Rules Board has stated on the EH Website www.englishockey.co.uk :

"Until new sets of rules are published and implemented, the 2007-2008 rules continue to apply."

What changes there will be in 2009 is still under discussion within the FIH. The Hockey Rules Board has already undertaken a significant review of the Rules of Indoor Hockey. At its meeting in November 2008, it will finalise any proposals for changes to the rules for outdoor hockey."

MORE ON RED CARDS and MMOs

We told you in the last Newsletter about the new, pared-down guidance on what merits a Red Card or MMO. On the EH website, you can find Guidance on completing the (wonderfully titled) RC/MMORF – i.e. the report form! The Guidance is downloadable at this link:

http://www.englishockey.co.uk/core/core_picker/download.asp?id=1420&filetitle=Guidance+to+Umpires+%2D+Completing+a+Red+Card+or+Match%2DDay+Misconduct+Report+Form&log_stat=true

In short, at the time of the incident, you MUST note the FULL name of the offender – both he and his captain are obliged to furnish you with that information. If the offender appears under 18, endeavour to establish their age. If there are abusive or insulting words spoken, note them down as closely to verbatim as possible – the same applies for any abusive or insulting gestures. Do not restart the game until this has been done!

You are under a duty, on concluding that the incident qualifies as an MMO, to inform the offending player "as soon as reasonably practicable" after you come to your decision to report the MMO. Also a representative of the affiliated body – i.e. his team, and therefore most likely his team captain – should be so informed "in so far as reasonably possible".

When "writing-up" your RC / MMO Report Form, as well as a full but concise narrative, do try to include the following details if possible – how many minutes in, score, where on pitch it occurred, how far from you, was the game calm/niggly/physical etc, was the incident out of the blue or not, was this a straight red, if not what cards had the offender already received and for what, if violence was used was there injury, was treatment needed, on or off the pitch, how long was required before the game could restart, did the offender leave the pitch area without dissent or not (anything said, done or gestured?), did you get cooperation in getting the full name, was the offender the team captain, faithfully reproduce the swear words with asterisks if necessary.... etc etc. Also you will need to remember to state your grade / level.

LAST ANAGRAMS HONEST!

Endow wine (5,4)

I flag Zen triad (3,10)

Bad Renown (4,6)

* ***** * ***** * (9,6,7,11) (Too rude, couldn't possibly tell you what I managed to come up with for Middlesex Hockey Umpires' Association)! However, I always knew that London League was in need of '*a nude loon gel*'!!

Have a great Xmas, a healthy and happy New Year, and your editorial team (ha ha!) look forward to seeing you back bright-eyed and bushy-tailed in the January!

Any comments on this or info for next Newsletter – itsmoustache@btinternet.com

Toodle-pip

ITM ☺