



Forging closer links between The FA and The RA to benefit refereeing

Over the last year, there have been very constructive discussions between the FA Refereeing Department and The Referees' Association aimed at bringing The FA and The RA closer together (as achieved with *Refereeing* magazine) and removing the confusion about the difference between FAMOA and The RA. This constructive dialogue has led to the creation of **RA-FA** (RA and FA) as the formal partnership for co-operation and joint action between the FA Refereeing Department and The Referees' Association.

Our intention is to bring together the best of the FA and RA for the benefit of all referees, and especially grassroots referees, whilst recognising the vital, independent roles of each organisation. The prime focus will be on recruiting, retaining, developing and supporting referees throughout the country with the aim of making a major contribution to raising retention rates and increasing the total number of referees.

Name and organisation

- RA-FA will not be a members' association. The RA will be the only national members' association for referees.
- There is thus no RA-FA badge – FA and RA badges will be used for dual badging on all RA-FA material/events/publications etc...
- FAMOA will be subsumed within RA-FA e.g. The FAMOA number, Incentive Scheme and Training Events will become The RA-FA number, Incentive Scheme and Training Events
- RA-FA will be formally 'launched' at The RA Conference on 5th June 2010

RA membership

Membership of the RA is vital to all referees in terms of support, assistance and development. As one senior referee said, *"I joined the RA to improve my refereeing, share and listen to concerns, hear guest speakers and learn and develop as a referee."* Therefore:

- As from Season 2010/11, all referees (including Level 10 – non-active and workforce) will, (subject to approved at the RA AGM 2010), automatically become Associate Members of The RA, free of charge, when they register as referees with their County FA.
- Associate Members of The RA will receive:
 - invitations to RA-FA Training Events
 - the *Refereeing* magazine
 - information about meeting dates of local RA Society meetings
 - information about the benefits of Full RA Membership
- All referees will be strongly encouraged to take up Full RA Membership and thus gain additional benefits which include:
 - Personal accident insurance*
 - Membership, with full benefits, of a local Referees' Society
 - Free attendance at the annual summer RA Conference
 - Support and advice if assaulted or involved in disciplinary proceedings
 - Top quality refereeing supplies
 - Representation at The FA and at County FAs
 - Service awards
 - The RA quiz
 - The Benevolent Fund
- The RA-FA Incentive Scheme will only be open to Full Members of The RA

* The RA is negotiating the provision, as from Season 2011/12, of physiotherapy cover (as part of the insurance cover) for injuries sustained when refereeing/training.

New and trainee referees

- Every new/trainee referee will:
 - be introduced to the benefits of the RA-FA partnership
 - be made aware of the importance and value of membership of The RA at the introduction to the Basic Course, at Module 3 and at the end of Module 5
 - automatically become an Associate Member of The RA when they register as a referee.
 - be strongly encouraged to become a Full Member of The RA after the completion of Module 5 when RA Full Membership forms will be distributed along with details and dates of Society meetings, RA-FA Training Events, The RA Conference etc...

RA-FA and RA events

- All RA-FA Training Event dates will be published in the summer after liaison with Mike Riley (PGMOL General manager) to secure the services of Select Group and National List officials as speakers.
- RA Societies will be encouraged to hold some 'combined' meetings, especially when a top speaker is invited
- RA-FA will produce an annual DVD of presentations and video clips for Societies to use for training purposes to be delivered by a qualified FA Tutor (or the Society training officer or referee guest speaker)

RA-FA Liaison Committee

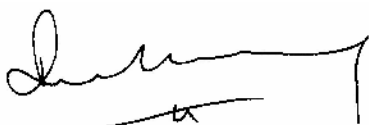
Chairman - David Elleray
Chairman - FA Referees' Committee
President, The Referees' Association

The FA Refereeing department

Neale Barry	FA Head of Senior Referee Development
Ian Blanchard	FA Senior National Game Referee Manager
Janie Frampton	FA National Referee Manager – Education & Training
Ray Olivier	FA National Referee Manager – Workforce Development
Roger Vaughan	FA National Referee Manager –Recruitment, Retention & Development

The Referees' Association

Alan Poulain	RA Chairman
Arthur Smith	RA General Secretary; (also on the FA Referees' Committee)
Nigel Genner	RA External Affairs Committee
Bart O'Toole	RA External Affairs Committee



David Elleray
Chairman - FA Referees' Committee
President, The Referees' Association

21st April 2010