

## VOLUME 13

MARCH 1995

### Chairman's Letter

Dear Member,

This is the last newsletter for this season and as our AGM draws near, I should like to thank you for your support during the season. Many of us on your committee, seem to have had more phone calls and letters this year than ever before - and we really welcome this. Some points led to much interesting discussion.

You will be getting details about registering for league games next season, along with details of umpire development and assessment. It is important that your club secretary sends your club's returns by the due date, in order that you are registered to umpire league games next season.

There is quite a lot of information in this newsletter, on Summer League and the rule changes for next season in particular. The decision to abandon "offside" has not been taken this year. We shall all watch with interest the tournament in which goals will be allowed from shots anywhere in the 25yard area.

I hope to see you at our AGM on 3rd May

Best Wishes

John

### SUMMER LEAGUE

Once again it is our intention to run a Summer League at Clifton College, Beggar Bush Lane. Invitations have been sent to clubs and it is intended to commence the league on Thursday 25th May. It will then be played on each Monday and Thursday until Monday 17th July inclusive, excluding the Bank Holiday on Monday 29th May.

The purpose of the league, as usual, is to test Level 1 candidates and to give coaching to already qualified umpires. Should you feel the need for some coaching, or indeed just wish to keep your hand in during those summer months, the organiser for the umpires this year will be **John Burr** and, I am sure, he would be very grateful to hear from you.

## **RULE CHANGES**

The following rule changes have been announced for the 1995/1996 season and will take effect from 1st September 1995.

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### Penalty Corner

Mandatory experiment confirmed as a rule. (i.e. ball must be stopped outside of the circle prior to the first shot on goal.)

To be taken from a spot 10 yards from nearest goal post

Goalkeeper not to be penalised for going to ground before the first shot is taken.

### Free Hit

on the spot' to be replaced by 'close to'.

Ball must move at least one yard.

### Ball into play (Hit-ins, 16 yards etc.)

Ball must move at least one yard

### Substitutions

Mandatory experiment confirmed as a rule. (i.e. rolling substitutions.)

Time to be stopped for the substitution of a goalkeeper.

### Offside

Players to be judged on where they are when the ball is passed to them or played. (Emphasis on advantage gained.)

Level with will no longer be offside.

### Ball over back-line

Ball over the back-line by a defender intentionally a penalty corner ; unintentionally - a corner (This will no longer be restricted to within the 25 yards area.)

### Goalkeepers' Gauntlets

The rule has been simplified to maximum size. The structure of the gauntlets will no longer be significant provided they are not dangerous.

### Captains

Mandatory experiment confirmed as a rule.

### Blooded Player

Players who are cut or bleeding will be required to leave the field.

### Penalties - Guidance

Umpires are to take stronger action with misconduct. Clear direction to be given on action to be taken for breaches of the rules before previously awarded penalty has been taken. Move free hit 10 yards further up the field, upgrading of penalty or reversal of penalty if by team previously gaining advantage.

The above rule changes have come about due to the finalisation of the revised Rule Books, the layout of which is to be more user friendly than the current format. These new rule books are expected to be available in May 1995 and will be sent to all members as part of their membership. Should any one require additional copies please advise Peter Lovell as soon as possible.

These changes have only recently been announced and I am sure that further guidance and interpretation will follow. Any further information will be given to you either in our next newsletter or at the first Open Meeting of the coming season.

# DEAR MARGE

## YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Dear Marge,

Whilst umpiring in a league match I had cause to stop play to caution a player for a particularly bad tackle. No problem, however following the game my colleague informed me that whilst in the act of carding the player, another player slashed, at head height with her stick, at an opponent without making contact. I did not see the incident, but was there anything that could have been done in these circumstances.

Dear Umpire,

Obviously following the game the answer is no. However when the incident occurred your colleague should have been the one to take action. With such a serious offence having occurred your colleague had the option of:

1. Stopping the game, calling the player to them and issuing the appropriate card. I suggest that in this case that would have been a red card as violence had most definitely been offered. But should your colleague have been in doubt, because the offence had occurred in your area.
2. They should have at least called you towards them so that you both could discuss the incident and decide upon the appropriate action to be taken.

Although I do not advocate stopping the game on a regular basis to consult with your colleague, should an incident occur of relative importance, stop time and consult with your colleague. You are the third team on the pitch.

Dear Marge,

In a recent match I was timing the first half and I realised there was only about 20 seconds to go when I awarded a penalty corner. The corner was taken and after a period was cleared by the defence towards the halfway line. When I then glanced at my watch I realised that we had played about thirty seconds over and therefore blew for half time. My question is had the attacking team scored from the penalty corner and when I glanced at my watch I realised that time was already up what action could I have taken ?

Dear Umpire,

The answer really is none, you would have already awarded the goal prior to blowing your whistle for the end of the half. In future I suggest that this is

one of the things you should talk to your colleague about prior to the start of the game.

My suggestion is that you decide who is responsible for timing each half, but decide that should the umpire timing be under pressure at the appropriate time, that the other umpire will blow for time. Should the ball go into the goal at this time all you will then have to decide is who's whistle was blown first.

***Should you have any questions for Marge, no matter how trivial, please send them to any member of the committee.***

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
01/04/95	WCWHA County Tournament	Bournemouth
02/04/95	WCWHA County Tournament	Bournemouth
<b>03/04/95</b>	<b>ACWHUA AGM</b>	<b>Clifton College</b>
22/04/95	National League Promotion/Relegation	Clifton College
23/04/95	National League Promotion/Relegation	Clifton College
20/05/95	AEWHA Hockey Festival	Sheffield
21/05/95	AEWHA Hockey Festival	Sheffield
21/05/95	West AGM	Creech St.Michael
25/05/95	Summer League begins	Clifton College
01/09/95	Implementation of Rule Changes	

***Should any member have an event that they feel would be of interest to other members, please do not hesitate to send details to any member of the committee for inclusion in this newsletter.***