

VOLUME 14

JULY 1995

Chairman's Letter

Dear Member,

With the number of things happening and summer leagues taking place into August, and training starting in August, I am not sure whether this is the last Newsletter of last season or the first of the new season.

I want to thank all those of you who helped with the umpiring and testing during our own summer league. With a couple of weeks to go when writing this letter, we have passed eleven new umpires at Level 1. Those who failed we hope will work on the points mentioned and pass on the re-take. We have also re-assessed eight people with six more to go - all very positive.

The preliminary award went well again last season, with another eight passing a few weeks ago in the latest course. My thanks go to all the coaches for the time given (7.5 hours each course). Please encourage any would be umpires to take the course - it really does help.

Please keep your comments coming in - especially the "Dear Marge" letters. Remember we are here to help or chat or just ring us.

Enjoy your new season,

Best Wishes

John

Chairman John Burr

Secretary John James

Treasurer Pete Lovell

Committee Joyce Alger

Val Harding

Liz Powell

Richard Powell

Linda Watts

RULE CHANGES

We make no apologies for repeating this article, but have included this time, for your benefit, the rule numbers in brackets.

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

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.) **(Rule 15.2.j)**

To be taken from a spot 10 yards from nearest goal post **(Rule 15.2.a)**

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'. **(Rule 15.1.a)**

Ball must move at least one yard. **(Rule 15.1..f)**

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

Ball must move at least one yard. **(Rule 10.2.c)**

Substitutions (Rule 6.2)

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

Time to be stopped for the substitution of a goalkeeper.

Offside (Rule 12)

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 (Rule 10.3.4)

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 (Rule 5.2e)

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

Captains (Rule 7.1)

Mandatory experiment confirmed as a rule.

Blooded Player (Rule 16.c & 16.d)

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 more user friendly than the previous format. These new rule books are now available and are enclosed with this newsletter to all members who have renewed their subscription. Should any one require additional copies please advise Pete Lovell as soon as possible.

These changes have only recently been announced and I am sure that further guidance and interpretation will follow at the National League Umpires' Seminar to be held 9/10th September 1995. These interpretations will be passed onto you at the Open Meeting to be held the following week.

I have heard from several people that they believe a goal can be scored from anywhere within the 25 yard area next season. Please note this is NOT the case. Rule 11 allows for a goal to be scored only when the ball has been played by an attacker in the circle.

UMPIRE RE-ASSESSMENT

To remain on the Level 1 register the AEWHA regulations required for that umpire to be both 'Active & Competent'. In an effort to ensure that this is the case your Committee have drawn up the following procedure for Umpire Re-assessment.

All re-assessments will be co-ordinated by the County Umpiring Secretary

1. Listing for 1995/6 Season

- a. To show that the Level 1 umpire is active the umpire must have officiated at 6 games or more during the current season. (Senior club matches, under 16/18 club, senior and junior county, veterans matches, senior school teams: league or friendly)
- b. People who are not on the League list at the moment but have been in the past and wish to be added, should contact the County Umpiring Secretary who will then arrange for them to be watched/assessed.

2. During 1995/96 Season

- a. Prior to the beginning of the season a card will be issued for signatures to be gained from team captains for at least six games during the season. If the completed card is not returned by the end of the season, the name of the umpire will be deleted from the AEWHA Level 1 register; deemed inactive. This will also preclude them from the WCWHA League list. All cards will be validated.
- b. To ensure competency, umpires will be assessed once in every 4 years. This assessment will begin during this season. A small card will be issued to confirm the successful umpire. Assessors will be appointed by the County Umpiring Sub-committee.
- c. If an umpire is unsuccessful at the assessment game, then another game will be arranged for further assessment by a registered umpire. This will be by mutual agreement. If the required standard is still not reached, then the umpire's name will be removed from the AEWHA Level 1 register, and therefore, the WCWHA League List. Offers of coaching must be given.
- d. Reassessment can only be arranged after coaching. The umpires name will be added to the AEWHA Level 1 register and therefore to the WCWHA League List as soon as the re-assessment is successful.

3. Future Seasons

- a. Any umpire who is not on the register, but has at one time been on it, can be added after an assessment match is successfully completed. Contact the County Umpiring Secretary for details.

Details of this re-assessment procedure have been sent to all club secretaries, who have been asked to submit details of umpires to be included on the 1995/96 WCWHA League list. Please ensure your club have included you.

DEAR MARGE

YOUR QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Dear Marge,

As an umpire who is nearing the end of her playing career, I feel I would like to take up umpiring in a more professional way, and perhaps, if I am good enough, progress to the next level. My question is how can I achieve this?

Dear Umpire,

Firstly may I say that I am glad that, just because your playing days may be coming to an end, you are not considering going into complete retirement but taking part in a different role.

Your first requirement will be to get as much practise as is possible and if you still feel the desire to go further your first step would be to contact

any member of the committee and make them aware of your desire. You will then be invited to coaching sessions where it would be possible for all parties to assess your abilities and then advise you further. Should your coaches feel that you have the ability the next stage would be to umpire at the Under 21 County Championships, where you will be assessed by the West. If you were accepted at this stage you would be appointed to the West Premier League as a 'B' candidate. You would then be watched over several games and advised on how you could improve. You would then be tested by the West on 1 game, probably a West Premier League, and if successful be awarded your 'B' badge.

One word of warning, the step between Level 1 and 'B' is quite substantial and therefore, criticism of your umpiring is fairly harsh but always constructive. Should you require further information on this subject please do not hesitate to contact any member of the committee.

Dear Marge,

My question is simple. There seems to have been a lot of confusion regarding blood on the pitch. What in fact is the official stance?

Dear Umpire,

At long last as you can see from the article on new rules in this Newsletter at long last there is no doubt. Any player who is cut or bleeding is now required to leave the pitch as soon as it is safe to do so and receive treatment off the field unless medical reasons prevent this.

No player shall return to the field until their wounds have been dressed and no player remain on or enter the field wearing blood stained clothing.

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

OPEN MEETING

THE FIRST OPEN MEETING OF THE NEW SEASON WILL BE ON THE SUBJECT OF THE NEW RULES AND THEIR INTERPRETATION

IT WILL TAKE PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 13th SEPTEMBER 1995 AT CLIFTON COLLEGE, BEGGAR BUSH LANE

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>VENUE</u>
01/09/95	New rules become effective	
13/09/95	OPEN MEETING	Clifton College
17/09/95	U21 County Tournament	Bournemouth
15/10/95	U18 County Tournament	Bristol
22/10/95	Avon 1st XI Tournament	Clifton College
22/10/95	2nd XI Invitation Tournament	Jersey
15-25/11/95	Olympic Qualifying Tournament (GB.)	South Africa
26/11/95	U18 Schools Tournament	Bristol
26/11/95	U16 Schools Tournament	Cheltenham
12/12/95	U16 Indoor Schools	Zoned
28-30/12/95	U21, U18, U16 Territorials	Sheffield
28/01/96	Avon Veterans Tournament	Clifton College
02-04/02/96	Indoor U16 Schools Championships	Crystal Palace
02-04/02/96	Indoor U19 Club/Schools Championships	Crystal Palace
17-18/02/96	Indoor European Club Championships	Bratislava
25/02/96	U14 County Tournament	Bristol
03/03/96	West Mini Hockey Finals	Edgarley
06/03/96	British Aerospace U16 Schools Championships	Milton Keynes
07/03/96	British Aerospace U18 Schools Championships	Milton Keynes
09-10/03/96	West County Championships	Bournemouth
10/03/96	Avon 2nd XI Tournament	Clifton College
24/03/96	U19 Clubs Tournament	Bristol
30-31/03/96	U18 & U16 Home Countries Tournaments	Milton Keynes
19-21/04/96	National League Play Offs	Milton Keynes
27-28/04/96	National County Championships	Bournemouth
04/05/96	West Vets Tournament	Bournemouth
11/05/96	U19 Club Championships	Milton Keynes
18/05/96	National Veterans Championships	Milton Keynes
19/05/96	West AGM & ALM	
24-27/05/96	European Club Championships	

13-16/06/96 4 Nations Tournament

Milton Keynes

20/07-04/08 Olympic Games

Atlanta

25-31/08/96 U21 European Cup

Cardiff

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.