



**Referee Course Information pack –  
January 2013 Courses**

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### **Who Can Become a Referee?**

- Refereeing courses are available to anyone aged 14 or above
- Different course options available for different types of football – we are not just limited to the 11-a-side game!
- We are looking for committed individuals with a passion for the game

### **What Do I Have To Do To Become a Referee?**

- Complete provided pre-course work
- Attend a basic referees course in a suitable discipline
- Pass an examination on the laws of the game
- As part of training, referee a number of games
- Attend a Next Steps module 5 workshop

### **Where Can I Become a Referee?**

- Our 11-a-side courses are run in 4 key training centres: Reading, High Wycombe, Aylesbury and Milton Keynes. In January 2013 we are also delivering a course in Didcot and Holyport
- We also run invitation only referees courses in partnership with selected local leagues
- We can run additional courses as dictated by demand, especially for specialist football

### **When Can I Train To Become a Referee?**

- Our courses are run at suitable times throughout the season in order to allow candidates to be able to referee games as part of the course
- Our first round of 11-a-side courses start in September at each of our training centres
- Our second round of 11-a-side courses start in January at each of our training centres
- Our specialist courses are run to demand and in cooperation with leagues

### **Why Should I Become a Referee?**

- 1 in 100 new referees will end up operating on the Football League in their lifetime!
- Refereeing is a greatly enjoyable hobby, giving you a chance to make new friends, learn new skills... And importantly – you get paid!
- Refereeing is a great opportunity to stay involved in a sport that you love



## Course Options

- We can offer basic referee training courses in 4 specialities: 11-a-side, Futsal, Mini-Soccer and Small Sided Football
- All qualifications are FA accredited and are nationally recognised – so if you move counties you can still referee!

### 11-a-side Referees Course

- Consists of 5 separate modules
- Qualifies you as a referee in the 11-a-side game only
- Conversion courses to different specialities are available – ie Futsal, Small Sided etc
- Cost of the course is £135, which covers the cost of tuition, training resources, examination fee, FA Learning Safeguarding Children in Football, CRB check (18+) and assistance in completing first 6 matches

### Futsal Referees Course

- Consists of 5 separate modules
- Qualifies you as a referee in Futsal only
- Cost of the course is £100, which covers the cost of tuition, training resources, examination fee, FA Learning Safeguarding Children in Football, CRB check (18+) and assistance in completing first 6 matches

### Mini Soccer Referee Workshop

- Prepares you to referee Mini-soccer only (Youth 5v5, 7v7)
- A great introduction into youth football in a safe environment with simple laws
- Cost of the course is £20
- Is not a formal FA qualification – this is an awareness workshop only

### Small Sided Referees Course

- Qualifies you to referee small sided football only
- Delivered via commercial small sided providers – ie Goals, PowerLeague
- Cost of courses set by service provider and booked directly with them
- Berks and Bucks FA will assist you in getting booked onto one of these courses

### Additional Workshops – We can also offer specialised workshops to meet specific needs, such as:

- Club Assistant Referees workshops for Leagues and Clubs
- Matchday skills workshops for volunteers within clubs
- Learn the Laws workshop as part of a qualification



## **The 11-a-side Referees Course (Basic Referees Course)**

The course will provide an introduction to the laws of the game as well as developing the practical skills which are required to be a football referee. The Basic Referee Course is modular and the course content is described below:-

The course is run over 5 modules including the completion of 6 matches as a trainee referee, two of which should be observed by a referee observer (if possible).

The course will be delivered in a manner that mixes theory work with practical scenarios based on refereeing real-life scenarios. The course will take place on a combination of evenings and weekends

*Course Prerequisites:* Pre Course Study work sent out by the County FA

### *Module 1- Introduction*

This module will introduce some key aspects in the following areas:

The role of the Referee

Consider the skills required to control a game of football

### *Module 2 – Application of the Laws of the Game*

Practical and Theory training on applying the Laws of the Game

Positioning & movement at both set pieces & in open play

Managing game situations

Signals & communication techniques

### *Module 3 - Examination*

Both a multiple choice examination paper and a DVD exam are used to assess theory & practical knowledge. A combined pass mark of 75% is required to progress to the next module.

Having passed the exams, you will be registered as a level 9 Trainee Referee and you then must go onto complete the following modules:

### *Module 4 – Refereeing 6 Games*

6 games are used to establish both the knowledge as well as the practicalities of refereeing.

2 of the games are ideally observed by a referee mentor (if available) who will then be able to offer immediate feedback and development points for future matches.

### *Module 5 - The Next Step*

A 3 hour evening workshop designed to reflect on a trainee referees first experiences of refereeing and to offer development points.

Only once a candidate has refereed six 11-a-side games and attended Module 5 Workshop will they become a fully qualified referee and be promoted to a level 8 or level 7 referee depending on their age



## How to book your Course

We're pleased to announce that bookings for all courses and workshops are now made online via the Participant system. This system now allows you to book your courses online and make payment via our secure FA Booking system by Credit / Debit card. In order to make this process easier, we've included below some simple steps which will help you book onto your choice of course/event with us.

To access this site click on the participant course links which are shown for each individual course on the course schedule page

We hope this system makes applying for courses more efficient, on the rare occasion that you do encounter a problem, then please feel free to contact the Referees Department at the County Office and we will be delighted to help.



### How to... book online

**Step 1:** Scroll to the bottom of the page and enter your FA Number (FAN) and Password and click the **Login** button.

FA Number	1552178
Password	*****
Don't have a FAN number? Forgot password	
<b>Login</b>	

If you are a League Official, Club Official, Referee, Coach and/or Player it is extremely likely you have a FAN already. Please email [GetOnline@TheFA.com](mailto:GetOnline@TheFA.com) with your name, date of birth and address and your FAN and password will be emailed to you.

**Step 2:** If you log in details are correct you will now be logged into your Counties Booking system. Your name will be displayed at the top of the page and you can then enrol on multiple courses/events without having to log in again. To enrol onto the course scroll to the bottom of the course/event to enter the enrolment details.

Welcome Tim Wilson
<b>FA Goalkeeping Coaching Award (Level 1)</b>

**Step 3:** Enter all the enrolment details which are displayed. The fields marked as <sup>\*</sup> must be entered. Click the **Enrol** button once you have finished entering your enrolment details.

**Step 4:** To complete your enrolment fill out your card details and click the **Enrolment** button.

Please enter your card details below.	
Order ID	191864
Total	GBP 90.00
Card type	VISA
Card number *	<input type="text"/>
Start date	-- --
Issue number	<input type="text"/>
Expiry date *	1 2008
Security code *	<input type="text"/>
<b>Enrolment</b>	
<b>MasterCard Verified by SecureCode. VISA</b>	

**Step 5:** If payment is successful the confirmation, including your confirmation number will be displayed on screen which you can print off.



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

Q. Who organises County Football Association (CFA) Basic Referee Training Courses?

A. The CFA are responsible for organising and running these courses.

Q. Who is responsible for organising the courses?

A. The Referee Development Officer (RDO). They will respond to any enquiry received regarding referee training and development.

Q. How do I decide which course to take?

A. The RDO or their representative will advise you of the best option to suit your requirements and advise you of the courses available or any that are planned for the immediate future.

Q. Do all the courses qualify me as a Registered Referee?

A. No. You will be awarded either a certificate, or both certificate and Small-Sided / Futsal badge as applicable. Only the 11-a-side course will qualify you as a Registered 11-a-side Referee.

Q. Why is this?

A. The 11 v 11 courses are designed to prepare candidates for the rigours of refereeing in full-sided games. The course is intensive, delivered with a practical and theoretical emphasis. There is a requirement of pre-course study and an assessment of knowledge before the introductory session. This is followed by attendance on the course where application of the Law will be illustrated. Some competence appraisal will be carried out during and after the course.

There are two examinations as well as six 11 v 11 games to referee within a three month period before attending a compulsory In-Service Training workshop. You must also complete a Child Protection workshop and CRB check. Only after satisfying these criteria will a certificate be awarded. You will then be registered as a qualified County Referee Level 7. (If under 16 you may qualify for Youth football as a Level 8 referee until your 16<sup>th</sup> birthday at which point you are automatically reclassified to Level 7).

## **Attendance**

Q. How long are the courses?

A. The duration of the courses is dependent on what course you take. The short courses may be one or two sessions. The full Basic Course for 11-a-side Football will be run over a number of weeks or 2 full days. The RDO will provide you with this information.

Q. How much are the course fees?

A. These vary according to the type of course you wish to take. The 11-a-side course is £135 all inclusive of Safeguarding Children and CRB costs.

## **Basic Referees Training Course**

Q. If I enrol on a Basic Referee Training Course what happens next?

A. You will receive a Pre-Course Study Pack from the CFA. This will contain a DVD on "Learn the Laws", an A4 study document and a Laws of the Game booklet. You should receive this in good time for the recommended 10 hours of study. You will also receive a Knowledge of Assessment paper, this must be returned to the CFA and passed to a satisfactory standard prior to the start of the course. You will be expected to arrive to the start of the Module 2 part of the course with a good knowledge of basic law.



Q. Must I attend every course session?

A. Yes – the courses are intensive and practically based. As such there is not time to catch up any missed sessions. Our courses are planned so that they run at different dates and times.

Q. Who organises the games?

A. You will be expected to take the lead on finding a league that requires referees. The RDO and course tutors will assist you by directing you to leagues that need referees.

Q. If I have Six 11 v 11 games to referee before I qualify, have I any authority?

A. Yes - you have exactly the same authority as a fully qualified referee. During your training period you will be registered with the CFA as a Level 9 Trainee Referee. This will also cover you for insurance purposes.

Q. Will I be supported during this period?

A. During your training period it is hoped you may be accompanied by an experienced referee to some of your games. They will not be there to test you but to offer support, advice and feedback to assist your development. If you already know of a referee who is willing to act as your mentor, you can be pro-active and inform your course co-ordinator. You will always have access to a course instructor via telephone or email to seek help and advice.

Q. How much time do I have to do the 6 games before the Module 5 workshop?

A. We advise you do these as quickly as possible, ideally within 3 months to stop you forgetting the course content. If you play football it may prove difficult to fit in your refereeing commitments around your playing commitments, and on occasions you will be expected to referee rather than play. Remember: you will not qualify until all the criteria are fulfilled.

Q. Can I find my own games and if so what can they be?

A. Yes, provided that they are full-sided, 11 v 11 games or 9 v 9 (with offside), sanctioned and you obtain verification of completion of the game(s). They can be friendlies, school fixtures, youth football or adult matches (if you are 16 or over).

Q. What do I report then?

A. This will be explained during the course but generally misconduct in line with Law 12. These are FA or County FA matters and you will be required to complete and send a misconduct report form. You will be advised how and when to do this. You can seek advice during the course if you need to do this after a game as it should be done within 48 hours (excluding Sundays or Bank Holidays).

Competition rules may also require you to report clubs to league organisers for such deficiencies as failure to mark out the Field of Play adequately or provide goal nets.





**2012/2013 Courses – Dates shown are start and finish dates – Exact course dates are shown on the booking links**

**Reading – Berkshire County Sports – 7<sup>th</sup> January – 28<sup>th</sup> January**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=58696>

**High Wycombe – Adams Park and John Hampden Grammar School – 7<sup>th</sup> January – 21<sup>st</sup> January**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=58965>

**Milton Keynes – Stadium:mk and Woughton-on-the-Green – 9<sup>th</sup> January – 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=58971>

**Didcot – Didcot Town FC – 16<sup>th</sup> January – 30<sup>th</sup> January**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=58712>

**Aylesbury – Mandeville School – 28<sup>th</sup> January – 11<sup>th</sup> February**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=59256>

**Holyport – Holyport FC – 24<sup>th</sup> January – 7<sup>th</sup> February**

Book online at: <http://eventspace.thefa.com/berks-bucksfa/participant/arrangement.aspx?id=58729>



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Get **into** Refereeing 