



# AFA Development News

[www.amateur-fa.com](http://www.amateur-fa.com)

December 2006

Centenary Season 2006/07

## Seasons Greetings

On behalf of everyone at the AFA we would like to wish all of our Clubs, Players, Coaches, Referees and volunteers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

## Centenary Dinner

As you will no doubt be aware, 2006/07 is the centenary season of the Amateur Football Alliance and we are holding a series of events throughout the next 9 months. The highlight of the celebrations will be the dinner which is being held at the Brewery, Chiswell St London EC1 on Friday 11th May 2007 6.30 for 7.30. Tickets are priced at £40.00, and tables of ten will be available.

We will be hoping for a good turn out of faces old and new to help make it a night to remember.

Tickets will be available soon, if you require more information, please e-mail [centenary@amateur-fa.com](mailto:centenary@amateur-fa.com) or call 020 7359 3493



## Your Game Your Say

So far 9,000 people have completed the survey and the top 4 emerging priorities are: Tackling abuse towards referees, Tackling behaviour of parents and spectators, Providing Financial Support for grass-roots clubs and Improving the quality and access to training, changing and playing facilities. The deadline for completing the form is 31<sup>st</sup> December, so whether you are a player, parent, coach, referee, teacher, volunteer or supporter, don't miss the chance to have your say visit [www.theFA.com/yourgameyoursay](http://www.theFA.com/yourgameyoursay) or call 020 7745 4545 and request a postal form

### AFA FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT TEAM SERVICES

The Football Development Team at the AFA is able to offer a number of services to affiliated clubs. Here are just some of them.

#### Improving your facilities

- Helping you secure grant aid from the Football Foundation and a wide range of other sources
- Assisting you in negotiations with Local Authorities and other pitch providers
- Providing venues and establishing partnerships with adult clubs

#### Coach Development

- Finding Coaches to coach your sides
- Training your people to obtain coaching qualification
- Organising specific coaching sessions for your players

#### Volunteers

- Helping you recruit new volunteers and training your existing volunteers and EFCA

#### Specialist Training

- Child protection, Refereeing, Medical Training

#### Competition

- AFA Youth Cups at all age groups on Saturday and Sunday
- AFA Under 16 and Under 18 Representative Sides in Home Counties Competition

#### Information Centre

- Sourcing information about any aspect of football
- Reference Library and database of contacts

#### FA Charter Standard

- Helping clubs to become part of the FA Community Club concept
- Helping clubs to achieve FA Charter Standard status

#### Communication

- Sending you all the latest FA initiatives
- Development News (Monthly) and AFA Record (Quarterly)

### Amateur Football Alliance

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### Development News



## Stop Press... Stop Press... Stop Press.....

Congratulations to AFA Referee Peter Georgiou who has recently been selected to referee at the Futsal internationals between England and France on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th December at the English Institute of Sport Sheffield. Peter's appointment follows his topping the merit tables at the FA National Cup Finals earlier this year. Both matches kick off at 7.00pm

## Youth Representative Fixtures

**U 16—Sunday 14th January v Middlesex @ Potters Bar Town 2.00pm— Sunday 4th February Independent Schools FA @ Norsemen 2.00pm. TBA Sussex FA (home) & London FA (home)**

**U 18—Sunday 7th January v London FA HSBC Sports Club—Sunday 28th January v Middlesex FA TBA 1.00pm— Tuesday 27th February v Sussex @ Lancing 7.30pm—Sun 25th March v Royal Navy @ Portsmouth 1.00pm—Sunday 8th April v Surrey FA @ Leatherhead FC 1.00pm**

## Goalpost Safety scheme

Since 1991 nine young footballers have tragically been killed by unsafe goals. Many more have been seriously injured by posts and crossbars that fail to meet even basic safety standards.

To put an end to these shocking accidents and the increase safety on the field of play, the UK's largest sports charity the Football Foundation, has earmarked almost £4m to replace non-compliant and unsafe goals in England.

So far Allyn Old Boys, Alexandra Park, Latymer Old Boys, Old Colfeians, East Barnet Old Grammarians and Old Actonians have all taken advantage of the scheme to enable them to replace old or unsafe goalposts. If you feel that your club could benefit, contact Bob Leeds on 020 7359 3667 or bob.leeds@amateur-fa.com



## \*\*Christmas Quiz\*\*

Here's a chance to win 25 training balls for your club in the annual Christmas quiz. Send your answers to Bob Leeds at bob.leeds@amateur-fa.com or on a postcard to AFA, 55 Islington Park Street, London N1 1QB, stating whether you would require size 4 or size 5 footballs. Good Luck!

- 1) Which two AFA clubs are past winners of the FA Cup?
- 2) Who are the sponsors of the AFA Senior Cup?
- 3) How many players are there in a Futsal team?
- 4) Which part of the body would you find your popliteus ?
- 5) Which AFA club plays at Drawbridge Road, Shirley?
- 6) Who are the holders of the AFA Women's Cup?
- 7) What age do players change from size 4 to 5 footballs?
- 8) What are the colours of the AFA Representative teams?

Draw will be made on January 3rd 2007 (Editors decision is final)

## AFARS Celebrate Anniversary

The AFA Referees Society celebrated their 40th anniversary at the Chadwick Street Recreation Centre. on Thursday 14th December where a bumper turn out of members and guests were able to celebrate the conferral of the RAE Long and Meritorious Service Award to AFA President and AFARS Life Vice President Bill Evans.

Bill played for North Western Polytechnic, Northern Assurance and Finchley and he qualified as a referee in 1963 he is the only founding member of the AFA Referees Society still active within the society. In addition Bill has served on the AFA Council for a number of years and is a regular supporter of the Rep teams.



## Courses 2007

The Development team will be setting up a programme of courses across the AFA region for 2007.

In the pipeline are FA Level 1 and Level 2, Coaching Adults Course, and the FA Level 2 Goalkeeping certificate.

In addition, the Referees Development Officer will be organising a series of Basic Referees Training Courses.

All details of the courses will appear on the website [www.amateur-fa.com](http://www.amateur-fa.com) and in future editions of Development News.

If you would like us to organise a tailor made Coaching or Referees course for your club, please contact Bob Leeds on 020 7359 3667 or bob.leeds@amateur-fa.com.

We also intend running a series of Effective Football Club Administration (EFCA) courses during the year, further details to follow.



## Disputed penalty denies u16s at Sevenoaks

The under 16s suffered their second defeat in the Home Counties Youth Competition, when they went down 2-1 to Kent FA at Sevenoaks Town.

The AFA, featuring a number of new faces, started brightly and should have taken the lead, when Jamil Ganwo was set free on the left by Lewis Barclay, only to see his shot fly over the bar. Kent took the lead on the half hour when a cross from the left was inadvertently turned into the net past Birthday Boy, Mark Jackson by an onrushing defender. (name withheld!)

Kent's second, was deemed a tad harsh, as the referee awarded a penalty for a foul which began five yards outside the box.

The under 16s remained up beat and a goal seemed inevitable as we fought back with all guns blazing. With 5 minutes remaining, Jamil Ganwo made up for his earlier miss with a fine solo effort to put us back in the game, but Kent managed to hold on for victory. Thanks to all the players and parents who made the journey and special thanks to Kent FA for their magnificent hospitality.

Qualify as  
a Coach or  
a Referee  
in 2007

## Charter Standard Development Clubs

Congratulations to Bealonians and Norsemen Football Clubs who have both been awarded FA Charter Standard Development Club Status, the first two AFA clubs to do so. Development Clubs should have a plan which covers Recruitment & Retention, Mini Soccer, Links with Schools, Boys & Girls football, Development of New Teams, Staff Development and Exit Routes for players.

If you would like to find out more about how your club could achieve Charter Standard Status, contact Bob Leeds on 020 7359 3667 or bob.leeds@amateur-fa.com

