



# Amateur Football Combination

Respect

Spirit of Football

Respect

[www.amateurfootballcombination.com](http://www.amateurfootballcombination.com)

**President:** Jim Buttress    **Chairman:** David Goldring    **Treasurer:** Alan Robinson  
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## Welcome to the Amateur Football Combination - 2009/2010

Welcome to the Amateur Football Combination for 2009-10. Along with this letter you should receive copies of the fixtures for the first week of the season as well as an update about the Spirit of Football campaign. There are no Spirit of Football captains' armbands this season, as you'll be provided with Respect armbands at the Clubs Meeting on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September. One of these should be worn in all matches. You should also find enclosed the new handbook and some referee result cards for all referees and clubs. Copies of the referee flier are also enclosed – please feel free to pass this on or display it in your clubhouse. If you need more copies, ask Danny McConnell.

### New Officers

We have a number of new changes this season. Stan Rosenthal has joined us as Chairman of the Referees Committee. Mike Sainsbury has stepped down as Discipline Secretary to concentrate on Results, with Chris Cooper taking over. Stuart Lock has taken over the writing for the Non-League Paper – please can all clubs help and support him with match reports.

### Referees Evening

We will be holding a Referees Evening this season, but the date has not yet been set (but expect late September or early October). As soon as we have a date we'll let you know.

### Respect

This season we're signing up as a Respect League. The clubs workshop (mandatory attendance) is on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September, and we hope as many of our referees as possible will have attended Respect sessions through their County FA's. If you've not yet attended a session, and are keen to do so, please let us know.

### Fixtures

Fixtures and referee appointments are normally published 10-12 days before games. We appoint as many referees as possible, but if none is shown on the fixture list, the onus is on the home club to find a club referee. Clubs are reminded that the fixtures are provisional – clubs will be informed of any changes directly by the League Match Secretaries.

In addition to the fixture list we send out results and regular league tables. Any changes of details for club officers, referees and general league news will also appear on the bulletin. Where possible, these bulletins are sent via email, but any referees, officers or club officers who require a postal copy can do so.

Club Secretaries should note the guidance in section 1 of the handbook. In particular that match details should be confirmed with opposition and referees at least 5 days prior to games. Clubs are reminded that any request for a "free week" should be given to the appropriate League Match Secretary at least four weeks in advance of the due date, and that any such request may be refused by the League Match Secretary, particularly if the club concerned has a fixture backlog.

### Rule 10e – Club Selection; Free Movement of Players

An ongoing issue within the AFC is that of Club Selection, and Free Movement of Players. Your 1<sup>st</sup> Team should be the strongest team, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Team the second strongest and so on. Players should move up and down the club as needed. If your 1<sup>st</sup> team has a number of players missing, the 2<sup>nd</sup> team should expect to lose their best players – it's how a CLUB works. We have for a number of seasons been withholding trophies if necessary, and recently we required one club to withdraw a side because they simply would not/could not enforce this. At the end of this season we may restrict some clubs in the number of sides they are permitted to enter for the following season if they are effectively running "clubs within clubs".

We want the AFC to cater for all standards of players, so that everyone can find their right level, and find a competitive game of football – multi-team clubs should be doing exactly that, with the best footballers playing for the highest teams, and those of lesser ability finding a competitive game in lower sides against opposition of a similar standard.

### Non-League Paper

The AFC continues to feature in the Non League Paper each week. Please can clubs support the league by buying it as well as providing reports of matches to Stuart Lock on a Saturday evening to fill our column. More details can be found on the league website about how to get your match featured in the paper – we need your match reports.

### Annual Dinner

The date of the dinner has not yet been set, but we'll let everyone know as soon as possible.

*Playing in the Spirit of Football, Promoting Fair Play and Respect for All*

### Hospitality

Clubs are reminded that they are expected to provide after-match hospitality for opposition and match officials. Clubs should confirm the details for hospitality during the week when the fixture is confirmed. If an away club does not accept hospitality without prior warning they should expect to be invoiced by the home club for the costs and fined by the AFC.

### AFC on Full-Time

We'll be continuing to use the FA package Full-Time this season, both for SMS results (make sure you let us know any changes to numbers) and for our tables, results and fixtures. You'll see a new "Match Centre" link on the AFC website, which allows you to see Full-Time within the AFC website.

### AFC Golden Boot (Optional)

A further aspect of Full-Time is that it allows clubs to register their match details (players, goalscorers etc). This season we'll be using this for any club who wish to participate (it's optional), and the top scorers will appear on Full-Time. The only requirement is that your player registration details (see website) are supplied on the standard form we've provided. We'll publish more details on the Golden Boot in the next week or so, and by the end of September we'll run an information session for any clubs who want to find out more, and want to see how it works.

### League Representative Team

This season the NLS Cup is back, with our first game on 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Rory Vermuelen (Tel: 07979 858 595, Email: [londonboneco@aol.com](mailto:londonboneco@aol.com)), manager of the Representative Team, is keen to get a wide representation of players from Clubs, not just from the highest divisions, so clubs and referees please don't be shy about making recommendations to Rory.

### Fines

Clubs are reminded that **all** fines levied by League Officers are published in the weekly fixtures/results bulletins. This is normally the **only** official notification of any fine they have incurred, and any appeals against these should be made accordingly from the time of publication. Alan Meyer will still periodically write to clubs with updates on their fines float position, but these are **not** notifications of their fines, he is simply notifying clubs about the position of their fines float.

### Fixtures/League Match Secretaries

The first point of contact for clubs with any fixtures queries should be the League Match Secretaries:-

**Premier/Senior/Intermediate:** Bob Coates, 01293 773 194 (H), E-Mail: [r.w.coates@btinternet.com](mailto:r.w.coates@btinternet.com)

**1-9 North:** Fred Nuckey, 01708 721 693 (H), Email: [fred@nuckey.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:fred@nuckey.fsnet.co.uk)

**1-4 South:** Ray Prewer, 020 7254 3139 (H). Email: [ray.prewer@oakvilla.flife.co.uk](mailto:ray.prewer@oakvilla.flife.co.uk)

**5-8 South:** Warren Robertson, 020 8715 7814 (H), 07770 220 488 (M), Email: [warrenrobertson@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:warrenrobertson@blueyonder.co.uk)

**9-10 S:** Mike Reilly, 020 8397 3328 (H), 07740 968 977 (B), 07710 086 004 (M), Email: [michaelreilly@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:michaelreilly@blueyonder.co.uk)

**1-4 West:** Jamie Brunton, 07857 614 202 (M). Email: [Jamie@amsoffice.co.uk](mailto:Jamie@amsoffice.co.uk)

### Referees

Bob Coates (Referees' Secretary) is responsible for all appointments. Once these have been made Alex Grayburn (North) and Chad Chaudhuri (South) handle adjustments. If you need to discuss appointments please feel free to contact Bob. Referees should receive appointments on all dates offered, but if not, or if your availability changes, please let Bob know.

If you meet any referees on the circuit who are interested in joining the League please put them in touch with us or let us know. If we don't have your e-mail address please let us have it as soon as possible, as we are keen to use email for the bulletins and any other news as much as possible – We won't publish referees' email addresses if you don't want us to.

The referees' result card is available via e-mail - it's easy to complete and send – please see the league website for more details via the Referees' Section. In addition we also have the "snail mail" version of referees' result cards continue to be postage prepaid, which we hope will encourage you to use them if you do not use the email format. **We are keen to receive as many referee result cards as possible, including from club referees.** All clubs have been sent a batch of result cards – please pass them onto your club referees and encourage them to use them.

With this letter referees should receive half a dozen pre-paid result cards – if you do not need them please return them to Bob Coates, and if you need more cards during the season, again please contact Bob Coates.

**Referees' Secretary:** Bob Coates, 31 Parkway, Horley, RH6 7HY, 01293 773 194, Email: [r.w.coates@btinternet.com](mailto:r.w.coates@btinternet.com)

**Assistant Referees' Secretary (North) – Adjustments:** Alex Grayburn, 14 Clydesale Road, Hornchurch, Essex, RM11 1AG, 01708 707 075 (H), 07976 514 623 (M). E-Mail: [alexgrayburn@btinternet.com](mailto:alexgrayburn@btinternet.com)

**Assistant Referees' Secretary (South) – Adjustments:** Chad Chaudhuri, 28 Waverley Grove, London, N3 3PX, 020 8349 9748 (H), 07956 523 488 (M). E-Mail: [chadbi@aol.com](mailto:chadbi@aol.com)

### Referees Match Fees

Referees' match fees for the 2009-10 season are £28.00, with £22.00 for Assistants.

Best wishes to everyone for an enjoyable, successful and fulfilling season from all officers of the AFC.