



## PREPAID TEAM FOR BAFL SEASON

Once again Sussex Thunder are pre-paying for their home matches this season. If you are assigned to one of their home games, to ensure you are paid, **after** the game can the Referee or one other official please complete the online Crew Request for Payment Form, and I will arrange for the officials to be paid.

Note due to potential changes to crews, any requests for payment received before the game is played will be ignored.

Andrew Lovell  
[finance@bafra.org](mailto:finance@bafra.org)

## REMINDERS

Just a quick reminder that:

1. Whatever the length of the field, even if it is 80 yards (or 78!), the kick off spot is the 30-yard line. When the Rules Committee standardised this last year, it was so that the distance that the receiving team had to return the ball for a touchdown was the same regardless of the length of the field.
2. On Premier Division games, if there is a 5-man crew, all qualified officials are paid £40.

Also, the league's replacement plan for roster forms seems to be working OK. There is therefore no longer a need for referees to send in the rosters with the rest of the game day paperwork. However, as per previous practice, **referees should retain the roster forms for at least 7 days** after a game before disposing of them. This is in case a query arises.

Jim Briggs  
[president@bafra.org](mailto:president@bafra.org)

## REGIONAL TRAINING MEETINGS

### Severn

The first meeting of the newly reformed BAFRA Severn Region will take place at Churchill House, Stoke Park Road, Bristol on Wednesday 13th May 2009 at 8pm. For further details please contact Russell Newton on either 029 2079 3571 or 07970 770968.

### Solent

The recently formed Solent Officials Association is meeting fortnightly on Thursdays (including 7<sup>th</sup> May) at 8pm at Jim Briggs's house in Havant. Contact him on 023 9236 5232 for details.

### Thames Valley

The next meeting of the Thames Valley Officials Association is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm at Pete Parsons's house in Reading. Contact Pete for details.

### Other local groups

Please email [newsflash@bafra.org](mailto:newsflash@bafra.org) with dates and locations of your future meetings. We're pleased to see that local associations are coming back into vogue in places that haven't had them for some time.



## **BAFCA CONVENTION 2009**

BAFCA has just finalised arrangements to use the impressive facilities at Hollywell Court and Burleigh Court, Loughborough for its annual convention 3-5 July. Also confirmed are two top-notch coaches from Nebraska and North Western universities as guest speakers. The aim is to make this the best coaches convention yet.

We would like to extend an invitation to all BAFRA members to attend. See [www.bafca.com](http://www.bafca.com) for further details.

Jim Messenger  
President, BAFCA

## **RESULTS**

### **BAFL Premier**

Farnham Knights 21-16 Sussex Thunder

Bristol Aztecs 16-40 London Blitz

### **BAFL Division 1**

West Coast Trojans 12-62 East Kilbride Pirates

Gateshead Senators 20-6 Yorkshire Rams

Doncaster Mustangs 43-20 Merseyside Nighthawks

Birmingham Bulls 6-13 Nottingham Caesars

Norwich Devils 6-52 London Cobras

Oxford Saints 41-6 Redditch Arrows

Kent Exiles 35-13 Ipswich Cardinals

### **BAFL Division 2**

Highland Wildcats 0-57 Chester Romans

Manchester Titans 27-0 Edinburgh Wolves

Leicester Falcons 46-6 Lincolnshire Bombers

Colchester Gladiators 88-6 Milton Keynes City Pathfinders

Gloucester Banshees 41-26 Berkshire Renegades

Plymouth Admirals 0-72 Cornish Sharks

Essex Spartans 52-8 Maidstone Pumas

### **BAFL Youth Contact**

Clyde Valley Hawks 0 - 0 Highland Wildcats

Maidstone Pumas 0 - 46 Kent Exiles

Cambridgeshire Cats 14 - 0 Peterborough Saxons

Leeds Varsity Rams 0 - 0 Gateshead Senators

London Warriors 26 - 21 Farnham Knights

Bolton Bulldogs 0 - 49 Lancashire Wolverine Colts



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<http://www.bafra.org>



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## DISCIPLINARY CASES

Name	#	Team	Code	Q	Offence	Suspended
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009</b>						
Daniel Nembhard	26	Norwich Devils	FPF	4	At the end of the game as the officials were clearing a dead-ball fracas, the player came from the far side of the field and contacted an opposition player.	10/05/09 vs Peterborough Saxons
<b>Outstanding items from previous weeks</b>						
Warren Coombes	80	South Wales Warriors	FPF	2	Player threw a punch at an opponent.	10/05/09 vs Redditch Arrows
Chris Littler	21	Lancashire Wolverines	TUF	4	At 7.17 in Q4, player taunted opponents following a run from scrimmage. At 5.38 in Q4, player made a derisory gesture towards the Hull sidelines after a play.	10/05/09 vs Chester Romans
Artem Bakmandis	53	London Olympians	TUF	4	Player was penalised for two instances of unsportsmanlike conduct during the game - first for excessive celebration and second for taunting an opponent.	10/05/09 vs Maidstone Pumas
<b>Note:</b> it is the responsibility of the individual teams to ensure that their suspended players serve their suspensions in the proper game (according to the BAFA Disciplinary Code), and any dates mentioned here are intended only as a guide.						

## GAME MANAGEMENT REPORTS

Home team	Report	Next home game
<b>New this week</b>		
Colchester Gladiators	Both head coaches agreed to a running clock in the second half. Alan Dobson #308	07/06/09 vs East Kent Mavericks
Farnham Knights	Field of play 78 yards long (2x39yd halves), NFL hashmarks. Farnham have been informed that their stadium will not be available until mid-August. The field they are using is nearby and crews can change at the stadium. The team is actively looking for an alternate field to play at. Simon Ryan #408	10/05/09 vs London Blitz
Gloucester Banshees	Game was suspended for 8 minutes in the 3rd quarter to allow treatment of an injured player, who was too close to the field to allow play to continue safely. Phil Clarke #372	17/05/09 vs Plymouth Admirals
Kent Exiles	No limit lines. No nine-yard marks or numbers. Kent have done a good job to improve the game day experience for the spectators and officials. They have a PA system with lapel-style radio microphone for the referee, and an announcer, now. Game management excellent from start to finish. Changing rooms still a little dirty and toilet does not flush though. Dan Bridgland #506	10/05/09 vs Cambridgeshire Cats
Norwich Devils	Crew had to change in shower until players had vacated a changing room. Chain crew member changed for the second half. Martin Cockerill #345	17/05/09 vs Peterborough Saxons



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Home team	Report	Next home game
Oxford Saints (vs Redditch Arrows)	During the 2nd quarter, a fight broke out on the Redditch sideline between the head coach and a player. The game was suspended for three minutes while the Redditch staff sorted the problem out, and the game then continued. Brian Yates #29	17/05/09 vs Birmingham Bulls (Redditch's next game: 10/05/09 @ South Wales Warriors)
Plymouth Admirals	There were three separate incidents where the game was delayed for more than 5 minutes due to players requiring treatment for injuries. Russell Newton #324	31/05/09 vs Hampshire Thrashers
<b>Outstanding items from previous weeks</b>		
Lancashire Wolverines	Chain crew and ball boys changed at halftime in both junior (morning) and senior (afternoon) games leading to extended half time for briefing purposes . Mike Cavanagh #465	10/05/09 vs Chester Romans
South Wales Warriors	Changing room was far too small for 7 officials, would probably be too small for 4. Officials had to share a changing room with the Warriors. Dean Wright #553	10/05/09 vs Redditch Arrows
Clyde Valley Blackhawks	No card check conducted by Glasgow. Officials' assistants changed at half-time and needed to be re-briefed; otherwise excellent game management by Clyde Valley. Ben Griffiths #228	24/05/09 vs Edinburgh Wolves
East Kent Mavericks	Game was played at Faversham Recreation Ground/Rugby Club. Parking is at a premium. Changing rooms could not be locked (we used changing rooms in larger of two buildings and took bags out to the field). No numbers or nine yard marks. Field markings in blue but quite visible. Daniel Bridgland #506	24/05/09 vs Maidstone Pumas
Hull Hornets	The kick off was delayed by 47 minutes owing to the late arrival of the ambulance. There was only one set of goalposts, both coaches agreed to play on the understanding that if a field goal or 1 point try was to be attempted then that down would be played towards the goalposts. This did not unduly affect the game as it happened only once during the game in the first quarter Tim Vickers #129	24/05/09 vs Highland Wildcats

## NEWSFLASH

This week's Newsflash was produced by Alan Dobson. Dean Wright will be resuming normal service in three weeks' time.

## CALENDAR

Date	Event	Contact for details
May 9th (Sat)	BAFRA Board meeting	<a href="mailto:secretary@bafra.org">secretary@bafra.org</a>
July 18 <sup>th</sup> (Sat)	BAFA Board meeting	<a href="mailto:president@bafra.org">president@bafra.org</a>
July 25th (Sat)	BAFRA Board meeting	<a href="mailto:secretary@bafra.org">secretary@bafra.org</a>
October 24 <sup>th</sup> (Sat)	BAFA Board meeting	<a href="mailto:president@bafra.org">president@bafra.org</a>
October 25 <sup>th</sup> (Sun)	Patriots v Buccaneers @ Wembley	
November 21st (Sat)	BAFRA Board meeting	<a href="mailto:secretary@bafra.org">secretary@bafra.org</a>

Send updates to [newsflash@bafra.org](mailto:newsflash@bafra.org)

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The opinions expressed in this Newsflash are those of the contributors, and not necessarily of BAFRA or its Directors.

All Incident Reports to be submitted via [www.bafra.org](http://www.bafra.org).

Deadline for articles submitted by email ([newsflash@bafra.org](mailto:newsflash@bafra.org)) is 2359 Tuesday.