

HAMPSHIRE RUGBY UNION REFEREES' SOCIETY



(Chairman – Simon Thomas)
Member of the Southern Federation of Referees' Societies

www.hantsrefs.org.uk

“BETTER OFFICIALS, BETTER GAME...”

Chairman – Simon Thomas

Phone 01420 561552 Mobile 07887 873999 Email simonthomasuk@yahoo.com
40 Telegraph Lane, Four Marks, Alton, Hampshire GU34 5AX

Dear Colleagues

29th January 2009

I announced at our January 2009 Society Training meeting that your Committee has taken action to minimise a forecast budget deficit for the Society in season 2008-09. Based on the travel claims already made to the end of December 2008, our Treasurer reported a significant increase year-on-year in the amount claimed – increased numbers of referees claiming travel allowances at all, numbers of actual journeys claimed, and the times that a full journey mileage is being claimed.

Therefore the Committee decided to reduce the Society mileage allowance from 40p to 35p per mile. This takes effect from Monday 2nd February 2009. In the last few months' petrol prices have returned to more sensible levels. We will review the situation regularly and always welcome your feedback. Even at 35p the expense amount far exceeds the cost of petrol used in all normal cars, especially on long exchange journeys.

For many years most referees did not claim at all, and those that did only for long journeys outside their local areas or just for parts of long journeys. In the past our Society has tried to reflect the rapidly increasing costs of petrol, and the need of many referees to recover some petrol costs, even though we all recognise that we referee or advise as a hobby.

A few seasons ago the Committee extended travel claims to cover training and development group meetings as well as match day journeys, and this option continues. However even with petrol costs down from last year's peak, our budget income is almost all from club fees, so it is crucial that we all are sensible in our travel claims.

This is a prudent action we have taken and please be assured that the Society remains financially sound with substantial funds in reserve to service any small deficit this season and allow for both future investment in equipment and your development as referees & advisers.

Yours in rugby

Simon Thomas

Chairman HRURS