

HANDOUT!



A NEWSLETTER FOR REFEREES

SQUASH WALES FIRST DEDICATED REFEREES NEWSLETTER – ISSUE 3

2009/2010 Season – Another good season I hope all would agree. All of the Squash Wales sanctioned events benefited from having Squash Wales referees present which allowed the players to focus on match preparation. We have seen a lot of players attending referee courses throughout the year, all of whom we hope to see putting what they have learnt into practice at tournaments next season. If you would like any information regarding refereeing or would like to volunteer to be added to the mailing list for tournament referees please e-mail Matthew O'Connor at matthew.oconnor@live.co.uk.

Latest Rankings – Wales Representative in Top 7

Now we haven't been able to say that since Dave Evans was there in 2001. However, we are not talking about a player but a referee.

For those of you who just thought Roy Gingell was a mumbling Maestegian who turns up at most tournaments throughout the year to referee because he's too old to play, are mistaken. He is in fact one of the top referees in the world and one of only seven World Grade Referees. As well as being a massive asset to Squash Wales he is also called upon to input into referee development and monitoring with England Squash, the European Squash Federation and the World Squash Federation.

His reward for this status is the opportunity to be flown all over the world to officiate and assess at top class tournaments where he officiates matches with the worlds top players. He has also achieved minor celebrity status through his appearances on Sky Sports during televised squash tournaments. As a small country Wales is privileged to be home to a World Referee, only another six countries in the world can boast about that!

World (WR) Referees (7)

Roy Gingell	WAL
Fahim Gul Khan	PAK
John Massarella	ENG
Mike Riley	USA
Chris Sinclair	AUS
Graham Waters	CAN
Nasser Zahran	EGY

What's Been Happening..

Gwent SRA & Newport SRC provided 29 keen attendees from 8 clubs for a referee course in January 2010. The lively, entertaining course created much debate & interest. Over the coming months this course should provide the region with a big influx of newly qualified referees once the candidates have successfully completed their assessments.

Porthcawl Squash Club hosted a very successful Club Grade Referees course in April which was delivered by Squash Wales Tutor Paul Barrell. With 13 adults attending from 3 different clubs and 3 juniors from Porthcawl, many players left disappointed that they will no longer be able to get away with cheating when playing within their club!

Milford Haven Squash Club also hosted a Club Grade course during April which 16 people attended and was delivered by World Referee Roy Gingell.

If you would like to hold a referee course at your club please e-mail matthew.oconnor@live.co.uk



European Team Championships 2010

April saw Wales finest being sent to Aix en Provence in France for the European Team Championships.

Representing Wales on the referee front were Paul Thomas and our Referee of the Year for 2009, Colin Snape. Colin was attending for his third consecutive year after a trip to Holland in 2008 and Malmo in 2009, with Paul Thomas making his second trip in two years.

Both joined Roy Gingell who was there in his capacity as a World Grade Referee, in refereeing some of the top players in Europe.

All expenses paid trips to such events are one of the many rewards that are offered to higher grade referees so why not get yourself to some Squash Wales tournaments and start progressing towards qualification as a National Grade referee.

WANTED.. Club Grade Referees

If you are a club grade referee would you be interested in applying your trade at Squash Wales sanctioned events and start working towards the next level of County Grade Referee?

Squash Wales are looking for interested individuals to support and develop to competent County Grade and higher referees. By attending Squash Wales events you can be assessed and mentored by a Senior Referee who will provide you with constructive feedback to help you progress.

If you are a Club Grade Referee and interested in progressing to County Grade please email Matthew at matthew.oconnor@live.co.uk

Changes to Referee Assessments for 2010/2011

Next season will see a change to the way assessments are carried out following attendance at a club grade referees course.

Previously assessments have been requested at team matches but we are frequently finding that it is difficult to have enough decisions during a match to pass/fail the referee. With the limited number of assessments that can be carried out at a team match this is not working effectively.

From next season referees wanting assessments will either be required to attend Squash Wales tournaments and referee suitable matches or attend a Squash Wales assessment day where people can turn up and referee an exhibition match which will ensure enough decisions are created for a full assessment.

Dates of tournaments and assessment days will be listed under the Referee section of the Squash Wales website for next season so please keep an eye out for these.



WANTED.. Referee Course Tutors

Are you a teacher, lecturer or someone that just likes to stand up and talk to a group of people...

If you feel you have the confidence and basic referee knowledge to deliver Club Grade referee courses to groups of 10+ people then Squash Wales would like to offer you the opportunity.

Squash Wales pays tutors £50 per course plus travel expenses.

If you are interested in becoming a Club Grade course tutor or would like to find out more please e-mail Matthew at matthew.oconnor@live.co.uk

What is the correct decision??

Now we are coming towards the summer and hopefully some nice sunny weather hands and racket grips will begin to get increasingly sweaty during matches. In your head you will be focusing on not letting that racket slip out of your hand but what would happen if it did?, **What is the correct decision if a players racket is dropped during a rally?**

Answer – The rally should be allowed to continue unless the dropped racket causes interference, distraction or the ball touches it.

Dropping the racket is treated differently to other objects. If the racket is dropped accidentally the rally continues unless it is judged as a distraction in which case a Let is played or it causes interference in which case a Let will also be given.

If an object other than the players racket falls to the floor during a rally with no collision between players then that player will lose the point. If it is the result of a collision then a Let will be given.

More information can be found under **Section 7 – Continuity of Play** in the WSF Rules or on the Squash Wales website.



5 Let Rule..

The US Pro Squash Tour, a series of tournaments running across the USA, is set to implement a new rule which allows players **only five lets per game.**

There have been many discussions about how to reduce the number of undecided points in a squash match, a feature of the game which has marred, even ruined a number of professional matches. As far as we are aware this is the first time a measure like this has been implemented. I happened to be chatting with the referees at Canary Wharf about the exact same subject, so good timing US Pro!.

Each player will begin a match with 5 lets at his disposal.

A player requesting a let will still say "Let, please" to the referee. And the referee will continue to have three options: "Yes, let", "No let" or "Stroke to Player A".

If the call is "Yes, let", the referee will then follow with, "Player A has used his first let. He now has 4 remaining."

If a player requests a let and the referee responds with a "no let" or "stroke" call, the player will still retain his 5 lets.

Once the player's 5 lets have been exhausted, the referee will only be able to award a "no let" or a "stroke" call.

Watch this space for developments.

