

Buckinghamshire RFURS

Report 2023- 24

Firstly, I would like to thank Neale Baker and his County Exec, as well as Simon Winman for their support and the work that they have put into making this season so successful.

Congratulations go to Amersham & Chiltern for an outstanding season where senior sides were promoted, and all their junior age groups won their respective competitions. Congratulations also go to Beaconsfield and High Wycombe also achieving promotion.

The Ro Bates trophy for 2023 – 24 went to Amersham & Chiltern.

This season saw the society recruit 16 new referees and one new club from outside the County [Dunstablians]

To address the growing level of referee abuse NB and I developed the Referee / club charter. This has been agreed by all clubs and I hope that as the next season begins, we will see the benefits of this charter.

One disappointing point from this season was that several clubs at the County conference pledged to start referee academies. To date there has been no action taken on this pledge. On a more positive note, Aylesbury and MK have already booked courses to expand their academies.

Bucks' referee's Exec has been stable for many years. At our AGM there have been several changes. The new committee is as follows:

President Peter Downs

Richard Bobbett Chairman

Hon Sec Mark Yeoman

Hon Treasurer Stephen Dowds

Appointments secretary Luke Burch

Discipline Officer Joel Tailor

Safeguarding Steven Farnell

Exchange secretary James Walker

Grading and new referee mentor Rex da Rocha

Referee Development Phil Bowden

As referee's chair for the past 11 years, I would like to pay tribute to the support and hard work of those who have served on the Referee's Executive.

Buckinghamshire Referees Society Chairman (June 2024)