



BSPL NEWS



Issue 3 - 2001 | 2002 Season

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CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

I have already received a few enquiries from teams hoping to enter the League next season.

The situation, I believe, is that we are going to have to think about extending the League, and whether we will have enough Sunday's to complete the season.

At present, we are on course to complete the season on time and have even a few Sunday's to spare, courtesy of the good weather.

If anyone knows of teams wishing to join the League, please let me know as early as possible, and have them put it to me in writing.

the earlier they contact me, the more chance they will have of being accepted next season.

Gabe Devlin

BACK TO TRADITION

Old Pastimes resurrected by Teams

In all these days of high tec computers and the like, it is nice to see teams in the Belfast Sunday Premier League going back to the old days and reviving traditions long since gone.

Specifically, I am referring to the old tradition of gurning.

Now I certainly don't mean the screwing up of the face and pulling your bottom lip over you head, No I am referring to gurning in the more literal sense,

ie. the art of constantly complaining.

My stance is one of a Committee member and referee, and it is whilst conducting both posts that my ears take one hell of a bashing at times, especially on the pitch from players.

Now referees on the whole are easy going, and can take a bit of banter. But when you officiate in a match, and both teams never shut up, it is no wonder that sometimes it gets to a

A VIEW FROM THE MIDDLE

As we approach the festive season, I have noticed that we do not get a break this year with matches every Sunday.



I hope this does not result in hang overs as we go into the matches, with everybody including referees, managers and players suffering the after effects of the wine and Turkey.

So far we all have had reasonably quiet Sunday's which is good and pleasing to all.

I also notice that the monthly meetings are becoming shorter, with no major problems being apparent.

(contd page 2 col. 2)

REGISTRATIONS

Here are the numbers of players that each team has signed up to and including 2 December, 2001.

Managers are reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that no more than thirty players are registered

22 - Chester Park.

23 - New Lodge and Trinity Lodge.

24 - Monagh Star.

27 - Linenhall Athletic, Boca Seniors, St. Matts.

28 - Sprint Auto, Brookvilla

29 - Rock, Knock, St. James, Adelaide, St. Michaels, Hotspurs, Belfast Albion.

30 - Rushlight Celtic, Dub, Deanby, Glen Swifts

PLAYER OF THE MONTH

It has been impossible to pick a Player of the Month for December, 2001 as we had no less than twenty one player all with one nomination each. Among those, were twelve who had no disciplinary records this season.

The competition will therefore carry over until the Sunday before next Months Meeting, with the prize being £20

ON THE WEB

Every Issue of the BSPL News seems to bring some new development or occurrence which sees the League become more professional, and gives outsiders the chance to see just who and what we are.

And so this time, it falls to DUB F.C. to carry the mantle and they have done it with the launch of the first website from a team in the BSPL. Although still in its infancy the site will hopefully provide a vehicle which not only Dub, but the BSPL in general can use to further the cause of Sunday Football.

In fact, I intend to publish the BSPL News on the website, available as a download so that teams can print out as many copies as they require. The address of the site is www.dubfc.com so have a look and let Art Keenan and the boys know what you think.

A view from the middle (contd. from page 1 col. 2)
Again I hope that this is a trend which will long continue.

So in closing, as this is my last column of the year 2001, I would take this opportunity of wishing, on behalf of the referees, a happy Christmas and a very happy, successful and prosperous New Year.

Wishing you all the best, **Con Fox**

FAIR PLAY TABLE**UP TO AND INCLUDING 2 December, 2001**

TEAM	No. of Matches	Additional Disciplinary Points	No. of Yellow Cards	Total Points from Yellow Cards (2 Pts per Card)	No. of Red Cards	Total Points from Red Cards (4 Pts per Card)	Total Points	Average Points per Match
Rock F.C.	11		1	2	0	0	2	0.1818
Knock F.C.	9		2	4	0	0	4	0.4444
GlenSwifts F.C.	10		3	6	0	0	6	0.6
Linenhall Athletic F.C.	12		5	10	0	0	10	0.8333
St. James F.C.	11		5	10	0	0	10	0.9090
Adelaide F.C.	12		4	8	1	4	12	1
Dub F.C.	10		4	8	1	4	12	1.2
Boca Seniors F.C.	11		7	14	0	0	14	1.2727
St. Michaels F.C.	13		7	14	1	4	18	1.3846
Hotspurs F.C.	11		4	8	1	4	17	1.5454
Brookvilla F.C.	10	2	8	16	0	0	18	1.8
Chester Park F.C.	11		10	20	0	0	20	1.8181
Deanby Swifts F.C.	12	5	11	22	0	0	22	1.8333
St. Matts F.C.	12		9	18	1	4	22	1.8333
Rushlight Celtic F.C.	14		9	18	2	8	26	1.8571
Belfast Albion F.C.	10		6	12	2	8	20	2
New Lodge Mc Laughlins F.C.	12	5	5	10	3	12	27	2.25
Monagh Star F.C.	11		13	26	0	0	26	2.3636
Trinity Lodge F.C.	11		13	26	0	0	31	2.8181
Sprint Auto F.C.	12	5	15	30	2	8	38	3.166

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COMMON SENSE

Over the past number of weeks, it has become apparent, especially among the newer teams in the League, that Referees are not being paid and match cards picked up until after teams have changed. Sometimes this is even after the appointed 1.30pm kick off.

This must cease forthwith and managers are reminded that it is their responsibility to pay the referee and get the card, and this must be treated as a priority. Should a referee be late, then if one of the other referees or Committee present are asked politely, they should be able to give you the card and will hold onto the respective referees money pending his arrival. This is only Common Sense as it gets the cards signed up promptly and the matches started on time. Please take heed of this and not have the Committee to continually be on teams backs.

BACK TO TRADITION (Cont. from page 1 Headline)

point that a rash of yellow cards is the only way to make players concentrate on their football.

In fact if some players did put as much effort into their game rather than their moaning, the standard of the League would be even higher.

I wonder if we or rather from a personal view, I am too soft. I try to explain that if I make a certain decision, I will attempt to justify it, IF I am spoken to in the right manner. However, some players seem to be of the opinion that the right manner is standing nose to nose, screaming their objections. To do this is just taking the most direct route to a yellow card at the least.

Having said that, there are certain managers who seem to take great delight in verbally abusing Committee and referees just because a decision has not gone their way.

As I have stated in other issues of the BSPL news, this acts as a role model for players who then believe it is proper to act in a similar fashion towards Officials.

It is the responsibility of Team Officials to have their teams cut out this dissent and aggressive manner, in addition to themselves.

Thankfully it is not one way traffic and I do give credit where credit is due. We in the Belfast Sunday Premier League do have teams who might whine a bit, but nevertheless get on with the job in hand. They are a pleasure to referee, and negate the need for a trip to the chemists from headache tablets before every game.

There are also Managers who may not like a decision or the way that a referee handled a game. At the final whistle they can pass on their thoughts and comments, no matter how bad, but they do it in a quiet and constructive manner, which the referee can accept with no need for recourse to the Committee with letters of complaint.

The subject of dissent from players and managers is a subject which has risen countless times previously. Unfortunately it will continue to be a topic for debate up until players realise that referees are not there to be verbally berated by Committee and Players.

Referees are determined to stamp this out, so the message that Team Officials should be taking back to their players, is that if they don't lighten up, then it will be up to the referees to start issuing more yellow cards for the slightest dissent. No doubt this will bring howls of protest, but then again, you have been warned.

LACK OF KNOWLEDGE

Having had the benefit of completing my referees course, and keeping up to date with the laws of the game, it has become apparent that players and Managers just do not know the rules of the game.

From next month, I intend to run a column which will deal with the more obvious laws and how they should be interpreted. This will hopefully be read by the players who will have a better grasp of the laws and how they are applied and should hopefully cut out some of the lack of understanding which can lead to dissent.

League Tables

These Tables represent all results up to and including 4 November, 2001

DIVISION 1

	Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
NEW LODGE MC LAUGHLINS F.C.	7	6	1	0	19
ST. MATTS F.C.	6	6	0	0	18
RUSHLIGHT CELTIC F.C.	10	5	2	3	15
MONAGH STAR F.C.	8	4	1	3	12
TRINITY LODGE F.C.	8	3	2	3	11
SPRINT AUTO F.C.	8	3	0	5	9
ROCK F.C.	8	2	0	6	6
LINENHALL ATHLETIC F.C.	8	1	1	6	4
ST. JAMES F.C.	7	2	0	5	4
KNOCK F.C.	4	1	0	3	3

Linenhall Athletic and Rock awarded 2-0 victories against Rushlight Celtic (Ineligible Player)
 Rushlight receives a further 2 point deduction for ineligible player
 Trinity Lodge awarded 2-0 victory against Monagh Star (Ineligible Player)
 Trinity receive a further 2 point deduction for ineligible player
 St. James receive a 2 point deduction for ineligible player

DIVISION 2

	Pld.	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
HOTSPURS F.C.	7	7	0	0	21
CHESTER PARK F.C.	6	5	0	1	15
BELFAST ALBION F.C.	5	4	0	1	12
DUB F.C.	6	3	2	1	11
ST. MICHAELS F.C.	8	3	1	4	10
BROOKVILLA F.C.	7	3	0	4	9
DEANBY SWIFTS F.C.	8	2	2	4	8
ADELAIDE F.C.	8	2	1	5	7
GLEN SWIFTS F.C.	6	1	0	5	3
BOCA SENIORS F.C.	6	1	0	5	3