

## HSRA – Refereeing & Marking Report to AGM

Contact : Paddy May  
07717 774946  
themays@ntlworld.com

With the reduced budget available for refereeing and marking courses, we only held 1 hybrid course this year and no qualification courses. The hybrid course was held at Whitchurch and I am very grateful to Whitchurch for hosting this successful course. There were no significant marking issues which needed to be referred to the “virtual” committee for consideration.

We had sufficient funding available to part fund another hybrid course but despite some interest from 2 clubs it was not possible to set this up during the season. We will look to set up another hybrid course during the season and possibly part fund another course and so I would be grateful for any clubs that would wish to host this to get in touch with me (particularly from the South of the county).

I have also been in contact with Martin Roberts who is in charge of R&M for England Squash and Racketball. It looks like there have been quite a few developments in this area. He says that all County Grade referees should have been contacted about getting a CRB check. Martin Roberts says that people cannot mark England Squash sanctioned tournaments etc. without having the CRB – but he did say that if we wanted to do things differently within the County that would be OK. Clearly this is an area that the County will need to decide how it wants to play this.

Martin Roberts is very keen in getting people through to County qualifications and beyond. To that end, he is not in favour of the hybrid courses that we run because these do not lead to any qualification. However these do seem popular within Hampshire and so I am intending to carry on using whatever funding I have, for these courses. Interestingly the Provisional qualification now only lasts 12 months. This means that everyone with “P” status that has not had a county grade assessment which they have successfully passed has now lost their “P” status and so would need to redo the exam if they wished to obtain the County grade assessment (we have held no such courses in the last 12 months).

England Squash & Racketball are promoting three courses :

- The referee workshop which should be run at weekends and leads to the exam and provisional qualification – this is about 3.5 hours. We could hold such an event and nationally they would arrange and promote the event for us. Equally people from Hampshire can attend courses run by other counties.
- There are workshops for juniors
- And there are Junior Academy courses (1 hour) which are free for counties

As a County there are clearly opportunities we can take to link in nationally to what is happening. However I think we should carry on doing the courses that are popular for us and which help promote better marking across the board rather than just being concerned with getting people qualified to a County grade.

On the England Squash website it does state *“Referees wanted - If you are running an event and need referees, or are a qualified referee and would like to volunteer at an event, do not hesitate to contact Martin Roberts. Any requests for referees will be advertised on this site”*. This could be helpful in the future to people in the County looking for qualified referees for matches.