



Chairpersons Report June 2021

Dear Colleagues

What can we say about 2020/21? For some it was the season that never was, for others it was a season which started late & brought a welcome respite from the lockdowns we all have had to live with. Hopefully some of you will have been able to enjoy a game or two in the past couple of months and got back into the swing of things.

With all the restrictions we have obviously missed out on so much, especially our monthly meetings & our training sessions. I want to pay tribute to my fellow office bearers whose work didn't stop just because there were no games and no meetings & to give a special mention to Lawrence Black for running the NEURA Zoom forums, which have been a great success in bringing together our members – they have provided education, social contact & craic for all those involved.

It has been a season like no other with the vast majority of junior & intermediate football either failing to start or being severely curtailed – No cup finals to aim for, many many blank Saturdays, so to all of you who have already registered for next year I thank you for your patience & perseverance, and to those who have not we would love to see you back on the field for the new season.

To all those members who have lost loved ones over the past season I would like to pass on condolences on behalf of the whole membership – normally we would have stood in tribute at our monthly meetings and it is another unfortunate consequence of the times we found ourselves in that we were unable to do so.

The world is a very different place from when we last met, we had no idea as we sat at our anniversary dinner that four months later everything would shudder to a halt. What those times have shown is that refereeing isn't just a Saturday thing – Everyone faced a tough time at some point during the past 18 months but colleagues looked after colleagues, checking in, lifting the phone, having a chat and we are starting to come out the other side with things are now looking better, restrictions lifting & we can get back to some sort of normality and that includes a new season to look forward to and for that new season I wish you all well

Enjoy your summer and hope to see you all again very soon

Evan Boyce
Chairperson