



## **THE FA CARLSBERG NATIONAL LEAGUE SYSTEM CUP** **2007/2008** **NEWSLETTER No 1**

### **Out with the old and in with the new**

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the new National League System Cup campaign. The competition has both a new name and a new look logo. For season 2007/2008 the competition will be known as:

### **The FA Carlsberg National League System Cup**

Please ensure that this title is used on all correspondence and promotional material. The competition also has a new logo and this is shown above. A copy will be sent to you in due course.

### **Entries**

At the recent meeting of the FA's Leagues Committee, the matter of entry into the 2007/2008 competition was discussed and the following agreed:

All leagues at Step 7 of the National League System as at 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006

The senior men's leagues on the Islands of Guernsey, Jersey and the Isle of Man

Other leagues outside the National League System as deemed appropriate by the Committee

An entry form is attached which should be completed and returned, together with the appropriate entry fee, to Mike Appleby by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2006 at the latest.

The format for the competition will be dependent upon the number and geographic spread of the entries.

We had 33 entries last time; let's see if we can beat this number this time round!

## Holders begin quest for Euro glory

The current holders of the cup, the Isle of Man League, swapped their three leg emblem for the three lions and began their European adventure going down 1-0 to the Republic of Ireland in Tipperary.

The match was used as a warm up for the UEFA Regions Cup qualifying round group matches due to be played in the Czech Republic early next year. The match, played on the pristine surface at Cooke Park, attracted a crowd of over 1,700, despite almost continuous torrential rain.

Despite the conditions, the game was played at a high tempo with no quarter given by two determined sides, but it was a single goal five minutes from time scored by John O`Neill that sealed the win for the Irish

The Wayside Celtic striker stole between the otherwise impeccable defensive pairing of Nigel Shimmin and Mark Teare to head home to the delight of the home crowd.

The visitor's task had been made more difficult in the 69th minute when half-time substitute Lee Dixon was sent off following a robust challenge. The side, missing influential winger Chris Bass and the physical presence of Ross Williamson up front were given a real taste of life at the sharp end of amateur football, and although Colum Morrissey tried bravely up front, he found his lone

role against the tough tackling Irish defence very difficult. However, despite being under pressure for much of the game they almost held on for what would have been a most creditable draw against a side that recently defeated the current holders of the UEFA Regions Cup, Spain 3-0.



**The England Side Line Up Prior to the Tipperary Test**

The pick of the England side had to be Laxey FC keeper Mark Blair who turned in a superb display between the sticks.

A further friendly match will be arranged in the New Year as the side builds up the preparations in their quest for European glory.

In the meantime, manager Kevin Manning and his assistant Keith Lunt will be invited to join up with the England National Game XI to observe their preparations for the final European Challenge Trophy match against Holland, which will be played at Burton Albion FC on 29 November.

### England Team

Mark Blair, Sean Quaye, Nigel Shimmin, Mark Teare, Daniel Lace, Nick Hurt, Jim Travers, Kevin Megson, Julian Ringham, Johnny Myers, Calum Morrissey  
Subs: Lee Dixon, Paul Jones, Chris Brown, Liam Cowin, Rob Cottier

## UEFA Regions Cup 2006/2207

The Final line up for the UEFA Regions Cup is starting to take shape with 5 of the 8 finalists now known and a 6<sup>th</sup> to be decided on Friday (2<sup>nd</sup> Nov). These are:

Bosnia Herzegovina  
France  
Poland  
Portugal  
Ukraine

The Bulgarian and Rumanian Amateur Champions go head to head for the 6<sup>th</sup> place in the Georgi Benkovski Stadium in Tetevan with the South East Region (Bulgaria) hoping that home advantage will see them through.

The final two places will be decided in April 2007 with the English Champions travelling to the Czech Republic. The Group 4 fixtures are as follows:

<b>17<sup>th</sup> April</b>		
Czech Republic	v	Northern Ireland
England	v	Slovakia
<b>19<sup>th</sup> April</b>		
Czech Republic	v	England
Northern Ireland	v	Slovakia
<b>21<sup>st</sup> April</b>		
Slovakia	v	Czech Republic
Northern Ireland	v	England

All matches will be played in the Hradec Kravlove region of the Czech Republic

The dates for the Final Tournament are 17<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007. Both the French and Portuguese FA's have submitted bids to UEFA to host the Tournament. A decision will be made by the UEFA Executive Committee before the end of the year.

## Competition Rules

Any proposed changes to the current competition Rules should be submitted to Mike Appleby for consideration by the Rules Committee. Please send by email to [mike.appleby@thefa.com](mailto:mike.appleby@thefa.com)