



On Monday 5th April 2021, Port Vale

Harrogate Town 2-0 at football. It wasn't an important match, but it made history because Rebecca Welch became the first female to take charge of a match in the English men's Football League. Womenrefereed men's matches at a lower level, and one had taken over towards the end of a match when the official referee had been, but Rebecca's achievement signified a new era in English football. Fortunately, it wasn't a difficult match to referee. She turned down a couple of appeals for penalties, but there were no serious problems from the players or

Managers of a losing team have a reputation for blaming refereesa defeat, but the Harrogate manager praised Rebecca for making good decisions.

