

## **O.B.G.S. Referee Handbook**

### **Expectations**

Being a referee for O.B.G.S. is a responsibility and you are expected to behave professionally.

You are expected to familiarize yourself with all of the rules and procedures found in the O.B.G.S. Rec. Coaches Handbook.

All referees are expected to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to game time for all assignments. If you are not able to attend or must cancel, you must contact the referee assignor ASAP, to give the league time to find a replacement. A no call/no show is not acceptable. If you are a no call no show you may be removed from the rotation for the remainder of the season.

### **Uniform Policy**

You are expected to be in full Referee Uniform- Yellow referee shirt with current year's referee patch, black referee shorts. (In inclement weather, black long pants may replace shorts; jackets or dark sweatshirts may be worn upon approval of assignor) Black referee socks, or your rec. team color socks; they must be pulled up at all times. An all black hat is acceptable in inclement weather or for bright sun. Sunglasses may be worn by the ARs. The players should be able to see your eyes.

You are expected to be prepared with a whistle, stopwatch, standard watch pen or pencil, flags (yellow and red), and yellow and red penalty cards.

If you arrive for an assignment and are not in proper uniform you will receive your first verbal warning. You will receive a second verbal warning if this occurs again and on the third time the uniform policy is not followed you may be removed from the rotation for three(3) weeks. If for whatever reason you cannot adhere to the uniform policy it is your responsibility to contact the referee assignor and discuss the issue.

You are expected to maintain to the predetermined game time table to the best of your ability. Do NOT add time for any reason, unless instructed by the V.P. of Recreation or the President.

## Assignment Guidelines

The following is a basic guideline for how games are assigned for each division.

Youth - novice referees - Grade 8 or 9

Junior - standard referees - Grade 8 or 9

Senior - Center: senior referee - Grade 8 or 9, min. age 15

Masters (3M HS Rec.) - Center: ADULT Grade 8; AR: senior referee.

A senior referee is defined as meeting all the qualifications listed below:

Minimum 15 years old, reliable referee for a minimum of three (3) years Have an active participation in any O.B.G.S. soccer program

## Game Assignment Procedures

- Referees for 1st games of the day are responsible for the following:

-Check Goal Area for Safety- Prior to the start of the game you must ensure the goal area is safe. There must be sandbags on each side of the goal. If there is not, do not start the game and look for an O.B.G.S. director to assist you in getting sandbags and making the goal area safe.

-Enforce areas where players, coaches and spectators are expected to stand.

- Fill out the game card- with team names, colors, referee name and assistant referee names. You must keep an accurate count of the score. After the game, you need to tally the score and have each coach sign the card. The card must be returned before you leave to the director on duty.

-Inspect the teams- before game time you must check in each team. Blow your whistle to call each team to a line. You are checking for the following:

Players are wearing cleats (non-metal). Sneakers are permissible.

No Jewelry- no earrings, rings, beads, necklaces, bracelets. Medical alert bracelets are accepted but they must be taped to the wrist.

Each player must wear shin guards and they must be covered with their socks.

The game ball must be safe with a 1/2 inch of compression when squeezed with the thumbs.

Arm casts: soft only, as long as no sharp or metal instruments attached. Hard casts no play even w/foam or bubble wrap covering the cast.

- Start the game- Blow your whistle to call the teams on to the fields for kick off, allow time for them to set up, and then count the players to make sure there are enough players and not too many players.

- Give clear, loud instructions with your whistle- unless you blow the whistle loudly, players will not know when to stop. Use your whistle to notify everyone when the game starts and stops as well as when you need the attention of everyone involved.

-Instruct with your hands and arms- pointing, showing which way a throw-in or kick must go, notifying the coach when they can substitute.

-Do not allow players to bump, push, raise their arms up to block the ball, pull on shirts, or hit another player. No player or coach is permitted to use offensive language. If the player continues this behavior, after being warned, the coach should be asked to remove the player from the field. If this behavior is from a coach, please get a director immediately.

- Throw ins- Encourage players to keep their feet on the ground and throw the ball evenly from behind their heads.

-Injured players may have their coach come get them off the field and should be removed from the field to allow play to resume. The coach may send in a substitution for the injured player, unless it is the keeper.

-When the game is over, shake the hands of each coach and have each coach sign the game card. Please hand in the card or place it in the trailer game card box.

-Remember that you are in charge of the game, not the coaches. You keep the time, make the decisions and must be polite, calm and clear in your decisions.

- If you have any problems, please contact any of the board members on-site before, during or after the game. Do not confront any coach or parent in a criticizing manner. Please contact a board member if you feel either a law was not applied correctly, if the coach is not clear on a law, or the coach did not promote a safe and fun environment.