

THE GAME CARD

September 2004

In an attempt to keep the referees who are assigned games in the Harold S. Young/Don Hawkins Playing Leagues informed, D7 will begin issuing a newsletter. The newsletter will be included in the monthly checks, if required. Referees are encouraged to read the newsletter and apply the information, as it will make the job of administrators, assignors and referees, hopefully easier.

The items selected for this first edition come from the occurrences of the 1st 2 weeks of the 2004/2005 season.

1. All referees who officiate *CYSA* games are to be advised that FIFA, USSF & *CYSA* "Laws of the Game" don't authorize the Referee to engage in physical contact with a player; nor does civil or criminal law permit unauthorized physical contact between civilians with rigorous application of the law applied to offenses against minors. **OTHERWARDS, DO NOT TOUCH ANY PLAYER FOR ANY REASON, EVEN TO OFFER COMFORT FOR AN INJURY OR TO SEPARATE PLAYER(S) FROM A FIGHT.**
2. Game Lengths---Referees need to be aware of the lengths of the matches and the ages of the teams they officiate.
 - U12---30 minute halves
 - U14---35 minute halves
 - U16---40 minute halves
 - U19 (includes U17 and U18)---45 minute halves

Referees do not have the power to shorten a match unless the rules call for special limits such as in tournament rules.

3. Referee assignments---Assignments are made by selected assignors. Referees need to know what time their assignments are, the location of their assignments (this includes the particular field number), and their responsibility for that assignment (i.e. whether they are the referee or the assistant referee.) Games are also expected to start on time. This means that you must be at the field in time to dress, inspect the field, inspect the players and have a proper pre-game with your fellow officials.

We have had too many instances of the referee not knowing which fields they are suppose to be on and whether they are the referee or the AR for a particular game.

There is to be no changes made by the referee on the field. If you are assigned a selected field, you are to remain on that field (the only exceptions are if your game is cancelled, you can fill in for a referee who is unable to officiate on another field or if there is a personal conflict such as your child is playing in that particular game.) If you assigned to be the referee for a particular game, **YOU**, as a referee

do not have the right to remove yourself from that game and give it to someone else. Assignors make assignments based on particular needs for that game. **ONLY THE ASSIGNOR CAN MAKE CHANGES.** The Dual System is not to be used; thus you do not accede to the coaches request if there are only 2 officials on the field. (If the coaches are unable to provide a club linesman, you are still to do the Diagonal System using a referee and 1 AR. The other $\frac{1}{2}$ of field will not have an AR, but the game will even out in the 2nd half.)

4. Referee Pay Statements---You are advised to keep your referee pay statements. Should a conflict arise regarding correct payment for officiated games, you will need to submit the statement sheet to support your claim. You cannot expect the office staff to research the error. Payments are only made by game cards submitted to the D7 Office, not by assignments.
5. Game Cards---There have been many errors on game cards that have been reviewed by D7 office and referee administrators. **IT IS IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER ALL THE FOLLOWING:**
 - Game cards are to be sent to D7 office within 24 hours of the game occurrence. (Don't forget the send off report and player-pass if a send off has occurred).
 - Game cards are your payroll-sheet. Please print your name. If your name is illegible, you may not be paid in a timely manner.
 - Game cards are to be completed in their entirety. This means goals, total scores, as well as yellow and red cards need to be recorded. If red/yellow cards are issued, the numbers of the offending players, times of the offense **and** the reasons are to be listed. Any other incidents should be recorded also.
6. Laws of the Game---2004 Changes---All referees should go to www.ussoccer.com to review the law changes that were effective July 2004. Once there, on the left hand side is a link to the referee page. Double click on the link, once on the referee page, again on the left is a link to laws of the game. Double click, and when the page opens look for 2004 Law Changes Memorandum. There are several changes, but 2 are important to your officiating. One is on removal of shirts after a goal (there is also a good Power-point presentation on this change) and the elimination of the "golden goal".
7. Referee Upgrades---Upgrade clinics (fitness/written exam) are being scheduled for late October and November 2004. Referees who attended the summer in-service clinics and advised the referee committee of their interest to upgrade or maintain their referee grades of 7, 6 or 5 will be notified of the dates by mail. All interested others need to contact Mick Walker, DRA at (559) 299-5411 of their interest so they too can be notified. (Persons who advised the referee committee of their intention to upgrade or maintain a higher grade are those persons who participated in the fitness test or otherwise made a formal request to be tested later).