

THE GAME CARD

October 2006

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. 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 edition come from observations made in October of the 2006/2007 season:

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| 1. Referee Standards/Expectations | 2. Referees Not Meeting Standards Listing |
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| 7. Fitness Test/Written Examination | 8. Proper Mental Preparation |

1. **Referee Standards/Expectations...** The referee program for the D7 playing program has always had standards/expectations for referees. Referees who attended the in-service clinics were REMINDED of these standards. For the current season, failure by referees to meet these standards in a game will result in the referee(s) forfeiture of reimbursement for that game. These expectations are applicable whether the referee attended the clinic or chose not to attend. The standards were included in the handouts given out in the in-service clinics this past summer.

2. **Referees Not Meeting Standards Listing...** A listing of Referees not meeting standards have been issued weekly to all assignors of HYS/DH PP. If you have not been paid for games, it is probably because of your failing to meet standards during a match. Your assignor should have notified you of your shortcomings. Discuss this issue with your assignor. They will advise you of your options. **DO NOT CALL THE D7 OFFICE OR DRA/DYRA.**

3. **Positive Areas...** Majority of games have started on time; majority of game cards are correctly and timely submitted; on my visits as well as other mentor's visits to the fields, there has been no identified problems with referee uniforms; player's dress has improved as well. The 5th playing weekend had only 2 instances of game card errors. The 6th weekend with all game cards reviewed except for Clovis site had no errors. We are now completing the cards correctly. Keep up the good work.

4. **Continuing Problem Areas...** Some game cards are not complete at the top. The game card may be missing the PP (league), or the site, or the date, or the **teams listed** or the time of game. While the recording of scorers and times of score has improved, some referees are still not listing the reasons for issuing a caution/send-off as well as the time. **Remember there are only 7 reasons each to issue a caution or send-off.** While you may list the foul that caused the caution/send-off, you must convert it as well to one of the 7 reasons for caution or 7 reasons for send-off. Referees continue to write forfeit on the game cards as well as in some instances enter a score of 1-0 when games are not held because a team does not show with enough players or the players pass is missing.

Referees cannot determine winners. The proper terminology is the game is **abandoned**. The Playing Program Committee determines the winner in these instances.

5. **USSF Referee Registration for 2007...**Referees currently registered for 2006 recently received notification from the USSF regarding re-registering for 2007. Grade 8 referees can either go online to re-register for 2007 or they can continue to re-register through US mail. Either way, they must go to www.cnra.net, and follow the instructions. In either instance, you will need your referee registration number. I have registration numbers for referees who registered for 2006. I do not have registration numbers for referees who last registered in 2005 or prior. If you need your registration number, have your assignor call me or contact www.ussoccer.com.

Referee Grades 7, 6 and 5 as well as referees upgrading for the coming year must send the re-registration forms to Mick Walker, DRA.

Referees, who last registered with USSF in 2005, can re-register for 2007 either online or through the paper route. Should they fail to register for 2007 but wish to referee in the future, they will be required to retake the entry level referee clinic.

If last registered in 2004 or prior, they will be unable to re-register for 2007 as they must retake the entry level referee clinic.

6. **Upgrade requirements...**Referees wishing to upgrade from grade 8 to grade 7 are reminded to obtain their assessments as soon as possible. Games used for assessment upgrade purposes must be on games with 45 minute halves. Do not wait until November to attempt to get an assessment. Assessments should be scheduled through Hunter Arakawa, DDA, at 269-2925.

7. **Fitness Test/Written Examination...**The fitness test/written examination is scheduled for 11/13/06 and 11/21/06 at the Fresno City College Track (7:00 PM). Following the fitness test, the written examination will be given at the D7 office. Referees wishing to upgrade or maintain their current referee grades of Referee Grade 7, State Referee Grade 6 and State Referee Grade 5 must pass these annual tests/examinations. Referees who fail to attend the scheduled dates will have to reschedule with the District Director of Instruction (there will be a financial cost to each referee requesting a private fitness/written examination.)

8. **Proper Mental Preparation...**Referees who referee in different leagues or associations must mentally prepare themselves for the league or association rules in which they have taken assignments. Recently, in observing games, I have seen several instances where PP rules were not followed by referees. On 2 games, back to back with different referee crews, players who were sent off because of a **2nd caution** were allowed to have a substitution enter the field taking their place (this is a CIF rule). On 2 other occasions, and at different sites, players receiving a **1st caution** did not leave the field. D7 PP rules (only) mandate a cautioned player to leave the field/game at the time of the caution. The coach may substitute for that player if he wishes. The cautioned player may reenter or be substituted back into the game at the next stoppage of play where a substitution is allowed for that team.