

# Preparation for Assessment

Assessment requirements for Advanced Referee:

- One as Referee
- One as Assistant Referee
- U14 or higher match
- Scheduled by Regional Referee Administrator or Regional Director of Assessment
- Assessor assigned and assessment approved by Area Referee Administrator or Area Director of Assessment

## Assessment Guidelines for the Advanced Referee Candidate

### Before the Match

- Arrange the match and request the assessment at least two weeks prior to the match. Do not schedule activities immediately before or after the match.
- Arrange your referee team; coordinate primary and secondary colors for the uniform. Shirts must match so that the referee team looks like a team.
- The referee team should arrive at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the match, in uniform with shined shoes and all appropriate equipment (flags, watch, etc.).
- Meet the assessor and complete your paper work early so that you may then concentrate on the game.
- The referee team must inspect the field. If there is a game in progress, walk around the perimeter of the field looking for proper placement of the corner flags; correct positioning of the goal, and unusual field conditions.
- The pre-game instructions should be done off the field. The assessor needs to hear this discussion. Be sure to discuss level of play, game length, diagonal used (right or left), assistant referee positions and responsibilities for all restarts, other assistant referee duties (senior AR, regarding fouls, fights, etc.), signals that should be used to communicate with the assistant referees, any special rules (local, area, or tournament), and substitution policy.
- The referee team should inspect each team and the line-up cards.
- Get a suitable ball from the home team.
- The referee team enters the field together and moves to the center spot for the coin toss. If necessary, conduct the coin toss off the field while a previous match is finishing. It is important that your match begins on time.

### During the Match

- Smile and relax. Forget about the assessor and try to conduct the match as you normally would.
- Referee with authority using sharp arm signals and whistle confidently. Be in control. Be professional.
- Use proper mechanics and work diligently to maintain proper positioning during active play and for restarts.
- Use proper procedures when cautioning or sending-off a player or coach.
- The referee team needs to work together and communicate frequently via eye contact or signals.
- Assistant referees need to keep the flag (unfurled) on the field side / referee side at all times while the ball is in play, signal smartly, and maintain eye contact with the referee.
- At the end of the first half, the start of the second half, and at the end of the match the referee team should exit or enter the field together.
- At half time the referee team should discuss changes to be made by the referee team in the second half, if any.

- Start the second half on time and end it on time.
- At the end of the game, collect the ball and meet the assistant referees at the center circle. Leave the field together.

### **After the Match**

- Get a drink, gather your equipment, and meet with the assessor at an agreed location near the field but away from others. Allow about 30 minutes for the assessor to discuss the match and your performance with you.
- The assessor will either tell you that you have passed the assessment or that you require another observation.
- Listen carefully to what the assessor says. Remember the assessor's objective is to help you become a more effective referee and make your games more positive, exciting and fun.
- Note the assessor's comments and incorporate the suggestions that will help your officiating.
- If you are told that another assessment is recommended, remember that it is NOT a failure. The assessor has your interest and welfare at heart. The assessor wants to be sure your officiating proficiency and enjoyment is improved.
- Congratulations! You did your best and hopefully have learned from the experience, regardless of the outcome of the assessment.

### **Referee Self Assessment**

- Was I mentally and physically ready for this level of play?
- Did I call the game too tightly?
- Did I call the game too loosely?
- Was I too fussy about minor details?
- Was I too quick with the whistle?
- Was I too slow with the whistle?
- Was I too sensitive (thin-skinned)?
- Did I over-react?
- Did the coaches, parents or spectators influence my performance?
- Did I allow negative or abusive behavior to influence my decisions?
- Did I make any mistakes with important decisions?
- Did I maintain a professional manner in dealing with players and coaches?
- Did I work with my assistant referees as a team?
- Was the match safe, fair, and fun?
- What will I do differently next game?
- Did I have fun?