

FM Soccer Club - Referee Requirements/ Expectations

This is a Job – Please take the position seriously

- **Arrive on time and prepared (15 minutes prior to Kick-off).**
- **Find a sub if you have a conflict.**
- **Communicate efficiently with the referee coordinator!**

Your number 1 concern is for player safety

- No slide tackling, heading (except u14), playing on the ground, or dangerous play of any kind results in an automatic whistle.

You are Teachers

- Please give prompts to younger players before a throw in
- For retakes of throw-ins please demonstrate a proper throw-in to players.
- Only the team who has the ball, is allowed in the box for goal kicks, prior to it being kicked.
- When you blow the whistle, explain briefly to the players why.

Be prepared:

- Have all necessary equipment (proper footwear - cleats/sneakers, watch, whistle, and shirt)
- Copy of the rules (take a picture on your phone if needed)

Introducing the referee's to the coaches and players:

- Give your name and introduce other officials to the coaches, make eye contact.
- Set the tone, be confident and remind them that your decision is final.
- Remind coaches and players that during the game, players should remain on the team bench and only on their half of the side-lines (not allowed behind the goals).

Loud whistle and confident calls:

- YOU are the authority on the field
- Mistakes happen and it's ok, don't reverse the call. For major incidences such as a penalty, if unsure you can chat to a fellow official working the game to clarify if it is the correct call.
- If needed blow the whistle multiple times to get players attention.

Contact us with any problems with players, parents or coaches.

Game Day Responsibilities

Teach the players rules by clarifying decisions

Ensure player safety

Decide with your co-refs your position on the field.

Games with 2 refs, each take half the field. Make sure you are in position to see offsides and balls over the goal and side lines.

U8/9 games have 1 ref + 1 floater ref per time slot to be used in the event someone is late or doesn't show. Floater ref moves to take over that game if that happens.

Introduction to coaches/players

- 5-7 minutes before the games start.
- Clarify rules of this particular division.

Check Players for Proper Equipment

- Shin guard and cleats/sneakers.
- No casts, earrings, metal screw in studs, barrettes or hair clips, necklaces, wrist accessories or bracelets.

Start Games MUST be started on time.

All games are 15 minute quarters with 2 minutes in between quarters.

Useful Referee Signal Videos:

Head Referee - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMWY_AZg4_I

U8/9 Division Build out line

<https://youtu.be/sQ92Kfilwok>

https://youtu.be/8WkdU1u_IUU

FM Soccer Club Rules for Referees

General Rules:

- Kickoffs: The ball can go in any direction as long as it moves.
- Hand Balls: Call intentional only (unnatural position). In U8/9 if they are protecting their face let it go.
- **Goal Kicks: Ball does not need to leave the box and the team whose goal kick it is can be in the box. The other team can only enter box once it is kicked.**
- Offside: None on throw-ins, can't be offside in own half. Primarily called by the assistant referee's which is why you need to be up with play.
- Goalies: No touching by players on the field. Protect the goalkeepers.
- Yellow and Red Card: Intent to injure or act recklessly
- Playing from the ground: Stop play free kick to other team
- Slide Tackles – Never allowed.
- Substitutions: Any stoppage in play.
- Thunder and Lightning: Game cancelled
- **If ball hits referee and means team who played the ball lost possession of ball due to it hitting the referee and the other team gain a significant advantage. The game is stopped and an uncontested drop ball is given to the team who lost possession.**
- **Free Kick Wall: The big change here is that when a team has three or more players in a wall from a free-kick, the attacking team can no longer put their own players in it. Walls should be 10 yards away.**

Different Age Groups

All games are 4 x 15 minutes with 2 minutes between quarters

U9: 7v7 Games

Throw-ins: 2-3 times (teach)

1 or 2 referees: One per half of the when 2.

No Heading

Build out line for goal kicks and when goalkeeper has ball in hands. [Watch build out line videos](#) on website.

Ball size 3 or 4

U11: 9v9 Games

Throw-ins: 2 times (teach)

2 Referees - Take half the field each

No Heading

Ball size 4

U14: 9v9 Games

Throw-ins: 1 time (teach)

2 Referees - Take half the field each

Heading is allowed

Ball size 5