



ASSISTANT REFEREES

FIFA Laws of the Game - Law 5 – states that The Referee:

- enforces the Laws of the Game
- controls the match in cooperation with the assistant referees and, where applicable, with the fourth official

Prior to the commencement of each game, the referee must provide both Assistants with pre-match instructions covering duties, and requirements in certain situations. Amongst other things, the pre-match instructions should also allocate responsibilities, and inform the Assistant Referees where to stand and how to act in certain situations.

- ☉ It is best for each referee to create a standard brief to use at most games, and then add on anything additional that is peculiar to each game.
- ☉ First and foremost the Assistant Referees should carry out their duties based on the requirements of Law 6 (The Assistant Referees).
- ☉ Pre-match instructions should take place in private, but not necessarily in the Referee's changing room.
- ☉ The referee should create a cooperative environment and show a positive attitude towards the Assistant Referees when delivering instructions. As the team leader, this is an ideal opportunity to develop a positive relationship.
- ☉ It is important that these instructions are delivered without interruption; however, if interruptions occur then maintain concentration throughout.
- ☉ All members of the team should concentrate 100 per cent before, during and after the match and remain fully alert and aware at all times.

Official Assistant Referees

Allocate duties to both Assistants. For example the Senior Assistant Referee is to patrol the 'Technical Area' side of the field of play, and the Junior Assistant Referee to patrol the far-side touchline throughout the game. The Senior Referee will replace the referee in cases of injury. Both should take out all equipment, including whistle, coin and notebook.

Club Assistant Referees

On which side do you place the Club Assistant Referee? There is no mention in the Laws of The Game as to which side the Club Assistant Referee is placed on, but is recommended that they do their own forwards. But it is still left to the discretion of the Referee.

- ☉ Firstly do not accept:
 - A) Players as assistants
 - B) Persons younger 15 years of age.
 - C) Persons that will not be running the whole game.
- ☉ Speak to club team managers before the game to ascertain who will be your club assistant referee.
- ☉ Have them available at least 5 minutes before start of game.
- ☉ Where possible arrange to meet the Assistant Referee and give these instructions in private in your dressing room.
- ☉ Give instructions to both at same time.
- ☉ Instruct both Assistant Referees that they do not talk to spectators or officials, and do not coach players during the game while you are acting as an Assistant Referee.
- ☉ Note their names in your notebook
- ☉ The referee should create a cooperative environment and show a positive attitude towards the Assistant Referees when delivering instructions. As the team leader, this is an ideal opportunity to develop a positive relationship.
- ☉ It is important that these instructions are delivered without interruption; however, if interruptions occur then maintain concentration throughout.
- ☉ Enter the field of play as a team, and have them involved with the pre-match coin toss ceremony.

TEAM SHEETS AND ID CARDS

Under SAASL League Competition Rules:

Prior to the start of a match, the officer in charge of each team shall, at least 10 minutes before the scheduled time of kick-off, hand to the referee a properly completed team sheets listing all of the players including up to, but not more than, five substitutes participating in that match. The first eleven players listed must (except through circumstances reasonably beyond the control of the team concerned) be the eleven players who take the field at the start of play. At the same time as he presents the teams sheets for his team, the officer in charge of a team shall hand to the referee the Identity Cards of all players listed on those team sheets. Referees are to email/post a report to the SAASL and a copy to the SAASRA Secretary if a club does not present the Team Sheet and Player ID Cards within the required time.

PRE-MATCH DUTIES OF THE REFEREE

It is very important to arrive early to your appointed games so that you have time to carry out all of your pre-match requirements. Referees are advised to get to the game at least 1 hour before the scheduled kick-off time and Assistant Referees a minimum of 30 minutes before the scheduled kick-off time. When given your appointment and you know that you cannot arrive to the game within the required time to carry out your duties due to work or personal commitments, you may consider your availability for that date.

As from this year Senior Game Referees are required to:

- Assess the Club Referee. The 2012 SAASL Club Referee Assessment forms can be downloaded from the SAASRA website (<http://saasra.wikispaces.com/Forms>).
- Referees to fill out SAASL Senior Match Report. This report is compulsory for all senior and reserve matches officiated by an appointed SAASRA referee. The 2012 Senior Match Report forms can also be downloaded from the SAASRA website. For this reason you are required to complete a ground inspection during the half time break of the reserves game.

Upon arrival at the ground:

- Introduce yourself to club and/or team officials.
- Check the field of play, field marking, including penalty marks, and corner flags.
- Check the field of play for any dangers including syringes, broken glass etc.
- Check that goal posts (including portables) are correctly positioned, secured and in line with goal line markings.
- Check the balls to be used meet the requirements of Law 2.
- Check that match cards have been completed and handed to you with player ID cards at least 10 minutes prior to Kick-off.
- Give match instructions to Assistant Referees.
- Likewise for club officials/stewards.
- Complete SAASL Senior Match Reports.
- Warm up prior to the game. Do not go out cold.
- Check player's equipment meets the requirements of Law 4.
- Check strips do not clash and that the Goalkeepers strips do not clash with each other's or the officials.

REFEREE ASSESSMENTS

This season there is a change to the assessment forms for referees. We have introduced a Pre-season assessment form for trial games which has a tick format section on the referee's performance and a coaching section at the end. For all cup and home/away games, assessors will be asked to either complete an assessment form with grading or one without grading.

There is a change to the format of the assessment forms. The two categories "FITNESS" and "POSITIONING" are now combined as one category "FITNESS, MOVEMENT and POSITIONING". This is in line with current national assessment as the two categories are considered to be related to each other. They will still have the same bearing on your grade (20%). Assessor will also be required to complete a running sheet. The assessor will record incidents from the game which have a bearing on your assessment.

DID YOU KNOW

If covered changing facilities are inadequate to accommodate both of the competing teams and the match officials, then the visiting team and the match officials shall have and must be given priority in the use of those facilities.
(SAASL League Competition Rules 15a)