

Marple Newtown Intramural Soccer Referees

PROTECTING THE PLAYERS IS YOUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

Our goal is to make sure the players are protected from injuries and have the opportunity to enjoy playing soccer with the MNSA. Please keep the game moving and be reasonable with your calls. Help the younger players by explaining the rules if they are doing something wrong.

Scheduling a game

I will send an email to all refs on Monday morning. You will be asked to reply with your availability to ref a game on the upcoming Saturday. You must reply to my email by end of day Wednesday. If you can't ref, there is no need to reply. I will assume you are not available if I do not receive an email reply. Check your game schedule before replying. I typically send an email no later than end of day Thursday with the ref schedule for the weekend. If you are scheduled for a game and your schedule changes, call me at 610-356-7188 so I can schedule another ref. If it is raining the day of a game, I will try to get an email out to everyone Saturday morning. You can also check the web site Saturday morning at www.mnsaonline.org to determine whether games have been cancelled.

Field Locations

All games are played at the Russell School field.

Equipment required

You must bring a whistle and a watch (stop watch preferred) to each game. Other recommended items include a bag, water or juice and sunscreen.

Prior to the game

- Arrive at least ten minutes before the game.
- Introduce yourself to both coaches and make sure they have enough players. If there are not enough players by game time, the game will start with both teams fielding the same number of players.
- Require players to line up and perform your inspection of each player. Every player must wear shin guards with socks pulled up over the shin guards. Players may not wear any jewelry and cannot chew gum during the game. **(This inspection must be performed by every referee prior to every game)**. Remember, protecting the players is your highest priority.

Special Consideration for Pre-Novice games

Goal kicks & corner kicks – Make sure the players understand what a corner kick & goal kick is. You may have to do a little coaching and help the players get into the correct positions before starting the corner kicks. All opposing players must be at least five yards away from the ball on corner kicks, free kicks & goal kicks.

Penalty shots – There are no penalty kicks at Pre-Novice Soccer games. All penalties result in an indirect free kick for the other team.

During the game

The clock does not stop except for a major injury.

Throw-ins – Both feet must be on the ground and the ball must be thrown overhead for a correct throw in. You do not have to strictly enforce this for Pre-Novice the first couple weeks. If a throw in is wrong, stop play and show the player how to throw in correctly. Let them throw in again to get it right. After the first couple weeks, if a throw in is not correct give the throw in to the other team

Injuries – Instruct the player to stay on the ground and call the coach onto the field. Do not touch the injured player. Move the other players away from the injured player.

Fouls or penalties – Some examples of typical penalties or fouls include slide tackles, tripping, elbowing, pushing and holding. Use your judgment on whether to call a foul.

Off side rule – The off side rule will not be explained in this memo. It will be covered at the ref clinics. There are no off side rules called at the Pre-Novice level. Everyone refing Novice through Senior Division is expected to fully understand the difference between being in an off side position and a violation of the off side rule.

Reminders

- Coach & instruct players as needed when the play stops. Your instruction will help them learn the game.
- Use your whistle and blow it hard so everyone can hear it. Players can be injured when some players stop because they heard the whistle and others continue to play because they couldn't hear the whistle.
- Inspect players before every game. Shin guards are required and socks must be pulled up over the shin guards. No earrings, jewelry or gum permitted.

If any parents yell at you for an improper call, go to either coach and ask them to speak to the parents. If a coach yells at you for any reason, contact a league official at the field as soon as possible or call Bob Duncan (610-356-7188) after the game.

After the game

You must record the team names, the score of the game, and your name on the game sheets provided in the game box located at each field.

You will be paid for all your games with one check at the end of the season. The fee schedule is listed below.

Senior games	Center ref \$18, two side refs \$15
Junior games	Center ref \$15, two side refs \$13
Novice games	Both refs \$13
Pre-Novice games	Only one ref \$9

Remember, once the game starts, you are in control.

Have fun!