

MVLA SOCCER CLUB

Subject: **When To Arrive and What To Do If The Entire Referee Team Does Not Show Up**

The club expects every referee to be at the match at least 20 minutes prior to scheduled kickoff in uniform and with full kit.

The match referee (center referee or CR) is in charge; in his/her absence the senior assistant referee by experience (not age) will assume the duties of the match referee. If the senior assistant referee is too young to be the match referee then he/she will designate the other assistant referee as the match referee. If neither assistant referee is old enough to center the match, the senior assistant referee will so advise both coaches and work with them to allow the match to continue (e.g., have the visiting coach center the match, continue with underage match referee, etc.). Document the decision on the game card signed by BOTH coaches.

All leagues allow the match to be played without a full complement of assigned referees.

All leagues follow USSF in expressing a preference for the diagonal system of control (1 match referee and two assistant referees) and allow the match referee to select one or two club linespersons for the match. As a matter of courtesy, in such situations the match referee should give the visitor the option of designating such persons. Note:

- A Federation Referee, whether neutral or not, is a Federation Referee! If there is a Federation Referee available, the match referee may use the person and allow such a person the full responsibilities of the Assistant Referee position.
- USSF *prefers* that club linespersons only be allowed to only signal the ball out of bounds. This is a preference and as such is at the match referee's discretion. If a match referee chooses to allow a club linesperson to signal other infractions, it is good practice to inform both coaches that such an assistant will be so signaling but, in the end, the match referee makes the call based upon all his/her observations, including, but not bound by any signals from an assistant.
- If a coach protests any of the above decisions, so note it on the game card; continuing protests should be handled like any other dissent.

Typically, I only assign myself one game on Saturday and none on Sunday so I am available for assistance and/or backup. If you need my assistance you may call me at:

(650) 941-5324 Home Office

(650) 759-7221 Cell Phone

Please use both numbers, when I am a home I usually do not carry my cell.

Tom Gardner
Referee Coordinator
8/29/2006