

BENICIA YOUTH SOCCER / BENICIA ARSENAL F.C.
Game Day Procedures and Rules of Competition
2016 Spring Season
www.beniciasoccer.org/referees

READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT.
PRINT OUT A COPY AND CARRY IT IN YOUR GEAR BAG.
PLAYER SAFETY IS THE NUMBER ONE CONCERN FOR REFEREES.

CONTACTS

Referee Coordinator: Jeff Kuta, 707-334-4467 (m)
Referee Assignor: Pete Fiori, 707-373-7830 (m)
Referee Assignor: Fred Henderson, 707-567-8244 (m)
* Add these contacts to your phone before taking an assignment.

NOTE FOR SPRING 2016 NORCAL PREMIER LEAGUE:

This is a messy and confusing transitional season. Player ages are now based on calendar years. Heading the ball is a "team infraction" at U11 and below. Games are now played 7v7, 9v9 and 11v11 on separate fields. Rosters may not be 100% up to date as clubs adjust. These are a few things you may encounter as an official.

Print out the file called "2016 Spring Rules Sheet" and save it. There is a one year difference between the age groups you will have at your games (younger) and those which you request on MySoccerLeague.com. **USE RULES TO MATCH GAME CARDS!!**

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- 1) NorCal Concussion Initiative and Protocols
Details can be found at www.beniciasoccer.org/referees
Three facets to this initiative:
 - A) Deliberately Heading the Ball
 - Prohibited for U11, U10, U9, and U8 age groups
 - Indirect free kick for an offense
 - No caution or persistent infringement given
 - Review with team staff during check-in
 - B) Dealing with "head injuries"
 - Stop game; referee quickly evaluate player
 - Name? Birthday? Day of week?
 - Call on coach and/or health care pro (HCP)
 - NO RE-ENTRY UNLESS HCP "ACCEPTS RESPONSIBILITY". ASK!
 - Identify HCP with team staff during check-in
 - ONLY PRE-IDENTIFIED HCP may "accept responsibility"
 - C) Modified Substitution Rules (NPL)
 - Applies to National Premier League (NPL)
 - Re-entry not charged after head injury evaluation
- 2) Professionalism; Build Rapport w/ Staff/Players
 - * Introductions during pre-game
 - * Concussion protocol, modified laws, substitutions
 - * Coin-flip with captains
 - * Conflict resolution
 - Referee should be in control of emotions
 - Acknowledge and understand others point of view
 - Exercise judicious use of power in game
 - Recognize teaching moments vs trickery
 - Personality via words, gestures, and whistle
- 3) Referee Crew Communication
 - * Discuss "moments of truth" during pre-game
 - * CR make eye contact with ARs during dead ball
 - * ARs make hand gestures to acknowledge CR after eye contact

UNIFORM AND GEAR. All referees are expected to wear the following as part of their uniforms and gear: Two or more jerseys (green, red, yellow, blue, black), black shorts with pockets, long black referee socks (2- or 3-stripe), predominantly black shoes, whistle with wrist lanyard, book with yellow and red cards, wristwatch with timer (NO PHONES), flags, pen or pencil and paper, and a coin. The following are optional but recommended: predominantly black referee cap, sweat bands, water, sunscreen, folding chair, air pump, and zip ties for mending nets. Referees should not wear jewelry--the modified laws of the game prohibit players from wearing jewelry, and setting a good example is good for rapport. Referees should tuck in jerseys and probably have a t-shirt underneath in case you need to switch colors. YOU ARE AT WORK SO BE PROFESSIONAL IN APPEARANCE AND BEHAVIOR.

INJURIES, HEAD INJURIES, AND POTENTIAL HEAD INJURIES. The number one responsibility of a referee is player safety. During small sided games, if there is an injury, STOP PLAY IMMEDIATELY and tend to the player, calling the coach or health care professional onto the field as appropriate. During 11 v 11 games if there is an injury, during a promising attack, you may wait 1-2 seconds to let play develop then STOP PLAY. If a player has a head injury or potential head injury, follow the concussion protocol.

TEAM CLASSIFICATIONS. Teams are classified as Competitive (aka Select or Arsenal F.C.) or Recreational (aka House). Competitive teams, strongest first, are classified as Premier, Gold, Silver, Bronze and Copper. More competitive teams require higher level referees. Referee match fees are set based on whether the match was Competitive, Recreational or Tournament and by age group.

PRE-GAME. Arrive at least 30 minutes before kick-off. If full crew is not at site 15 minutes before game time--officials might be on site but at other games--contact referee coordinator or assignor ASAP. Inspect the field. Meet with full crew, get to know each other, and go over game specifics. Check in teams to verify credentials and equipment for players and coaches. Meet with captains, conduct coin toss, get game balls.

COMPETITIONS HOSTED LOCALLY. There are 2 different competitions hosted on local fields this season:

- (A) NorCal Premier Soccer League (Competitive, NorCal)
- (B) NorCal State Cup Tournament (Competitive, NorCal + State Cup)

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN RULES OF COMPETITION. There are 3 critical differences between most rules of competition:

- (1) Game cards, player passes and match reports;
- (2) Substitution opportunities and procedures; and
- (3) Send off (red card) or dismissal reports, if needed.

Below you will find descriptions of the rules that are common to every competition as well as rules specific to the listed competition. Any variations from standard procedure are noted. Please go to the websites listed for the most current rules for each league or organization.

(*) COMMON GAME DAY PROCEDURES AND RULES OF COMPETITION

(1) GAME CARDS, PLAYER PASSES AND MATCH REPORTS

- * Both home and away teams provide a game card to match officials. Two needed.
- * As you check in players, verify that they all have different numbers in case discipline is required.
- * Hold onto player passes if expected competitive level may result in discipline.
- * After the game, CR, ARs, and one credentialed staff person from each team signs the game card.
- * Return player and staff passes.
- * CENTER REFEREE shall keep a copy of the signed game card for future reference.
- * HOME TEAM shall keep another copy of the signed game card for future reference.
- * Center Referee enters match report into MySoccerLeague.com after the game.
 - Choose "Games I Refereed"
 - Enter all appropriate information, including discipline, and Save.
 - This is part of your assignment and **must be completed** in order for anyone in your crew to be paid.

(2) SUBSTITUTIONS

- * A substitute shall not enter the field of play until given a signal or beckoned by the referee. An unlimited number of players from either team may be substituted at the following times:
 - Prior to a kick-off;
 - Prior to a goal kick;
 - Prior to a throw-in; and
 - After an injury or caution, when the referee stops play.

(3) DISCIPLINE AND SEND OFF/DISMISSAL REPORTS

- * When you discipline a player, you must tell them the reason for the caution (e.g. unsporting behavior, dissent, persistent infringement) or send off (e.g. serious foul play, DOGSO by hand, second caution) as you display the card.
- * Identify the player or coach by jersey number, name, team and pass number.
- * Verify player information on pass is same as the game card.
- * DO NOT KEEP THE PASS OF ANY SENT OFF PLAYER OR DISMISSED TEAM OFFICIAL.
- * RETURN PLAYER AND STAFF PASSES AT END OF GAME.
- * Confer with the assistant referees regarding the facts of the situation. Get their names and phone numbers in the case of a send off or dismissal.
- * Write the reasons for the send off/dismissal on the game card using FIFA terminology. Your send off report should be factual and clearly written. For examples, see www.area4referees.org, send off reporting.
- * Notify the Referee Coordinator via text or phone call IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE MATCH ENDS. Club administrators need to be aware of these critical situations. We need good, factual information **before** we get phone calls from protest and discipline ("PAD") committees, other club administrators, or from angry coaches or parents.
- * File the appropriate 24-hour send off/dismissal report as per the rules of competition.
- * File the game report on MySoccerLeague.com with all information listed above.
- * NOTE: A dismissed player or coach is automatically suspended for 1 game. The PAD committees for the competition and team club have authority to add more games to the suspension. If a player or coach asks how many games a suspension may last, tell them the above information.

(A) NORCAL PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE (COMPETITIVE, NORCAL)

Details can be found at:

www.norcalreferees.com

www.norcalreferees.com/rules_of_competition

www.norcalreferees.com/sendoff

www.norcalpremier.com

(1) GAME CARDS, PLAYER PASSES AND MATCH REPORTS

* Same as common rules of competition.

* Addition: NO CLUB COACHES WITH PASSES = GAME MAY NOT BE PLAYED

* Electronic proof of US Club Soccer credential accepted in conjunction with government-issued photo ID

* Addition: PLAYER NOT ON ROSTER = NO PLAY

* Players may be added to roster electronically immediately prior to match, then written in by referee

* Addition: NO INDIVIDUAL PLAYER PASS = NO PLAY FOR INDIVIDUAL

* Addition: ENTIRE TEAM WITHOUT PLAYER PASSES = TAKE PICTURES OF TEAM, NOTE AUTOMATIC PROTEST ON GAME CARD

(2) SUBSTITUTIONS

* Same as common rules of competition.

(3) DISCIPLINE AND SEND OFF/DISMISSAL REPORTS

* Same as common rules of competition.

* Submit any 24 hour Send Off Report online at the website:

www.norcalreferees.com/sendoff

(B) NORCAL STATE CUP TOURNAMENT (COMPETITIVE, NORCAL + STATE CUP)

(1) GAME CARDS, PLAYER PASSES AND MATCH REPORTS

* Same rules as above for (A) NORCAL PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE (COMPETITIVE, NORCAL).

(2) SUBSTITUTIONS

* Same rules as above for (A) NORCAL PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE (COMPETITIVE, NORCAL).

(3) DISCIPLINE AND SEND OFF/DISMISSAL REPORTS

* Same rules as above for (A) NORCAL PREMIER SOCCER LEAGUE (COMPETITIVE, NORCAL).

IMPORTANT: After the seeding round and group stage, State Cup games become single elimination. Please be sure you understand the overtime and "kicks from the penalty mark" procedures before you take the field. Have a printout of the appropriate documents with you. Hold a conference with the referee crew and head coaches before you start overtime. It is critical that everyone understands and agrees to the procedures to be used to decide the match in overtime and kicks from the penalty mark.