



REFEREE INFORMATION

All referees should be aware of the following when working youth soccer games this summer:

1. NO game should be played if lightning is visible. All referees should strictly enforce this policy, even over objections made by coaches. This is a safety issue and must be treated seriously!
2. Keep the games on time. There are two games each night, and lots of players, coaches, and officials who have to get to other games, as well as, darkness to consider. Remember the clock stops only between periods, and for injuries.
3. Anytime the temperature exceeds 90°, referees need to co-ordinate with the coaches on halves or quarters. Watch players closely for heat exhaustion during games played in hot or humid weather. Adjust game times as needed to ensure that games are completed on time.
4. Keep tight control of dangerous play, such as:
 - a. Slide tackling
 - b. Charging
 - c. High kicks – considered to be above the waist – are not allowed when other players of either team are in danger of being injured by the kick.
 - d. Jumping In – when jumping to head the ball a player's movement should be vertical when other players are close.
 - e. No player is allowed on the field if bleeding. The player should be immediately subbed out and bandaged before re-entering game. The uniform should be clean or any blood sprayed with a disinfectant.
5. NO jewelry allowed on players during play.
6. Hard casts must be covered with at least one-half inch of foam. Inspect the cast, and make sure you as the referee feels it is safe for other players. Soft casts are acceptable.
7. No hard-billed caps for field players. Goalies can wear a hard-billed cap if they choose to.
8. Inspect all players' shoes before each game. No sandals, hard-soled shoes, baseball, football, or any other shoes with a toe cleat.
9. Shin guards are mandatory for ALL players in ALL divisions. No shin guards, no play.
10. Shin guards with an exposed hard surface must be covered with a sock. The first week of the season, players will be allowed to play, but inform their coach or parents of the requirement.
11. All teams in all divisions switch ends of the field at halftime.
12. Both teams must field an equal number of players, even if one team has less than the required number of players.
13. If you are schedule for a game and cannot make it, you need to find a substitute. DO NOT just fail to show up. Failure to show up or find a substitute will result in forfeiture of payment for that game, as well as a suspension from all officiating activities for the rest of the season.
14. Any questions or problems you have during the season should be directed to the Merrill Soccer Association Board of Directors (merrillsoccer@gmail.com).

Pay Schedule for Referees

5th, 6th & 7th Grade \$25.00/game

8th, 9th & 10th Grade \$25.00/game

If you are scheduled to ref a game and cannot make it to said game, it will be your responsibility to get a substitute to fill in for you. **The ref scheduler will not do this for you!** A complete list of referees and their phone numbers is attached to your game schedule.

After the summer season, the Referee Coordinator and Treasurer will review, verify, and approve all schedules for payment.