



## **DIOCESE SOCCER LEAGUE**

### **Coach/Referee Expectations**

1. All games will be considered important. Attention to detail, timeliness, and good communication are essential. The players take their games seriously. Poor refereeing is an insult to the coaches, players and parents who work very hard and volunteer many hours to make their school soccer program a success. Likewise, coaches should take their responsibilities seriously.
2. The referees should check the field for playing conditions, lining of the field, condition of nets, etc. before each game, especially if the weather has been questionable.
3. All players will be checked for proper uniforms and equipment before each game.
4. All substituting players will wait at midfield until called onto the field by a referee. If a player enters the field from anywhere else, or has not been called onto the field by a referee, they are to leave the field until the next substitution.
5. Slide tackling is only permitted at the varsity level. Slide kicking is permitted at all levels. Slide tackling and slide kicking are two totally different things-please know the difference!
6. When calling a foul, please inform the player who committed the foul and what the foul was called for.
7. Off side calls need to be consistent and correct: A referee needs to stay with the last defender, at all times. The off side play is called from when the ball is played, NOT where a player is after the ball is played!
8. Please watch throw-ins carefully. Too many poor throw-ins are being permitted.
9. Referees need to control the game from the first whistle. If spectators are getting out of hand, the referee should stop the game and inform the coaches. Coaches are to approach their respective spectators and get them under control. Any spectator or coach ejected from a game will be suspended, at least, 2 games at the discretion of the DSL and Dr. Ronald Bowes.
10. All referees and coaches should meet prior to the opening kick-off to introduce themselves. Referees will receive payment AFTER the game when game cards are given to the winning coach. In the case of a tie, the home team coach receives the game cards.
11. Referees will be evaluated after each game by the coaches of both teams. Any referees consistently receiving poor evaluations and/or not adhering to the above expectations will not be invited to referee for the DSL.
12. Referees should supervise the post game handshake. All coaches and players are to participate in the post game handshake.
13. If there is any issue before, during, or after a game, coaches and referees should make every attempt to resolve the issue before leaving the field after the game. There are too many instances of issues being reported to the DSL with no

- conscientious effort made by coaches and referees to resolve the conflict/issue at the game.
14. The home team coaches are responsible to ensure that the field is lined and that there are at least two properly inflated game balls (Varsity: Size 5; JV/Developmental Size 4) for each game.
  15. All players are to be in proper uniform following DSL and NFHS rules, i.e., all socks same and one dominant color, all shirts same, etc. The home team is responsible to change jerseys should both teams have the same color or similar colors.

Note: These expectations are not intended to replace the NFHS or DSL rule book. They supplement the rule book.