



# Lake Simcoe Soccer Club New Referee Orientation 2009

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## Refereeing 10 Commandments: Keys to having FUN!!

(1 and 7 are the most important)

### 1. Leadership Qualities:

Be a match leader. Lead by example, gain the players respect. Your personality is vital; you can't copy anyone, it must be your own. Be eager to cooperate with everyone. Become trusted for your actions. Use the Laws correctly. Take responsibility for the application of the laws. Study the rules, use them correctly.

### 7. Good Sense of Humor:

A good sense of humor is gold! Sport should be cheerful. Do not lose your sense of humor. You can improve your relations with the players if you use no swear words, keep yourself calm, control your temper, use agreeable and relevant language, do not forget to smile - but do not exaggerate, and don't smile at every moment.



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## Welcome to all new LSSC Referees

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All new referees will be required to take the Youth Referee Course or the mini-Soccer Referee Course. You must be 14 years of age by April 1, 2009 to qualify for the Youth course or 12 years of age by April 1, 2009 to qualify for the mini-Soccer Refereeing course. In refereeing, referees are classed starting at Youth (either mini-field Youth or CSA Youth) then progressing to the National level and on to FIFA Levels. While most of our young referees will not continue to these highest levels we do encourage them to continue when possible to upgrade their levels. The District level is obtainable once you turn 16.

The LSSC has prepaid for one entry course. Your commitment to be a referee requires attendance in this course. Each referee is expected to pay the club for their portion of the course fee – being \$50 for the Youth course and \$25 for the mini-Soccer Refereeing course, and a separate Administration charge of \$10 for the Youth course and \$5 for the mini-Soccer Refereeing course, which are YRSA recommended charges (the administration charge is to cover costs for the field permit to run the outdoor portion, instructor expenses, and teaching aid rentals). The \$50/\$25 fee will be reimbursed at the end of the season provided the referee attends a minimum 90% of their assigned league, not tournament, games (where 10 games must be completed before determining this value).

Each referee must pay for their uniform package. Packages can be purchased upon completion of your course.

For Youth Referees, the uniform must be worn at all times when “working”.

An official’s uniform consists of the following:

<b>Referee</b>
Black Jersey
Black Shorts
Black Socks (with 3 white stripes on top)
Card Wallet (game cards, red and yellow cards)
One Assistant’s Flag
A Whistle (Fox 40)
(the above items included in the uniform package)
<b>Other Required items:</b>
Soccer Shoes (as black as possible)
A tote (to carry everything in)
A Watch (recommend a combo watch with stopwatch, and alarm – or even better, a countdown timer) and a spare watch.
Two-sided coin (and a spare). Please use a loonie or toonie and keep a spare handy
Pencils (little, sharpened down, butt-end pencils are perfect!)
A water bottle – filled
A pen (to fill in the game sheet)
NO HATS! (there are exceptions – ask Peter)



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## Yes! It's a Job!

Refereeing is a job. For most it is a first job. This implies professionalism and commitment. Like most jobs, employees are rewarded based on merit and penalized based on poor performance – refereeing works the same way.

I realize that most new referees rely on others for transportation, but please understand the importance of being on time for all assigned games. We do make allowances for Holidays etc. but we do need warning. Emergencies are forgiven. But like any job, you are expected to be there when you say you will. This can be fun and profitable for all our referees.

You are required to perform at a level of professionalism that would be expected of a game official. This requires that you:

- a) Arrive on time (on time means 15 minutes before kick-off)
- b) Are ready to start all games on time.
- c) Carry out your duties to the best of your ability in a professional manner.
- d) Report all necessary information to the Club.

## You are expected to be fully knowledgeable concerning the Laws of the Game!

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## Job Requirements

Prior to leaving your home you **must** make sure you have the following:

- a) Your full referee uniform – see the above table.
- b) Allow enough time to get to the field 15 minutes before game time.

Upon arrival at the field:

- a) Check the field for proper playing conditions; bring concerns to the coaches' attention.
- b) Remove all debris (pop cans, glass, etc.)
- c) Observe all out of bound lines (inform asst. referee if needed)
- d) Check goal nets (repair any defects found)
- e) Ensure all 4 corner flags are in place (preferably standing straight)
- f) Introduce yourself to the coaches.
- g) Ask coaches to arrange linespersons (if not supplied by league) **DO NOT START A GAME WITHOUT LINESPERSONS**
- h) Observe players on both teams for jewelry / metal studs. etc. (ask to remove before start of game)
- i) Observe player wearing casts or braces these must be padded.
- j) Players must wear club assigned socks OR matching soccer socks of the same colour as their team
- k) Remind both coaches to fill out game sheet. Ensure the game number is the same from your assignment schedule
- l) Discuss with both coaches any concerns (# of players)
- m) Verify game times with both coaches. Ensure two equal length halves – measured by elapsed time, not time of day!
- n) Collect the game sheet before the start of play.

To start the game:

- a) Game ball from the home team (check pressure and for damage)
- b) Whistle!! - Ask for both teams and coaches at centre – everybody!
- c) Inform both teams of your concerns (sweaters tucked in, no swearing, etc..)
- d) Coin toss takes place, winner of toss selects end to start play, and the losing team kicks off.
- e) Players will shake hands before the kick-off (not after the game). Check for equipment problems at this time.



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- f) Check both teams have correct # of players on field (if one team is short both must play with the same number for house league)
- g) Make sure goal keepers and linespersons are ready for start of play
- h) Blow whistle to start play.

During the game:

- a) TALK LOUD, don't shout. You need to be heard by the coaches and players.
- b) Blow the whistle loud. Blow the whistle to stop play – obvious out of play situations may not require the whistle. Blow the whistle to start a kick off and penalty shot.
- c) Dropped balls occur where the ball was located when you blew the whistle, not where the injured person is.
- d) Indirect kicks for an offside offence are taken where the offence occurred.
- e) Remember advantage – it only applies to fouls that occur on the field. You cannot apply advantage on restarts (i.e. Throw-ins). If you apply advantage, show the proper signal and say "PLAY ON"
- f) Hand balls must be intentional or deliberate. Defensive posture is acceptable so long as the arm or hand is not moved toward the ball.
- g) Linespersons and Assistants must run the right side half unless instructed otherwise by the referee
- h) The referee must run the diagonal – keep the play between you and the linesperson/assistant.
- i) Do not hover around the centre circle – RUN the diagonal – even on the small fields!
- j) ENFORCE THE LAWS OF THE GAME. Do not be intimidated by the coaches or parents. This causes inconsistencies in our officiating and leads to more problems with the club and coaches.

## Referee Support

The LSSC fully supports its referees. The referee controls the game, decides whether to play, when to start, when to stop, whether to cancel or postpone and uses their discretion and opinion to enforce the laws of the game. **NO ONE ELSE HAS THAT CONTROL** – not the Head Ref, not the President, not any Executive member, not a coach and not the parents. The Head Referee will support all of the club referees and respect the choices they make on the field. The LSSC handbook is an excellent source of stated commitment to the referees...

### Player's Code of Ethics – point 6:

It is the player's responsibility to maintain self-control. They will **accept official's decisions without argument**, play with intensity but without hostility, and behave graciously in triumph or defeat.

### Parent's Code of Ethics – point 3:

I understand that I need to **be appreciative of** volunteer coaches and **officials** and I agree **not to interfere, and to let them do their job.**

### Spectator Behaviour – point 1:

Spectators should **refrain from making any comments to the referees and lines people.**

### Excerpts paraphrased from the Referee Zero Tolerance Policy:

- Coaches may question a call, not complain about a call. They must also accept the response to the question and refrain from further comment on the call in question. They are subject to ejection upon further complaining or questioning on the SAME call. If the coach refuses to leave, gather your linespeople at the centre of the field and wait 5 minutes for the coach to leave – ensure you inform the coach that he or she has 5 minutes to leave. If the coach still refuses to leave after 5 minutes, you and your linespeople will leave the field – do not change your mind – just go. Contact the Head Referee immediately.
- Spectators shall never approach a referee. If complaints, harassment and/or abuse continue, the referee must proceed to the coaches' bench, request that the spectator be removed by the coach and not referee until this action takes place. If the situation is not resolved in 5 minutes, call in your linespeople and leave the field together. Contact the Head Referee immediately.



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## The Youth and mini-Soccer Courses

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The LSSC will only offer the mini-Soccer course this year at the clubhouse. The LSSC has coordinated with the Newmarket Soccer club to allow our Youth referees to take the Youth course in Newmarket.

This Youth course will occur on the March 28/29 or April 18/19 weekend in Newmarket. The mini-Soccer course will occur on May 24<sup>th</sup> and will run from 9am to 3pm. Both courses will consist of indoor and outdoor instruction. The instruction content will focus on:

- The FIFA Laws of the Game and interpretation of them for the Youth course
- The OSA mini-Soccer Laws of the Game and interpretation of them for the mini-Soccer Refereeing course.
- Flag signals for the linesperson (also termed the Assistant Referee)
- Hand signals for the Referee
- How to run the touch line with the flag
- How to run the field
- How to blow your whistle

### Expectations of the Referee when attending the course:

- Please wear weather appropriate clothing. Ensure that it is something you can run in – including proper footwear (soccer shoes are not mandatory).
- Bring a pen and pad of paper
- Bring a lunch, snacks and a water bottle
- Do not wear a hat! (Trust me)
- Recommend not to wear jewellery – as is required when refereeing on the field
- Bring your birth certificate or “green” health card or Passport (proof of birth date is required).

Once the course is complete, you will receive your Youth Referee certification and your badge which must be worn on your Referee jersey at all times. Youth (large-field) referees will receive a CSA badge; Youth mini-field referees will receive an OSA badge.

### Websites of interest:

<http://www.lakesimcoesoccer.com>  
<http://www.ontariosoccer.net/>  
<http://www.yrsra.ca>  
<http://www.fifa.com>



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## Pay Schedule

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The 2009 pay schedule is available as a separate handout. Please inquire with the Head Referee.

**Rain and cancelled games:** If for any reason outside your control you are unable to start or finish at least half of any game you will receive ½ of the regular pay for that game. Once a game reaches its two-thirds point, you will receive full pay.

The Intertown and Competitive leagues set their own pay scales. They are always higher than house league.

All first year referees will start at pay level A. All returning referees will start at the level they completed last year.

Demotion happens through one for the following:

- a) Repeated tardiness
- b) Sitting, laying down or otherwise assuming a posture not befitting a referee.
- c) Repeated complaints from coaches and executive members of unprofessional refereeing or assisting.
- d) Repeated not wearing the proper uniform or not having your shirt tucked in or your socks pulled up.
- e) Repeated wearing of jewellery (except for watches)
- f) Laziness on the field (not keeping in the game or keeping up with the game)
- g) Poor refereeing.
- h) Demonstrated lack of knowledge of the Laws of the Game.
- i) Lower than 90% assignment commitment after 10 games.

Promotion happens when:

- a) Any coach recommends you as a good referee,
- b) I see quality effort.
- c) No complaints at all.
- d) 90% or higher assignment commitment.

Under this scheme, referees who are doing a good job get rewarded - those "showing-up" and not much else will not.

Games are scheduled based on Class and Level. So Level B referees can expect to do the lower paying games. Referees can be demoted or promoted at any time. After demotion, correcting and proving his/her self can promote a referee back to Level A.

Any Level B referee who continues to slide will be fired.



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## Code of Ethics

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All referees of the Lake Simcoe Soccer Club are required to follow the Code of Ethics for Canadian Referees as set out by the Canadian Soccer Association.

<b>Code of Ethics for Canadian Referees</b>	
The Canadian Soccer Association is aware of its responsibilities toward its referees and, having granted certain privileges to referees, it is obliged to ensure such individuals realize and respect their responsibilities and duties.	
Specifically, a Canadian referee shall:	
<b>1.</b>	Conduct himself/herself with dignity on and off the field of play at all times and shall, by personal example, endeavour to inspire the true principles of fair play and to earn the respect of those whom he/she serves.
<b>2.</b>	Not cause The Canadian Soccer Association to become involved in any controversial matters and shall abide by the rules and regulations of the jurisdiction in which he/she officiates.
<b>3.</b>	Adhere to all national standards and directives.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Always be neat in appearance and maintain a high level of physical and mental fitness.</b>
<b>5.</b>	Study the Laws of the Game and be aware of all changes, and shall enforce all said laws and changes.
<b>6.</b>	Perform his/her designated responsibilities, including attending organized clinics and lectures, etc., and shall assist his/her fellow referees to upgrade and raise their standard of officiating.
<b>7.</b>	<b>Honour any appointments made for and accepted by him/her unless unable to do so by virtue of illness or personal emergency.</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Not publicly criticize other referees or any soccer association.</b>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Not make any public statement to the media (newspaper, TV, radio, etc.,) relating to any game officiated by him/her or regarding the quality of the match or the performance of the teams and their players.</b>
<b>10.</b>	Follow the correct lines of communication to the CSA Referee Committee which shall be through the Provincial/Territorial Soccer Association where he/she is registered.
<b>A Canadian referee shall be subject to disciplinary action should he/she not comply with this Code of Ethics.</b>	