

Soccer Referee Checklist

- **Be Properly dressed:**

- Official referee shirt – Yellow, red, black, or blue (long or short sleeved – if it is cold and you only have a short-sleeved uniform, wear a black long-sleeved shirt and layers underneath)
- Referee badge
- Black shorts
- Shoes – cleats or sneakers
- Black soccer socks
- Shirt tucked in!

- **Mandatory Equipment:**

- Whistle
- Coin for coin toss
- Pad of paper and pencil or pen (have extra)
- Red and Yellow cards
- Wristwatch
- Water bottle (stay hydrated!)

- **Optional Equipment and Clothing:**

- Sunscreen
- Plastic Bag
- Extra referee shirt in an alternate color
- Black warm-up pants (not preferred, but acceptable in cold weather)
- Jacket, black (only to be worn in extreme cold, if layers aren't enough)

- **Arrive at least 15 minutes before game time to check the field:**

- Goals must be secured to ground
- Check nets. Be aware if there is any hole and report after the game.
- Check that the field is lined adequately.
- Make sure corners are marked with poles or discs
- Check field for obstacles. Remove any debris, such as rocks, sticks or trash.
- Look for dangerous conditions, especially inspecting for soft areas due to wetness, holes, rocks, etc. Confer with the coaches if you are considering canceling the game for safety concerns – but the final decision is up to you.
- Keep an eye on the weather too.

- **Have players line up for inspection:**

- Call attendance from rosters.
- Check cleats: Soccer shoes. No metal cleats allowed. Sneakers OK.
- Check shin pads: All players MUST wear. They must be completely covered by socks.
- NO JEWELRY – NO CASTS. Players must remove all jewelry, including earrings.

- **All players must be in uniform:**

- Shirts must be matching or very similar. If not, players can wear pinnies.
- All shirts must be tucked in to start game, quarters and halves. You can ignore it if they come untucked during the game or ask player to tuck shirt in too.
- If extreme cold, players may wear sweatpants or leggings. They should be worn under shorts.
- Shirts may be worn under the uniform shirt.
- Goalkeepers MUST be dressed differently than players on BOTH teams.
- If the 2 teams have similar colors and you think it may be confusing, ask the home team to wear pinnies.
- Goalkeeper can wear soft-brim hat if sun is a factor.
- Field players may wear toques if weather is cold

- **Call captains:**

- Visiting team gets to call the coin flip
- Winner of coin flip chooses side of field, other team starts with ball
- Discuss any pertinent information with captains
- Monitor teams as they shake hands.

- **After the game:**

- Contact Head Referee/Assigner to report any significant issues.
- Text picture of completed game sheet to Referee Assigner