

## **Loudoun Soccer Fall Classic 2018 Referee Memo**

### **WEATHER:**

- Additional rainfall is expected on Friday, which may impact the use of grass fields. Be sure to check your email for assignment changes on Saturday morning and Sunday morning before departing for the field.
- It is expected to be cold each morning – be sure to dress for the weather.

### **PLAYER CLOTHING:**

- Players are permitted to wear gloves and hats, and may wear sweatshirts underneath their jerseys.
- Players with hooded sweatshirts should tuck their hoods under their jersey, and should be permitted to play.

### **PARKING:**

- County Parks (Bolen Park, Byrnes Ridge Park, Ray Muth, Lyndora): DO NOT park on the grass. Your car may be ticketed or towed.
- Loudoun Soccer Park: Parking at Loudoun Soccer Park is limited; you may wish to park in the VDOT Commuter lot next door to Loudoun Soccer Park, and access Loudoun Soccer Park using the gate connecting the two locations.

### **SCORE REPORTING:**

- Record the score on the game card, then have the coach of each team sign it following the match.
- Note any yellow or red cards issued – notify site coordinator directly of any cards or other extreme misbehavior.
- The winning coach or a site coordinator will collect the card from you shortly after the coaches sign – DO NOT walk away with any game cards.
- Center referees MUST still report the score online in Game Officials within 24 hours; if you have ARs: be sure to verify the names in the system vs. those who worked the game, and correct any errors via the Comment section.

## **RULES:**

The same rules from the regular season are in effect for the tournament. Full modifications are available [HERE](#). Below is a helpful chart re: game length and tie games specific to this weekend.

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Game Length</b>	<b>Tie Games</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade (7v7)</b>	Fall Classic	4x10 minute quarters (subs made between quarters)	<b>Group Play:</b> can end in tie. <b>Semifinals:</b> proceed to Kicks from the Mark <b>Final:</b> two 5-minute overtimes played to duration. If still tied, co-champions declared
<b>5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade (9v9)</b>	Fall Classic	2x25 minute halves (subs made at stoppages)	<b>Group Play:</b> can end in tie. <b>Semifinals:</b> proceed to Kicks from the Mark <b>Final:</b> two 5-minute overtimes played to duration. If still tied, co-champions declared

FIFA Kicks from the Mark format: best of five shooters, with players on the field at the end of regulation eligible to participate as kick-takers or goalkeepers. Kicks from the Mark procedures can be found [HERE](#).

## **UNDERSTAND THE CIRCUMSTANCES**

This is an end-of-season tournament. Although it is a Recreational event, the games will be competitive, and everyone (players, coaches, and spectators) will be extra-excited and emotional. It also falls at the end of a season with families frustrated due to weather-related game and practice cancellations.

Referees should be extra sharp – punctual, attentive, calm, and professional. Help create a positive experience and set a positive example for the players, coaches, and parents.

Please note the following when addressing unruly spectators:

1. Communicate calmly and respectfully to the coach, asking them to address their parents, and warn the coach he/she may be cautioned if the behavior continues;
2. If the behavior continues, you may issue a caution to the coach, or if it is one specific spectator, remove that specific spectator from the field and note the details for your post-match report.
3. If the behavior continues, the coach may be sent off for a second caution if they received a caution earlier in the match.

Note that referees may eject spectators directly without cautioning the coach (especially if it's a single bad behaving spectator, or the coach has made efforts to address that bad behavior first).

For extreme circumstances, notify the Site Coordinator.

To best address misbehaving coaches, referees are encouraged to use an appropriately-measured response depending on the severity of the situation. These include:

1. Hard whistles;
2. Verbal warnings;
3. Cautions (Yellow Card);
4. Send-Offs (Red Card)

Help prevent volatile scenarios by calmly addressing violators before they escalate. Notify the site coordinator immediately following the game if any disciplinary issues occur and/or any red cards are issued.

Good luck to you this weekend and thank you for serving as referees!

Loudoun Soccer