



REGION I REFEREE CODE OF CONDUCT

REGION I EVENT:

BEHAVIORAL CODE of CONDUCT: Just as there is a dress code, so too are there expectations of “professional” conduct. This includes any means of social networking. That especially means – no harassment (sexual, religious, gender, color, creed, etc.) that makes anyone uncomfortable. The No harassment rule extends to verbal, email and/or text messaging and gestures AND applies to everyone in the group regarding any and all participants in the tournament (fellow referees, players, coaches, administrators) as well as other people you come into contact with during the entire event (traveling, hotel, airports, etc).

1. I understand that underage referees may not possess or consume alcohol or tobacco products.
2. I understand that I may not participate in illegal behavior (including illicit drug use).
3. I will be a respectful guest at the fields and the hosting hotel/University by cleaning up after myself and refraining from disruptive behavior during the entire event.
4. I understand sexual behavior during the tournament is prohibited.
5. I will take it upon myself to notify my SYRA or head of delegation of any breaches of this Code of Conduct.

THE REFEREE CODE OF CONDUCT:

1. I will make every effort to prepare fully for a match, both physically and mentally. On a physical level, a referee must be able to keep up with the speed of the modern game and be alert and close enough to make correct decisions from credible locations on the field of play.
2. I will not be afraid to make decisions. A referee should be fair and firm and must resist any possible influence from protests on the part of players, team officials or spectators.
3. I will show respect to my fellow referees, assessors, coaches, players and all other Region I Staff, and all others at all times.
4. I will be honest and completely impartial at all times, irrespective of the teams, players or team officials involved in the match.
5. I will show respect when speaking with the players, even in the event of infringements.
6. In reports, I will set out the facts and not attempt to justify any decisions.
7. I will decline to be appointed to or withdraw from a match if not completely physically or mentally fit to referee that match (because of illness, injury, for family or any other reasons).
8. I will inform the Region I Referee Committee if unable to referee a team or teams for any reason.
9. I will refrain from requesting hospitality of any kind or accept any hospitality offered and considered to be excessive or otherwise inappropriate.
10. I will always have regard to the best interest of the game, including where publicly expressing an opinion on the game or any particular aspect of it, including others involved in the game.
11. I will not use or tolerate inappropriate language or gestures from players and/or officials.
12. I will use the powers of a referee with wise judgment and care. Authority and a firm approach must be combined with respect.
13. I will always respect my peers in accordance with the by avoiding criticism and promoting teamwork.

I will inform the Region I Referee Committee if unable to referee a team or teams for any reason

I understand that if I break the rules and/or cause any unnecessary embarrassment or trouble, the disciplinary action taken me may include:

1. The undersigned to be sent home immediately with the undersigned being responsible for all additional expenses and, if I am a minor, the undersigned arranging to be met by a parent or guardian upon my arrival home.
2. Violations of law may be reported to the appropriate law enforcement authority and I may be charged / punished according to any local or federal law.
3. I also understand that I may be subject to further sanctions by organizations within my State Association, US Youth Soccer Region I or the United States Soccer Federation.

I understand that if needed, Region I staff may assemble an ad-hoc professionalism committee for addressing violations of this Code of Conduct.

Referee Printed Name: _____

Referee Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Printed Name: _____

****Parent/Guardian Signature**
(Required when Referee Under 18) _____

Date: _____

***The signature of the parent or guardian acknowledges expected conduct and consequences for violations as noted above.**

INSTRUCTIONS: Once this Code of Conduct is signed and dated the referee MUST submit to his or her State Association’s Head of Delegate (HOD) on or before the required deadline date set by the SRA or SYRA. These instructions MUST be adhered to for every event that a referee attends for Region I.

It will be the responsibility of each State Association’s HOD to bring all Referee Code of Conducts to the first meeting of each event to give to the designated Region I Referee Committee Member.