

## **POINTS FOR NOVICE - ASSISTANT REFEREE'S**

### Initial Points (Referee)

- Confirm 4 officials 2 days in advance
- Ask AR's be there 30 minutes prior
- Text, help with lifts there and back ?

## **PRE MATCH TALK**

### Start & Finish

- Go on & off together
- Run to me at half & full time whistle.

### Record of Game

- Keep record of goals & sanctions

### Goals Scored

- Offence, offside, stand still flag up.

### Position

- Stay in line 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender OR follow ball to goal line

### Eye Contact

- Keep eye contact with me and field of play at all times

### Throw in's

- Flag ball is out of play. Watch me. I'll lead with my arm.

### Offsides

- Ensure player is active and gained an advantage.
- If unsure DON'T RAISE FLAG !
- Once flag up, KEEP IT UP. Only bring down when I stop play or wave you down

### Corners

- Always run right up to the corner flag, even if ball going long

### Penalty

- Don't raise flag ! Don't call penalties !
- I give penalty. Come edge of PA. Watch whole of ball across line. Don't raise flag !

### Fouls your area

- Don't call fouls ! Leave it to me

### Remain switched on - 3 ways of communicating:-

- **FLAG**
- **EYE CONTACT**
- **PRE ARRANGED ACTIONS & SIGNALS**

### Half Time

- 45 left, stay alert !

After the game

- Debrief. Game? Questions? Decisions?
- Lift home? (if yes, wait until picked up)
- Heated game. Get everyone away quickly

NOTE

- Same talk if AR's Seniors

## POINTS FOR ASSISTANT REFEREE'S

### Initial Points

As I'm usually doing PL, I confirm a few days before that we have 4 officials for the Saturday and that I have everyone's mobile number.

If someone hasn't confirmed by Thursday lunch time, I'll send them a text introducing myself and asking them to confirm. If they decline, I'll send an email to Sigrid.

If either of the juniors arrives after 12.30 I'll ask them if they have just played and if not could they please arrive 30 minutes prior to kick off.

If I haven't been with them before I'll ask both of them how long have they been a referee and AR and what level of game have they been doing, U18, AL1, PL?

I'd recommend to the PLR referee that the most experienced be put as AR2 on PLR and keep the least experienced on my side as AR1. Then as the 4<sup>th</sup> official on PLR I can tell the lesser experienced AR to watch the more experienced AR2 and I can point out what he is doing and why.

Then for the PL game I switch the AR's around. That will put the most experienced AR on the technical area side (where generally most of the supporters will be). Again I tell the lesser experienced AR to watch AR1 during the PL game when the play is down that end.

## PRE MATCH TALK

### Start & Finish

We are a team. We go on together, we go off together. If someone gives me a mouthful of abuse, then we will all hear it. Run to me at the half time and full time whistle.

### Record of Game

Keep a record of goals, scorers and sanctions & kick off. Let's not all write together. Let me write first. Don't keep a list of substitutions if we have a 4<sup>th</sup> official. If not one AR to keep a list (remember not required in interchange games).

### Goals Scored

When a goal is scored, your signal to me that you are happy with the goal is to simply run back towards the half way line. Get about 15 metres away. I'll jog backwards away from the goal. Let's get away from any complaining!

### Position

Stay in line with the 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender OR follow the ball to the goal line

### Eye Contact

Keep eye contact with me and the field of play throughout the game. There are 22 players and 4 of us. You need to be watching the field of play at all times. You aren't the ball boy and don't need to collect or watch where the ball goes to.

Most junior referees also play so I say - When the ball is high in the air, as a player you watch the ball, as a referee you watch the players, not the ball. Don't worry, the ball will come down!

### Throw in's

You watch their feet and I'll watch their hands. Remember part of each foot on the line. If it's marginal, play on. The lines are generally very poor so if in doubt play on. You can tell

the players where to take the throw from. It's fine to politely let them know. If move to far up the line, flag for throw to opposition.

Give yourself a few seconds when the ball goes out before signalling which way. Watch me and I'll watch you. I'll lead you with a slightly raised arm. If you are 100% sure and have a better view start to raise your flag out from your body and I'll follow you. Let's go up together!

### Offsides

Ensure the player offside is active in play and has gained an advantage. Give yourself a couple of seconds. 1 and 2 and flag up. If the ball is going through to the GK, keep your flag down.

Once you have the flag up, KEEP IT UP. If I don't see you straight away the players will soon tell me. Only bring the flag down to signal what side of the pitch when I stop play. If I'm going to play on I'll wave you down.

My signal that you are happy with where the ball has been placed is when you drop the flag completely. If the player has placed the ball forward a few metres (don't worry about a small distance) then keep your flag up. I'll tell him to move the ball back, or you can tell him if he's close. I'll be watching you to drop the flag.

### Goal Kicks

Look to ensure the player taking the goal kick has placed the ball correctly. Then run and take up your position in line with 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender. Look to ensure ball clears penalty area. If it doesn't flag straight up and stand still.

### Goal Keeper Kicks

When GK kicks the ball out of the PA from his hands, or defends from the edge of PA, watch for handball. If handball then flag straight up in right hand. I'll be up the field; you'll have a much better view

### Corners

Get right up to the corner flag, even if the ball is going long and will clearly go out of play. You need to run! If the ball lands on the line, spins back into play and you are 15 metres away you can't call anything with authority. You'll often have a better line to call corners than me (especially with the poor quality markings we have to deal with) so be aware and be confident with your calls.

If the ball bounces around off a couple of players, goes behind the goal line and you have no idea who it came off last, what do you do? Give a confident call for a goal kick. It's better to be blamed for a dodgy goal kick than a dodgy corner that leads to a goal.

### Penalty

Don't call penalties by raising your flag! If you really think a penalty offence has occurred and I'm not in a good position, run to the corner flag and put your flag behind your back. Look at me! I'll shake my head "No" or give the penalty. That way the pressure is on me, not you. If I need to I will come across and talk to you.

If I give a penalty I want you to come to the edge of the penalty box where it intersects the goal line. Watch for the whole of the ball across the line. Do not call encroachments! If the keeper gets a hand to it, the ball spins back and then he pushes it out, I'll look to you. A clear "Yes, goal," or shake of the head (indicating no) and take back up your position.

### Fouls in your area

Give me first call to penalise a foul in your area of the pitch. Maintain good eye contact. If I've missed it, or are unsighted (players facing you and one has a handful of the other's shirt), then flag straight up. I'll stop play, and then give me the direction.

### Back play

Keep watching the pitch! If something nasty happens in back play then call me over at the next break of play (flag across chest and if needed call "Gerry"). You MUST know who did what, numbers and teams. Don't point to players as you tell me. If it's a minor offence don't call me across.

If a player abuses you out of my earshot, definitely call me over when the ball next goes out of play

**Remember we are a team. We have 3 ways of communicating. Flag, eye contact and pre-arranged signals (e.g. penalty call). Be aware and switched on at all times. 95% of calls are routine. The other 5% will determine the game. That's why we are all here! We have to give ourselves the best chance of getting those calls correct. Communication and being switched will lead to the correct decisions. Don't fret it if you make a mistake, do the players kick the ball correctly every time? If so we would have a basketball score.**

### Half Time

All 4 of us to confirm first half details. Goals, scorers and particularly cautions / send offs. OK, it's the last 45 minutes of the day. If you have already played, refereed junior games, and have now been an AR in the afternoon, I know you're tired, BUT this is the last 45! You must be switched on! If it's a draw or someone is leading by one goal with 20 to go, stay switched on! Often cautions and send offs come in the last 15-20 minutes! This period is what we are going to be judged on.

(If the score is 5-0 at half time, I don't push these points as heavily)

### After the game

Chance to debrief. How was the game? Any questions? Any decisions you want to mention? Do both of you have a lift home? (if they do wait until they are picked up)

If the game, bench or supporters was heated then I make sure we all leave quickly. Let's get away, before someone does/says something silly.

That's about it. It can vary slightly depending on what pitch, conditions, teams but largely is much the same.

Even if I have been with the AR's 20 times before, I still give the same talk. It gets it clear in my head as well as theirs. I give the same talk if the AR's are Seniors.

## **POINTS FOR EXPERIENCED - ASSISTANT REFEREE'S**

### Initial Points (Referee)

- Confirm 4 officials 2 days in advance
- Ask AR's be there 30 minutes prior
- Text, help with lifts there and back ?

### **PRE MATCH TALK**

#### Start & Finish

- Go on & off together
- Run to me at half & full time whistle.

#### Record of Game

- Keep record of goals, scorers, sanctions & kick off.
- Don't keep list of substitutions if have 4th official. If not AR1 keep list

#### Goals Scored

- Goal is scored run back 10-15 metres towards half way.
- Offence, offside, stand still flag up. Give me direction.

#### Position

- Stay in line 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender OR follow ball to goal line

#### Eye Contact

- Keep eye contact with me and field of play at all times
- You are not the ball boy

#### Throw in's

- You watch feet, I watch hands.
- Part of each foot on the line. If marginal, play on
- Ball goes out, give yourself a few seconds
- Watch me, I'll watch you. I'll lead arm, you lead flag
- Let's go up together!

#### Offsides

- Ensure player is active and gained an advantage.
- Give yourself a couple of seconds. Going straight to GK, no flag
- Once flag up, KEEP IT UP. Only bring down when I stop play or wave you down
- Drop flag when happy where ball placed.

#### Goal Kicks

- Check ball placed correctly
- Take up your position in line 2<sup>nd</sup> last defender
- Ball must clear penalty area. If not flag up, stand still.

#### Goal Keeper Kicks

- Kicks from hands out of PA - watch handball
- Defends from edge of PA - watch handball
- If handball - flag straight up in right hand.

#### Corners

- Always run right up to the corner flag, even if ball going long
- Well placed but ball bounces off several payers. Not sure who last ? Give to defence.

#### Penalty

- Don't raise flag
- Run corner flag, flag behind back.
- Eye contact with me. I'll lead you
- Penalty given. Come edge of PA. Watch whole of ball across line

#### Fouls your area

- Give me first call. Do I have a good view ?
- Good eye contact !
- If I've missed it, or unsighted call it !

#### Back play

- Keep watching the field!
- Something nasty happens, call me over next break of play
- MUST know who did what, numbers and teams. Don't point at players.
- Player abuses you, call me over when the ball next goes out of play

#### Remain switched on - 3 ways of communicating:-

- FLAG
- EYE CONTACT
- PRE ARRANGED ACTIONS & SIGNALS

#### Half Time

- All officials confirm details. Goals, scorers sanctions
- 45 left, stay alert !

#### After the game

- Debrief. Game? Questions? Decisions?
- Lift home? (if yes, wait until picked up)
- Heated game. Get everyone away quickly

#### NOTE

- Same talk even if with AR's many times
- Same talk if AR's Seniors