



**BC SOCCER**

## **A Guide to Referee Competencies**

### ***Youth & District Referee***

Youth & District Referee' are able to demonstrate all of the above, and:

#### **1. Application of Law (contains decision making accuracy)**

- i. Know when and how to start / stop the game
  - Checks appurtenances and players' equipment prior to the game
  - Stops when an expectation exists
- ii. Differentiate between penal and technical offences
  - Appropriate stoppage and correct signal
- iii. Recognize when to take action regarding Sending Off/Caution/Misconduct
  - Assessor's judgment on what the referee should have seen and followed up with action
  - Dissent is dealt with appropriately
- iv. Make an appropriate award for restart of play
  - Apply Law with a corresponding method of restart
  - For offside offences

#### **2. Positioning/Fitness/Work rate**

- i. Face play at all times
- ii. Display a commitment and willingness to be involved in the game
- iii. Demonstrate movement around the field of play utilizing the use of time when play has stopped; also move toward the location when an offence has been detected and penalized.

#### **3. Alertness and Awareness (includes management of stoppages)**

- i. Display concentration and awareness of open play
- ii. Restart the game correctly and with a reasonable degree of accuracy in positioning
- iii. Able to manage injury situations appropriately

#### **4. Communication**

- i. Make signals
  - Are they made too little? Too often? At appropriate time? Made so that everyone is in no doubt of the ownership of the next phase of play?
- ii. Use a whistle audibly
  - Can it be heard? Is it effective?

## **5. Teamwork**

**District Referee** is able to

- i. Make effective use of Assistants Referees
  - Encourage provision of assistants and provide instructions to obtain support to aid control
- ii. Generally acknowledge signals from Assistant Referees
  - Be seen to communicate, respecting their support
- iii. Give adequate pre-match instructions to Assistants Referees
  - Some communication achieved

## **6. Advantage**

- i. Demonstrate when advantage is being played
  - Some communication provided to the players incorporating the arm and voice

## **7. Overall Match Control**

- i. Display involvement at an accurate level for the game
  - As evidenced through earlier competencies; an empathy with the game

## ***Regional Referee***

### **1. Application of Law (contains decision making accuracy)**

**Regional Referee are able to demonstrate all of the above, and:**

- i. Use the correct caution/dismissal manner & procedures
  - Achieves desired outcome through: being calm, courteous and confident; following defined procedures; accurate and assertive
- ii. Appropriately manage and deal with  
Offensive Insulting Abusive language and/or gestures  
Dissent
  - Referee responds in context and to the situation
- iii. Distinguish between careless-reckless-excessive force
  - Appropriate sanction implemented
- iv. Recognize offside accurately
  - Able to recognize offside position with an awareness of the position required to judge
  - Exceptions in law recognized
- v. Apply the laws consistently
  - Having set appropriate standard, benchmark is maintained

### **2. Positioning/Fitness/Work rate**

- i. Obtain reasonable viewing positions with the Assistant Referees
  - Were signals missed?
  - Was the referee looking through play?
  - Did the referee have the Assistant Referee in view when appropriate?
  - Did the referee anticipate play?
  - Did the referee adjust position in accordance with the pattern of play?
- ii. Have knowledge of set play situations (utilize time when the ball is out of play):
  - Anticipate the 'drop zone'
  - Maximize position
- iii. Maintain activity throughout the game:
  - Proximity to play
  - Mobility and movement
- iv. Obtain credible distances from play:
  - Too close to play
  - Too far from play
  - Constantly having to avoid the ball and players
- v. Awareness of next phase of play:
  - Take into account the pattern of play
  - Adjust position when necessary

### **3. Alertness and Awareness (includes management of stoppages)**

- i. Understanding the skill level of players
  - Advantage – players frustrated when not played or played too much
  - Fussy over trivialities

- Empathy with the game
- ii. Act decisively
  - Body language
  - Signals
  - Timing of decisions
- iii. Restart play quickly
  - Players frustrated when restart delayed
  - Awareness of what is going on
- iv. Accurately keep time (including correct allowance for stoppages)
  - Disparity in time
  - Amount of time played took account of substitutions, injuries (assessor can only estimate amount of time for these stoppages – acknowledging that the referee is sole judge of time)

#### **4. Communication**

- i. Make signals
  - Clear differentiation between direct / indirect free kicks and directional indication. Straight arm for indirect free kick held appropriately
- ii. Vary the tone of the whistle appropriately
  - Does the tone match the severity of the offence?
- iii. Restart the game correctly
  - Correct method direct / indirect, after injury, (and the drop ball for the unexpected)
- iv. Have positive body language
  - Appears confident, moves purposefully around the field of play and has a friendly smile; enjoying themselves

#### **5. Teamwork**

**Regional Referee** is able to demonstrate all of the above, and;

- i. Acknowledge and overrule as appropriate
  - As observed by the assessor

#### **6. Advantage**

- i. Use the correct arm signal supported by the voice when playing an advantage
  - As observed by the assessor
- ii. Demonstrate recognition of when to play advantage
  - Does not play advantage to the detriment of fair play and control, i.e., a reckless challenge

#### **7. Overall Match Control**

- i. Display actions to gain respect from the players
  - Consistent application of Law
- ii. Is at ease and confident with their game
  - A game plan that provides direction for management
- iii. Display the appropriate level of concentration
  - As seen through maintaining awareness
- iv. Effect correct and successful control of the game - proactive in doing so
  - As seen through applying communication skills to those of awareness

## ***Provincial Referee***

### **1. Application of Law** (contains decision making accuracy)

**Provincial Referee are able to demonstrate all of the above, and appropriately deal with;**

- i. Serious Foul Play / Violent Conduct / Denial of an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity
  - If recognized correctly, is the appropriate sanction given as an outcome?
- ii. Mass confrontation
  - Has the instigator and anyone escalating the situation been identified as the protagonists with the situation defused, the desired outcome achieved and the game restarted successfully?
- iii. Determine & appropriately deal with persistent misconduct
  - Having spoken to a player is appropriate action taken at further offences?
- iv. Recognize offside and implications of passive / active play
  - Are all Assistant Referee signals responded to automatically?
- v. Accurate awards on holding / pushing / pulling and or impeding
  - Is the referee in contact and in position to judge with the correct differentiation between holding and impeding, with the correct restart?
- vi. Correctly manage the occupants of the Technical Area where appropriate
  - Are the Laws of the Game and regulations of competition rules managed accurately?
  - Are substitutes managed, including warm up?
  - Is any misconduct dealt with appropriately?

### **2. Positioning/Fitness/Work rate**

- i. Anticipate open play
  - Proximity to play
  - Remaining with the pace of the game
  - Moving off patrol path if/when necessary
- ii. Adopt a position to detect or prevent offences
  - Viewing position
  - Side on view for challenges especially in the dropping zone
  - Utilize dead ball time
- iii. Right place/Right time
  - Adjust patrol path when necessary
  - Penetrate the penalty area when required
  - Continue movement – run through play
- iv. Use extremities of the playing area when required
  - (as per right time/right place above)
- v. Display a willingness to go the extra yard
  - Work rate
  - Body language
- vi. Demonstrate an ability to change pace
  - Acceleration
  - Regain position
  - Realize the need to make ground

### **3. Alertness and Awareness (includes management of stoppages)**

- i. Be proactive and not reactive
  - Communication with players
  - Intervene early to sort out problems
- ii. Utilize the trailing eye
  - Did he slavishly follow the ball?
  - Second look – to Assistant Referee.
  - Retain visual contact with the original challenge whilst aware of what is going on in next phase of play
- iii. Utilize peripheral vision
  - Distance from play
- iv. Manage injuries
  - Safety
  - In accordance with Law
  - Treatment for injured player – then caution if necessary
  - Sense of urgency
  - Awareness/recognition
- v. Manage substitutions
  - In accordance with Law
  - Teamwork
- vi. Managing time wasting/delay to restart
  - Proactive
  - Verbal communication with players
  - Take action when necessary – in accordance with Law

### **4. Communication**

- i. Utilize preventative communication
  - Effective use of voice to aid communication and prevention of potential trouble
  - Proactive awareness, short strong blast of the whistle when noting potential conflict between players
- ii. Converse with players
  - Use of the quiet word, e.g. when player incorrectly stands in the opponent's half prior to the start of play
  - Niggles between players: seen to have a firm word
  - Response to player questioning or comment: depending on timing look to build relations and respond, communicating with assertiveness and confidence

### **5. Teamwork**

- i. Show satisfactory support for Assistant Referees where appointed
  - Encouragement provided to actively gain support
- ii. Demonstrate team leadership skills
  - Promote communication through eye contact and provide “unseen advice” on marginal decisions

**(Where no assistant referee is appointed, or provided by the team in accordance with local competition rules or by-laws, the referee is to be awarded a mark of 5 in this competency)**

## 6. Advantage

- i. Carefully/correctly select advantage in terms of:
  - Possession or advantage. Is able to distinguish between advantage and merely possession
  - Position on the field of play. Takes due regard of where the ball and other players are positioned before applying advantage
- ii. Did advantage accrue? Stops game and awards a free kick when advantage does not accrue
  - Mood of the game. Adjusts use of advantage to the mood of the game
  - Sanctions applied if appropriate. Applies appropriate sanctions during the next stoppage in play

## 7. Overall Match Control

- i. Display the relevant level of tolerance.
    - Understanding of acceptable application of Law
  - ii. Approach players correctly and deal with them using a positive attitude/body language.
    - Commensurate use of proactive communication skills
  - iii. Manage major issues.
    - Retain composure to accurately manage unusual situations
  - iv. Demonstrate and use experience to solve difficult situations.
    - Seen to operate to an effective game plan
  - v. Identify the mood/temperature of the game.
    - Awareness that ensures an adjustment to pace and involvement to prevent problems
- Identify tensions in the game and effect solutions, before they escalate, through preventative actions.
- Implementation of prevention of problems
- vii. Inspire respect from the players.
    - Through sensitive management of players

## Below is the marking scheme

<b>9.0-10</b>	Excellent
<b>8.5 - 8.9</b>	Very Good
<b>8.3 - 8.4</b>	Good (expected level)
<b>8.2</b>	Satisfactory with small areas for improvement
<b>8.0 - 8.1</b>	Satisfactory with important areas for improvement
<b>7.9</b>	one clear important mistake, otherwise 8.3 or above
<b>7.8</b>	one clear important mistake, otherwise 8.0 - 8.2
<b>7.5 - 7.7</b>	Below expectation, significant points for improvement
<b>7.0 - 7.4</b>	Disappointing. Below expectation with one clear important mistake
<b>6.0 - 6.9</b>	Unacceptable

Officials who attain a mark of **8.3-8.4** are performing at their present classification and displaying effective management techniques with satisfactory Law application and control demonstrating competence at the current level. Officials who attain a mark above **8.5** and above are performing above their current classification. Officials who are below **8.2** have areas and shortcomings and can improve if the assessor's advice is acted upon.