

2009 Neptune Soccer Advice to Referees

Please Note: Neptune Soccer Classic Rules of Competition apply. These notes are simply amplification to help ensure consistency from match to match, across all competitive brackets, and are provided to remind Referees of common errors or inconsistencies noted by players and Tournament Committee over the last several years of tournament operations.

There is no substitute for sound judgment. The Neptune Soccer Classic is committed to excellence, and we thank our professional referees and assistant referees for their commitment to the good of the game. We trust you to do a great job, each and every match and we appreciate that you do !

Basics.

The Neptune Soccer Classic will comply with current FIFA Laws of the Game except as modified in the "Tournament Rules" published on the Neptune Web Site and in the Tournament Program.

Pre Game Preparations - Player Passes.

Referees are required to check player passes against the approved team roster before EACH AND EVERY MATCH. Field Marshalls will be checking.

If player passes are not checked, the fees paid to Referee and Assistant Referees will be reduced by 35%. The Tournament Committee does not want to assess this reduction, but it is important to check passes to ensure fair play.

Procedure for checking Player Passes.

- (1) The Referee (or Assistant Referee if delegated) will have players line up along the touch line, with players off the field. Team Captains will provide copy of the Official Neptune roster to the Referee and assist as required to help identify all players. To speed things up, we have recommended that roster is written in alphabetical order and that cards be arranged in alphabetical order.
- (2) The Referee will call out player's names, and the player will step from off the field to on the field and hand his/her pass to the Referee.
- (3) Official Roster and passes for players who are present as well as NOT PRESENT will be returned to the Team Captain.
- (4) The Referee and Asst Referees will note how many players are present during

the pre-game procedure. The Referee will count players on each team during half time, and if there are more players on the bench than were at the beginning of the game, the Referee will check passes against roster for all late arriving players.

NOTE - Ref'ing the match is the main idea, and the Neptune Committee understands that it may be difficult to track players who show up late. We request that a reasonable attempt be made to check late players at half time.

(5) Referee shall brief team captains that players who are late will need to check in at half time to be checked off the "late list."

(6) In the event passes are not checked, the Tournament Committee member or Field Marshall will annotate the bottom of the Match Report which each Referee signs after a match. This will avoid surprises.

Player Equipment

Shoes must meet FIFA specifications. Players are required to wear shin guards in accordance with Laws of the Game. In the event of a uniform color conflict, the home team shall change.

Touch Lines

Coaches and players from both teams will share the SAME SIDE of the field as designated by the field official, and spectators will take up a position on the OPPOSITE side of the field during the time that the match is in progress. Coaches are responsible for their players and guests on the Touch Lines. All personnel must remain between the top of the Penalty Area Lines - no coaching is allowed from the Goal Line to the top of the Penalty Area.

Match Ball

Neptune provides a match-quality ball to each team during registration for use during games. If both captains agree, Tournament Officials have no issue with use of a different ball as long as it meets specifications. This is the players' game.

Coed

No sliding tackles will be allowed by any player - a clean sliding tackle (one that would not have been a foul in same sex matches) is restarted with an Indirect Free Kick. If a foul is committed, treat in accordance with Laws of the Game. No more than seven (7) men may be on the field at one time - if a team is silly enough to want to play 7 v 11, they can. Note how kicks from penalty mark are to be taken. For the first 5 kicks, men & women will alternate. If a team doesn't have at least 2 women to take these kicks, the kick for each missing woman will be counted as a miss. This is intended as a disincentive for a team to pull off their women toward

the end of a tied match and seek an advantage.

Cautions and Send-offs

If a player is sent off from the match, he/she will not be eligible to participate in the team's next match. Referees shall ensure that the Field Marshall has player's name, team, and reason for send off at the end of the match. Please be very clear of which team and player's name so the tournament committee can be sure the right player is held off for subsequent match.

Substitutions

Unlimited substitutions are allowed and will be carried out iaw the FIFA Laws of the Game. During the normal course of a match, for consistency and to maintain pace of play, Referees are requested to manage unlimited substitutions as follows:

Throw Ins - attacking team only

Kick Offs and Goal Kicks - either team may substitute

Corner Kicks - substitution not allowed

Injuries - as described in the Rules of Competition

Safety - weather, heat and injuries

(1) If heat and player safety conditions warrant, the Tournament Committee or a Referee may allow a three (3) minute water break approximately midway through each half - such a break will be called during a normal stoppage of play, and the match will restart based on the reason play was halted.

(2) The Tournament provides on-site trainers. Field Marshalls have radios to call for support from the Trainers.

(3) If dangerous weather is reported in the vicinity, one long air horn blast will be sounded. Clear fields immediately and wait in cars or other lightning shelter areas until three horn blasts are sounded to indicate games will resume

(4) Hampton Roads Soccer Complex weather hot line - (757) 518-5176

Bracket Final Matches

(1) Before each Final Match, Tournament volunteers will set up team photographs.

(2) At the end of each Final Match, the Field Marshall will ask the Referee and Assistant Referees to designate a Most Valuable Player for the Final match.

These notes are provided to assist in standardization of applying the FIFA Laws of the Game, as adjusted in the Tournament Rules of Competition.

Thank you !