

# PREPARING FOR YOUR ASSESSMENT

- Arrange a game to referee at least 3 weeks in advance
  - Area – U12 (1 as a referee)
  - Section – U14 (1 as a referee and 1 as an Assistant referee)
  - National 2 – U16 (1 as a referee and 1 as an Assistant referee)
  - National 1 – U19 (2 as a referee and 1 as an Assistant referee)
- Request upgrade assessment from at least 2 weeks in advance:
  - Area – Regional Director of Referee Assessment or Regional Referee Administrator
  - Section - Area Director of Assessment
  - National 2 Section Director of Assessment or Section Referee Administrator
  - National 1 Section Director of Assessment or Section Referee Administrator
- Arrange your team of referees
- Confirm game time and their availability
- Agree on what color referee shirt you will wear and what the alternate color will be (All three referees should match)
- Arrange to meet at the field at least 30 minutes prior to the match
- Shine your shoes and look sharp. Make sure you have all of your equipment
- Arrive at the field at least 30 minutes prior to the match. Meet with your assessor and complete your paper work early so you can concentrate on your match
- Determine which teams are playing and what colors they are. Make sure your referee shirt is different than the player's jerseys.
- Check the field conditions with the assistant referees. If there is a game in progress walk the perimeter of the field looking for unusual field conditions.
- Take a deep breath, smile and relax. (This is just another game to officiate)
- Your pre-game instructions should be done off the field prior to the teams taking the field. It is important that the game start on time. Make sure that your assessor hears your instructions. Be sure to mention:
  - Level of play, (i.e. B4, G3)
  - Length of game, (30 minute halves, 15 minute quarters, back me up please)
  - Make sure that your pre-game instructions are relevant to the division you are officiating, including information specific to that level of play.
  - Go over tournament/local rule differences. (e.g. When cautioning players does the player have to leave the field of play? If so, for how long and can the team substitute?) It is your job to read and know the local rules as well as the Laws of the Game!
- Walk onto the field together, as a team
- Check the players equipment
- Collect a game ball from the home team and check it for loose panels, etc.
- Call for the captains, do the coin flip
- Have the assistant referees check the nets and goal posts on their way to their positions
- Start the match on time. (This is important)
- Keep eye contact with the assistant referee and be sure to acknowledge them.
- Call the game as you normally do. Don't try to "impress" the assessor by being too fussy about small details. Remember: "SAFE-FUN-FAIR."
- At half time, have the assistant referees join you at the halfway line. (don't forget to collect the ball.). If you leave the field, leave together, you are a team!
- Smile & Relax, you are doing a good job!
- Start the second half on time and end it on time
- At the end of the match, collect the ball and meet the assistant referees. Leave the field together. (Return the ball to the team that provided it.)
- Smile & Relax, it's over!
- Meet your assessor and agree on a place to sit down and talk. (The feedback session should take 15-20 minutes)
- Congratulations! You did your best and hopefully you have learned from the experience.