TIPP CITY YOUTH SOCCER

Code of Ethics for Referees

You, as a referee, are responsible for the following:

A. Insuring fairness by enforcing the rules and laws of the match
B. Minimizing the possibility of injury to all involved
C. Controlling the conduct of the match
D. Controlling the temperament of the crowd

Therefore, as a good soccer referee, you must:

1. Have a good understanding of the rules, rule changes, and mechanics of officiating.

2. Be on time for the match (you are expected to arrive a minimum of 20 minutes before match time). Confer with you fellow official. Cover all pre-game duties properly.

3. Be proud of your appearance – Look and act like a referee!

4. Be well prepared with: whistle, watch, coin, red &yellow cards, rulebook, game card, and pen/pencil. These are absolute necessities.

5. Be prepared to be physically in the game and mentally alert. Stay up with play but out of the way.

6. Do not use abusive language or profanity at any time.

7. Address all players by their numbers and coaches by the title, “Coach”, “Sir”, “Mrs.”, etc. Never use first names while performing as a referee.

8. Do not socialize with the coaches, players, or fans immediately before, during, or after the game. Do not smoke on the field.

9. Present an air of authority. Respect the coaches and players, and inform them you expect the same conduct in return. Always be courteous and considerate, but do not sacrifice firmness.

10. Maintain your “cool” with an irate coach or player. Do not argue! You cannot win.

11. Always deal firmly with actions that could result in injury to player. You will maintain control of the match by good refereeing.

12. Do not place your hands on a player when s/he appears to be highly agitated. The player may misconstrue the action and become aggressive.

13. During or after the match, do not make statements to players, coaches, or spectators about the match except to clarify a rule interpretation. Never hesitate to explain rules and calls at appropriate times.

14. Be professional with fellow referees. Do not discuss other referees with coaches. Constructive criticism must be directed in private to the referee concerned.

Note: Failure to do any of the above may result in disciplinary action.