

Standing Rules

1. Assignment Acceptance / Denial – upon receiving an assignment it is the responsibility of the official to either accept or deny the assignment within the designated time frame specified by Arbiter.
2. Assignment Communication – upon accepting an assignment it is the responsibility of the lead official, the Referee on a 3-man crew or the first listed on a 2-man crew, to contact your partners via e-mail or phone call no less than 48 hours prior to game time. Text messages and voice mail are NOT acceptable means of communication. Verification of location and time, as well as any other specifics deemed necessary, such as uniform colors to have available should be communicated. It is then the responsibility of the crew to respond no less than 24 hours prior to game time. If no communication is made by the lead official, the crew should initiate communication no less than 24 hours prior to game time. If the cycle of communication is not completed before 9pm the evening before the scheduled match, a phone call should be placed to the Executive Director.
3. Uniforms – it is expected that every referee will obtain AT LEAST 3 of the 5 uniform colors available (gold, black, red, blue, and green). One MUST be gold. It is recommended that referees obtain ALL 5 jersey colors. Shorts will be all black with the exception of any appropriate logos. Socks will be all black with the exception of any appropriate logos with 3 white stripes. Official Sports 2-stripe socks are also acceptable. Shoes will be predominantly black. All visible undergarments will be black. All uniform apparel will be clean and professional in appearance. All crew members will have a watch with timer. No jewelry is to be worn.
4. Arrival Time – arrival time means IN UNIFORM AND ON THE FIELD. It is the responsibility of the ENTIRE CREW to arrive at the appropriate time. The appropriate time differs depending on the scheduled start time of the match. For games with start times of 6:15pm or earlier, the appropriate arrival time is AT LEAST 15 minutes prior to scheduled start time. For games with start times of 6:30pm or later, the appropriate arrival time is AT LEAST 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.

If a school administrator reports a referee late, the referee will:

1st Offense: Written Warning

2nd Offense: Next 2 assignments taken away

3rd Offense: Suspended for remainder of the season

5. Pre-Game Responsibilities – it is the responsibility of the crew to perform any reasonable tasks deemed necessary by the lead official prior to the start of any match. These include, but are not limited to, checking the goals (ensuring they are properly anchored and the nets are game ready), checking the pitch is in game

ready condition, insuring corner flags are present and properly placed, obtaining team rosters, and participating in a “pre-game” discussion. The lead official is responsible for initiating a “pre-game” conversation with the timer and scorekeeper and informing them of their duties and responsibilities. The lead official is also responsible for speaking to the coaches about sportsmanship and asking each coach if his or her team is properly and legally attired as per NFHS guidelines. Another of the lead official’s responsibilities is to address the team captains and administer the coin flip to determine which goals the teams will defend and who will kick off.

6. Game-Time Responsibilities – it is the responsibility of the entire crew to insure that the game is played in a safe and fair manner. No advantage should be gained by either team due to the actions of any crew member. NCHSAA / NFHS rules and regulations should be adhered to at all times before, during and after the contest. The lead official is ultimately responsible for maintaining a record of goals and misconducts, however, the entire crew should assist with this task and be ready to help the lead official settle any discrepancy.
7. Post-Game Responsibilities – it is the responsibility of the lead official to complete the match report in Arbiter and submit any other necessary reports due to the nature of the match. These include, but are not limited to, Misconduct Reports and Severe Injury Reports.