



B5 Referee Newsletter

BYSL Referee Liaison: Justin Lauer

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New Referee Jerseys

United States Soccer Federation has approved a new style of jersey that may now be used for regular season and tournament games. Four colors remain the same (Gold, Red, Blue, Black) and one new color has been introduced (Green). There is no rush to go out and buy new jerseys since it has been approved by USSF to mix old and new style jerseys. However, all referee crews must still wear the same color during each game and the color may not conflict with either team. Furthermore, referees who are getting assessed also need to make sure their color selection does not conflict with either goal keeper.

Gold is the primary uniform color so all referees should have gold jerseys at all times and then change when a color conflict comes up. Both blue and red have been popular second choices in Florida. Since it is hot most of the year, some referees use black as a last resort. This is a general trend in Florida but all three colors are approved as backup colors to gold. The new green jersey will most likely avoid a lot of color conflicts with teams and could quickly become popular due to this attribute.



Final Decision Green Referee Jersey



State Referee Carlos Navarro traveled from Perry, FL to referee at the Spring Challenge in May 2008.

Space Coast Cup



Cocoa Expo hosted its annual Space Coast Cup May 24-26. Some teams traveled as far away as Argentina to participate in this competitive event. A mixture of 35 local and out of area referees supported this event by officiating at Cocoa Expo, Community Park of Rockledge, and Kelly West.

Assessors evaluated referees at all three venues to provide feedback on performance. Local assessors were Rich Akelewicz, Gil Weber, and Al Zabel.



Mike Ivy, Daniel Penny, Abu Kamara at Space Coast Cup

Referee Highlights

Advice on Handballs by Nathan Quinter, Grade 7 Referee

There are seventeen laws in the game of soccer, eighteen if you count common sense. Part of law number twelve covers handling the ball. A "hand-ball" occurs when a field player, or a goalie outside of his/her box, intentionally positions his hands or arms in a way that prevents the ball from traveling through its natural path. Several people mistake a "hand-ball" for the ball touching a player's hand and/or arm, but this isn't always the case. As a referee, it is not always easy to judge a Hand-ball without bias towards the "Spirit of the Game". Having faith in the game, and having faith in your referee is essential to transforming the warfare that is competition into a harmonious display of sportsmanship.

The referees should be watching for real contact with the hand or arm and the ball. When this situation comes up the last thing you want to do is to make an assumption without thinking about the consequences. The referee must decide if a "hand-ball" was intentional. That is, the moment of truth will be to decide if the player knew the ball was going to hit his arm, yet made no attempt to avoid contact. This happens a lot in U6, and it's pretty clear why in most cases.

On older games, however, the referee should be close enough to play, preferably 10-15 yards away, to tell if a player intentionally timed their contact with the ball. (The only "catch" is that if the player obeys Newton's Law of Inertia then they are not guilty.) If the opposing team reacts at all to a questionable "hand-ball" the referee's acknowledgement that there is some controversy can offer assurance there will be a resolution. A "hand-ball" isn't ball-to-hand contact, but *hand-to-ball* contact. If the player's arm is in its natural position, at rest and beside the body, or possibly even in motion as a result of running or jumping into the air, then it is possible a player could unintentionally contact the ball with their arm. A player is guilty of "handling the ball" when they try sneaky moves such as: slide-tackling and sweeping the ball with their arm, or throwing their arms up in the air and away from their body during a kick from a close distance.

Don't worry, I know this can be confusing. As a referee I am in the middle of all this controversy, but I have lived the "Sport of Soccer" consistently my whole life not only as a referee but also, as a player, a coach, and a spectator. This has brought me a unique outlook on the game, so I can say with assurance that a "hand-ball" isn't always *when* you think it is.

Steven Rosano, State Referee



Steven Rosano is one of B5's state referees. Although he resides in Vero Beach, he drives to Brevard County most weekends during the BYSL season to officiate upper level matches at multiple venues. In May, Steven refereed at both the Palm Bay Spring Challenge and Cocoa Expo's Space Coast Cup. Aside from youth matches, he also officiates adult amateur, PDL, and W-League matches in Florida. Reaching state referee status is no easy task. A referee must complete the following activities before upgrading from 07 to 06 (state):

- Center referee on one hundred u19 or adult level matches
- Pass three assessments (two center and one assistant)
- Attend weekend upgrade clinic
- Pass state level written exam
- Pass state level fitness test

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Advanced Referee Training Courses

Grade 5-6-7 Recertification

August 2, 2008, 8:00 AM run, Stetson Field, 10:00 AM written test Hall above the cafeteria. 11:00 lunch at Stetson Cafeteria, 12:00 PM class begins with the National Instructor in the hall above the cafeteria, Class ends about 5:00 PM

Assessor Recertification

August 2, 2008 8:00 AM break out session class room above the cafeteria at Stetson, 10:00 Written Test, 11:00 lunch at Stetson Cafeteria, 12:00 PM class begins with the National Instructor in the hall above the cafeteria, Class ends about 5:00 PM

Grade 7-6 Upgrade

August 2, 2008, 8:00 AM run, Stetson Field, 10:00 AM written test Hall above the cafeteria. 11:00 lunch at Stetson Cafeteria, 12:00 PM class begins with the National Instructor in the hall above the cafeteria, Class ends about 5:00 PM

August 3, 2008, 9:00 AM till 12:00 PM field training Stetson field

Instructor Recertification

August 2, 2008 8:00 AM break out session class room above the cafeteria at Stetson,

10:00 Written Test, 11:00 lunch at Stetson Cafeteria, 12:00 PM class begins with the National Instructor in the hall above the cafeteria, Class ends about 5:00 PM

August 3, 2008, 9:00 AM till 12:00 PM field training Stetson field

Online Registration Required: www.fsr-inc.com

Order Referee Gear Online:

<http://justinlauer.net/refgear/gear1.html>

Submit Articles For Future Newsletters

Submit referee articles and pictures to:

RefereeJustin@Yahoo.com

Order to record goals

- Trail AR
- Lead AR
- Referee

This is the correct order based on USSF procedure. This will allow two referees to watch the field at all times.

Any B5 club can set up an entry level clinic

Any B5 club can host an entry level referee clinic. A club will need to find a meeting room for a total of 18 hours. Most classes are spread over 6 sessions of 3 hours each. Once a location is confirmed, the details need to be submitted to FSR by contacting the B5 DRA, Richard Akelewicz. Rich will ensure the course is posted on the FSR website: <www.fsr-inc.com>. Once the course is posted, the club can tell interested parties to sign up online. Online course registration is required. At least

ten students must sign up for the class in order to have it. There is a maximum number of thirty students that may sign up for a class. It is important to sign up early before all thirty seats are taken.

Finally, students must attend all sessions and pass the final exam with 75% or higher in order to get certified as a grade 08 referee.

If someone does not pass the entry level course then a referee candidate may attend any other clinic within one year to re-take the grade 08 exam.

Schedule entry level clinics each year to ensure there are enough referees to cover all of the seasonal games. Each year only about 65% of referees re-certify so new referees are needed each year.

THE REASON YOU NEED TO BE AT YOUR GAME 30 MINUTES PRIOR TO KICKOFF IS TO HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO PERFORM THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

<u>Time Line</u>	<u>Total Time</u>	<u>Activities</u>
1-9 min	9 min	<p>Field Inspection Activities</p> <p>Warm-up exercises</p> <p>Inspect: field, nets, goals, markings, and hazards</p> <p>Identify teams</p> <p>Introduction to coaches</p> <p>Separate players/spectators</p> <p>Check referee equipment: flags, whistle, notebook, cards, watch, and pen or pencil</p>
10-17 min	7 min	<p>Pre-game Instructions to ARs (see checklist)</p> <p>Use a checklist (available on-line)</p> <p>Thorough understanding of AR duties</p>
18-25 min	8 min	<p>Inspect Players Equipment</p> <p>Check each team and players</p> <p>Verify player passes</p> <p>Instruct visiting team captain to supply game ball(s)</p>
26-28 min	3 min	<p>Call Captains</p> <p>Introductions</p> <p>Coin toss</p> <p>Identify and check game ball(s)</p>
29-30 min	2 min	<p>Preparations to Start the Game</p> <p>Referee Team walks onto field w/game ball</p> <p>AR's check nets and move to positions</p> <p>AR's ready flags unfurled.</p> <p>Referee ready, teams ready</p> <p>Start game</p>

Prepared by assessor, Al Zabel