



Watchung Hills Soccer Association

WHSA REFEREE RULES/REMINDERS

[short form]

ALL GRADES

- NO jewelry; no exceptions (with the very RARE exception of “medic alert” jewelry). If a player cannot/will not remove their jewelry, they cannot play
- NO parents on the field, no exceptions. In the RARE event of serious injury, please ask the coaches for assistance in enforcing this rule.
- Referees are to arrive at the field NO LATER THAN 10 minutes before game time. Tardiness may result in less referee assignments for the remainder of the season
- Keep “real” time; there is no stoppage time or make up time for injury or other reasons. Do not wait for a dead ball or foul to call the end of a quarter or half.

2/3 GRADES

- **12 minute quarters with 3 minute breaks; 8 v. 8 with a 6 player minimum**
- Referee but also teach; give instruction regarding corners, goal kicks and saves, etc.
- No coaches on the field other than for an injury or to set the team up for restarts
- If a player has a foul throw, give instruction and allow a “do-over”
- No penalty kicks for a handball in the box; the RARE penalty kick exception would be if a player intentionally fouls another player to prevent that player from scoring
- No carding of players. Carding of coaches when a coach’s behavior warrants a card.
- DO NOT call it if a player does an intentional pass back to their own keeper, and the keeper picks it up with their hands – but offer instruction that same is not permissible
- No offsides calls unless it is blatant; in that instance, please also offer instruction

4/5 GRADES AND “SENIORS”

- **4/5 Grades – 15 minute quarters; SENIORS – 30 minute halves; 11 v. 11 with a 7 player minimum**
- Referee as though you were refereeing a “real” game
- NO foul throw do-over; normal penalty kick rules apply; make the appropriate call when a player does an intentional “pass-back” to a keeper who then picks up the ball
- “Card” when unavoidable (although same should be a RARE occurrence)

QUARTERS – How each quarter should start:

- 1st Quarter – Team "A" – Kickoff
- 2nd Quarter – Spot of the Ball at the end of 1st Quarter – Team with Ball retains Possession
- 3rd Quarter – Team "B" – Kickoff
- 4th Quarter – Spot of the Ball at the end of 3rd Quarter – Team with Ball retains Possession