

Fairbanks Soccer Association Women's League
Referee Guidelines

Thanks for helping us out this year! Here are a few guidelines to help you and the league out this summer. If you have questions, you can reach me anytime at fairbankssoccer@yahoo.com or 474-3401. Karina

Games: We play two 45 min. halves. If you have other obligations on your scheduled day, please try to find a replacement from the referee contact list or contact me so I can find someone to fill in. Please do not come to the game and request to leave early, or call the game short because you "have other stuff to do". I realize its Friday night, but if you make the commitment to be there, I expect you to be there.

Fields: All games are held at FYSA fields on full-size fields (of the teams' choice). Teams can choose to play on a smaller field if they have less than 11 players on each side.

Forfeits: If one or both teams do not have a minimum of 7 players to start the game (or don't show up at all) you are not required to ref that game, but you'll still get paid. You are welcome to scrimmage with the group if everyone is ok with that! Please report forfeits as you would any other scores.

Rules: Generally, FIFA rules apply with a few specifics of our own listed below. FIFA rules are here <http://www.fifa.com/worldfootball/lawsofthegame.html>

1. Teams play 11 v. 11 on any field (both teams can play with less if both teams agree). This is up to the teams. Teams must have a minimum of 7 players to start the match. Should a team elect to recruit players from another team, they will officially forfeit the game, but may scrimmage.
2. Teams are allowed unlimited substitutions at the half line. Goalies also are allowed unlimited substitutions at stoppages in play. In both cases, teams should have ref acknowledgement.
3. Substitutions by either team are allowed on any throw-in, as long as the team in possession of the ball is substituting. Example: If Team A substitutes on their own throw-in, Team B may also substitute on that throw-in. If Team A has possession of the ball and does not make any substitutions, Team B may NOT substitute players.
4. Substitutions are NOT allowed on corner kicks or free kicks.
5. Players are provided with jerseys, but not shorts or socks. We don't have a dress code, except EVERYONE must have shinguards to play. Socks should be covering shinguards. Players may wear pants or long-sleeve shirts under their jersey if desired. Cleats are not required.

Please be professional and courteous to the players – they are expected to do the same.

- Wear appropriate clothing (either yellow ref jersey or some bright gold shirt) and have the necessary equipment: whistle, watch, yellow & red cards, notepad & pencil for keeping score.
- Be on time. Please show up 10 minutes prior to game start time to do equipment checks, etc. There will be only 1 ref per game - if you want someone to line for you, you may be able to find volunteers.
- Start games on time if possible. Teams may be waiting for your cue before getting positioned out on the field, so blow your whistle to let them know you're ready to get started.
- Although lots of our players are new, please take us seriously and use your whistle. Call things like bad throw-ins, hand balls, dangerous play, obstruction. We would like to play a good and fair game and we depend on our refs to keep things under control. If calls are not consistently made or you don't make an effort to keep up with the game, you will not be scheduled for future games.
- Point to where you'd like the ball placed for free kicks, and indicate whether you're calling a corner or goal kick, etc. It's very helpful (especially at the beginning of the season) to explain your calls briefly to the players. Many will not know why the game was stopped. Example: The ball touches Player 1's outer upper arm. She may not realize that this is a hand ball, so you could say to her "it's a hand ball if it touches anywhere below your shoulder".

Payment: To get paid for your time, you need to report scores for your game(s) each week. You will receive a check based on the games you call in, so make sure to do this in a timely manner. Please call in or email me scores as soon as possible after your game(s). The only stats you need to worry about are jersey color and score for each team. Please report all games, including forfeits.

To report your time, you can either:

1. Call 474-3401 and leave a message
2. Email scores to fairbankssoccer@yahoo.com