



Central Oregon Soccer Officials Association Newsletter September 5, 2019

Dear Awesome High School Soccer Referees,

A few notes to share with everybody:

- We do have a **COSOA Referee Meeting on Wednesday, Sep. 11th @ 6:30 pm** - St. Charles Medical Center in Bend, Conference Room D. Our calendar of upcoming Meetings is down below.
- Please go to Oregon Soccer Central and **update your Availability through the end of the month**. Nathaniel has done a good job of assigning games about two weeks out, but there are several days, where we haven't filled in all the assignments and there are several folks who have not put anything on those days for their Availability.
- Remember on the Availability page on Oregon Soccer Central, that we would like for you to put something (either Available + times you are available ... or Not Available). Leaving a date blank on the calendar doesn't help the Assignor very much.
- The Assignor is forced to skip over names who have not wrote anything in for their availability for a particular date and give the assignments to those who have put something down for their availability.
- There are still 5-6 outstanding referees who haven't completed their online test or 10-minute Concussion video. We do need you and our little legs are going to wear out if we don't get a little more help the rest of the season.
- A few observations from the first weeks of the season:
 - Game Reports:
 - Should ideally be filled out the night of your game.
 - Please properly document the reason for any cards or ejections. If you need help explaining things, feel free to email or call Nathaniel, Pat or me and we'll talk you through it.
 - Coaches or Players who are Dissenting or Questioning too many things
 - If you feel the Coaching Staff is excessively debating, arguing, dissenting on your calls ... please document that under either 'Abnormal Situations' in your Game Reports, so I can follow up with the School and Athletic Director. When we allow Coaches to fly off the handle and be vocally critical of everything going on around them, then the kids/players/parents pick up on the behavior and we have ourselves an ugly and messy situation.

- Talk calmly to the Coaches, Kids, Parents. We are the adults out there! Referees not get in anybody's face. Do not tell the kids, coaches or anybody to "Shut Up" if they are being disrespectful or dissenting! That's not how good referees communicate. If a certain behavior deserves a card or caution, then show the card, calmly record the card in your book and walk away. Standing there and shouting with a player or coach makes the Referee crew look bad and throws gasoline on the fire! If you model calm behavior, the kids/coaches/parents will have to mimic and copy your behavior. We do not need to mimic and copy their bad behavior! I only bring this up ... because it's already happened once this year and I got a phone call from a Coach and Athletic Director asking if that was acceptable behavior for a Referee?
 - Anytime you see a player make a hard, careless or reckless tackle ... you have to mentally remember (or write it in your book) that player's number and the nature of their foul. You HAVE to approach that player and have a brief (public) conversation with him/her, letting them know that their tackle or foul was not acceptable. Coaches, parents, spectators understandably become irate when the same player is allowed to foul time after time, and there is little acknowledgment by the Referee toward that player other than a whistle and a pointing of the direction of the restart. If a foul is reckless, you can give the Yellow Card on the first foul. You don't have to wait for three reckless fouls to pull out the Yellow. The point here is to not look the other way if one or two players are playing so aggressive that they are endangering the safety of others. If a player persistently fouls throughout the game, you need to deal with that ... because somebody will eventually get hurt or injured if the same few individuals are consistently endangering the safety and enjoyment of the game for others.
- New Officials: Thanks for all your work and help with the games and season so far. Please know that all Senior or Experienced Officials are available just about any time you pick up a phone and contact us with questions or issues you might be experiencing. The best way to learn and improve as Officials is from our experiences on the field. Talking about those experiences (both positive and negative) will help each of us improve our game and performance the next time we're out there.
 - Remember that you can always get the phone and email addresses of your fellow referee crew, by clicking on their name on the Oregon Soccer Central assignment page. That opens up another page, where their contact information will be made available to you.
 - We haven't finalized a date or time to make up the USSF Physical Fitness test that we had to cancel due to weather a few weeks ago. When we find a date for that, we'll include it in our little Newsletter and put it on our 'Upcoming Events' calendar.

Thank you all for all the work you've been doing for the schools, kids and sport.

As always, email/call/text if you need help with anything. See you guys next Wednesday.

Mehdi

Commissioner, Central Oregon Soccer Officials Association

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--- UPCOMING EVENTS ---

Please stick these dates and times on your calendar.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION	WHAT'S HAPPENING	AGENDA	NOTES
Sep. 11, 2019 (Wed.)	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	St. Charles Medical Center (Bend). Conf. Room #D.	3rd COSOA Meeting	Training: Responsibilities of the Officials	
Sep. 25, 2019 (Wed.)	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	St. Charles Medical Center (Bend). Conf. Room #D.	4th COSOA Meeting	Training: Game Management	
Oct. 9, 2019 (Wed.)	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	St. Charles Medical Center (Bend). Conf. Room #D.	5th General Meeting	Training: Fouls & Misconduct	
Oct. 30, 2019 (Wed.)	6:30 – 8:00 p.m.	St. Charles Medical Center (Bend). Conf. Room #D.	6th General Meeting	Training: Playoff Rules & Procedures	