Swindon & District Football League

ACCREDITED
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL

Referee Appointment Secretary Address. 14-June-2023

Introduction

I would like to start off by saying a huge thank you to all the match officials last season, for their loyalty and commitment to the Swindon & District Football League, once again for the 5th season I have managed to cover all games except one.

I would also like to take this opportunity to also thank Jeremy Moyse for all his hard work in supporting me with the buddy scheme, a lot of work goes on behind the scenes during the season in supporting all referees within the SDFL. - I would also like to thank our buddy mentors who are volunteers in this position **Senior Buddy Mentor: Keith White, Buddy Mentor: Andrew Fox, Buddy Mentor: Shaun Mcombie, Referee Support Officer/Buddy Mentor: Ted Lewis, and Referee Support Officer: Brian Bennet Murdoch**. Next season we welcome **Chris Harris** to the buddy scheme as a mentor, our small team is growing and is very beneficial in supporting all and new referees in grassroots football.

Communication

Once again communication between myself and the teams last season was outstanding, it is always good to hear feedback from our clubs regarding the referees in the league, negative and positive feedback is always welcome.

Referee Marking

Regarding the referee marking after each game is still somewhat disappointing, some clubs do seem to mark the referee very low for enforcing the laws of the game, to mark a referee low scores because your team has picked up Red/Yellow cards during the game is unfair and does not help the referee - if the F.A. ask for seasonal marks on those going for promotion. It is also important to note that giving a lowest mark possible that does not require you to write a report is also unhelpful, just like last season if I see this continuing I will reach out to clubs asking for the reasonings why such a low mark was entered.

Judge the Referee's performance over the whole game. Don't be too influenced by one particular incident, don't mark the Referee down unfairly because your team was unlucky and lost the game; or because some disciplinary action was taken against your players - referees are there to enjoy the game as much as the players and some seek to have a future as a referee and progress.

91 – 100: The Referee was extremely accurate in decision-making and very successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play, adding real value to the game.

81 – 90: The Referee was very accurate in decision-making and successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play**.**

71 – 80: The Referee was accurate in decision-making and controlled the game well, communicating with the players and making a positive contribution towards fair play.

61 – 70: The Referee was reasonably accurate in decision making, controlled the game quite well and communicated

with the players, establishing a reasonable degree of fair play.

51 – 60: The Referee had some shortcomings in the level of accuracy of decision-making and control, with only limited success in communicating with players, resulting in variable fair play. 50 and below: The Referee had significant shortcomings in the level of accuracy of decision-making and control and poor communication with players, which resulted in low levels of fair play.

Appointments

As in previous years, as soon as the fixtures go out for the up and coming season the appointments will be done for the year, however, this may change due to cup games and Wilts Cup games, please make sure you have your Full-Time notifications on for updates.

Once again, can I please remind clubs that the appointments are done by myself and it's my decision - please do not contact me asking for the referee to be replaced - all appointments are final, if you are unhappy with a referee within the league then I ask you to write to me directly with your concerns.

Towards the end of last season, we saw a number of games covered by three match officials, this was fantastic and something I have been trying to introduce for the past 4 years - I will continue to appoint 3 match officials to games that I feel will require such, although as per last season if you would like to have three match officials for your game then please do ask - we are at a stage now where we have the officials to appoint assistants.

Referees and Team Colors

I would like to remind all clubs that the color black is not permitted to be worn by teams, (this does not include shorts & socks) although 'some' referees - and we are seeing more and more wear different colors the color black is the official color for match officials to wear, and fall back on if needed to do so.

If you have any concerns or your thinking of getting a new kit in 'black' - then please contact me before buying, it is better to be safe and spend a fortune.

Regarding team kits, please remember that all shirts need to be numbered.

Team Sheets & Match Fees

Please remember as we move into next season that team sheets (completed) with the full match fee is given to the Referee at least 20mins before K.O. or is offered.

Fees are frozen for next season.

Match Day fees are broken down as follows:
Premier Division Referee: £30.00 + 41p a mile.
Premier Division Assistants: £27.00 + 41p a mile.
Division 1 Referee: £28.00 + 41p a mile.
Division 1 Assistants: £25.00 + 41p a mile.

Referee Secretary

Rev Paris-Haines