

Northeast Elite Soccer League

Referee Guidelines

Playing Rules

The FIFA Laws of the Game shall apply with the exceptions of any listed below.

1. Length of Match

- a. Each match shall be comprised of two 45-minute halves with a halftime interval not to exceed 15 minutes. If a match is tied after regulation, it is complete.
- b. For playoff matches, where a winner must be determined, 30 minutes of extra time will be played in two 15-minute periods if the match ends tied after regulation. If still tied, then the winner will be determined by kicks from the penalty mark as prescribed by FIFA

2. Substitutions

A maximum of seven (7) substitutions shall be allowed. A player who has been replaced by a substitute may not re-enter the match.

Rosters

1. Player Identification

Teams must present to the referee crew a picture roster or player pass identifying the players eligible to take part in the match. The identifying information shall include the player's name and photograph.

If players passes are presented, all passes are to be returned to the respective team at the conclusion of the match, even for players issued a red card.

2. Match Day Roster

- a. Teams will be allowed to select no more than 18 players from its official Player Pool to be designated for its match day roster.
- b. A match day roster must be submitted to the referee no later than 30 minutes prior to the start of the match. The form must indicate no more than 11 players that shall start the match and include the players who may enter as substitutes. The roster form shall include the first and last name of each player and the jersey number of the player.

Match Administrative Matters

1. Uniforms

- a. The home team will have the primary choice of selection of color and may waive that choice in favor of the visiting team.
- b. A clear visible number at least 8 inches in height must be worn on the back of each player's jersey. Each player on a team must wear a number different from the numbers of the other players on the same team.

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2. Match Officials

The amount of compensation for the officials shall be \$240, paid by cash by each team at \$120. The referee shall receive \$100 and each assistant referee \$70.

3. Field & Equipment Requirements

- a. The length of the field may not be more than 120 yards nor less than 100 yards and the width of the field may not be more than 80 yards nor less than 65 yards.
- b. The goals, nets, balls, field markings and flag posts shall meet the requirements in accordance to the FIFA Laws of the Game.

4. Technical Area

Teams will be permitted to have no more than four team officials (coaches, assistant coaches and trainers) along with the 18 players listed on the match roster in the team's technical area. Each team official shall be listed on the team picture roster or shall have an issued identification pass. The identifying information shall include the official's name and photograph.

5. Spectators/Supporters

Spectators/supporters must be seated on the opposite touchline from the team benches or designated seating areas in the stands. Spectators are not permitted on the field or technical area. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their supporters.

6. Match Report

A match report will be emailed to Commissioner Tony Falcone (NESLFalcone@outlook.com). The report may be sent on official USSF forms but is not required. It will include the names of each match official, the result of the match and any discipline actions and/or injuries that occurred during the match. Give full details for any serious incident. The email must be sent within 24 hours of the completion of the match.

7. Special Disciplinary Action

Due to the current pandemic, any player, coach or team official who intentionally spits, coughs, fights or touches another player or referee is to be shown a red card and removed from the match.

Players, coaches & staff have been instructed not to approach referees at half time or after the game for any reason. Comments to the referees should be made from a distance of at least 6 feet away. Confronting a referee during the match including "getting in the referee's face or approaching too close" will be viewed as dissent and the player may be given a yellow card.