

14.0 Match Officials

14.1 Game Official fees are as per Appendix B.

14.1.1 All youth home clubs are responsible for the payment of game officials either at the game or by a payment schedule as established by the Youth team’s club policy.

14.1.2 At all open games the teams shall split the referee fees for each game.

14.1.3 Fees are to be paid to game officials before the beginning of the game.

14.2 In the case of Match Official no shows, the match official is obligated to return fees for the vacant position to the open teams. If a match official does not repay this fee, open teams may file a report with the league and the match official will be disciplined by SWRSA.

14.3 Referee fees based on game not being completed in full:

Scenario	Fee Paid	By Whom
Postponement of a game before Kick-Off due to inclement weather	Half-Fee	Youth Game- Home Club Open Game- Split between teams
Postponement as the field, in the referee’s discretion, is unplayable	Half-Fee	Home Team
Default - A team has less than the minimum number of players required to start the game	Half-Fee	Defaulting Team
Default with Notice – 48 Hours’ Notice Provided	No Fee	
Default with Notice – Less than 24 hours’ Notice Provided	Half Fee	League
Default with Notice – Less than 4 hours’ Notice	Half-Fee + mileage if incurred	League (Mileage paid at \$0.25 once Team No Show claim form is submitted)
No-Show – One or both teams do not show up	Half-Fee+ Mileage	League (Mileage paid at \$0.25 once Team No Show claim form is submitted)

- 14.3.1 The half game fee noted above shall be paid only if
- a) The referee collects and completes the game sheet(s) and provides a short written report explaining why the game did not start;

- b) The appointed referee and assistant referees, who were present at the field, shall include their names, OSA Registrant Number and signature(s) in the space provided on the game sheet(s);
- c) Hand a fully completed and signed copy of the game sheets to the coach/manager of the team(s) that is/are present.

14.3.2 In the event that both teams do not show, the league shall pay the game officials half the game fees, provided the game officials reports and request such fees within 5 days of such game.

- 14.4 The League or its designate will assign registered officials to games via Ref Centre. When the League is requested or required to assign officials for a youth game (other than a Cup game), the home club will be assessed a fee as per Appendix B.
- 14.5 Referees shall be assigned to all age groups. Assistant Referees shall be assigned to all age groups except U8, U9, and U10. All clubs that use un-carded referees will be liable to further discipline by the Executive Committee (Except in the case of a referee no show).
- 14.6 Referees must meet the following requirements:
- a) OSA D1 referees shall be allowed to officiate any U9 or U10 game.
 - b) OSA D4 referees or better shall be required for U11, U12, U13, U14, or U15 games.
 - c) OSA D6 referees or better shall be required for U16, U17, U18, or open games.
- 14.6.1 D1 through D5 referees (under 18 years old) may only take part in games in which the team age classification of the teams involved in the game are a minimum 2 years younger than the official.
- 14.6.2 A first year D4, D5, or D6 referee may not be appointed as a Match Official to a game involving Competitive teams where their new grade is the minimum requirement, but may be appointed as an Assistant Referee. (as per [OSA Referee Operational Procedure](#))
- 14.6.3 All Assistant Referees must be a D4 or better.
- 14.7 Officiating complaints will only be acknowledged if received in writing by the league administrator. Complaints will be reviewed by the Board and may suspend the official from refereeing further games in district league.
- 14.8 The game official is responsible for providing the teams a copy of completed game sheets within 15 minutes of the end of the game. All game officials must print and sign all game sheets with their name.

14.9 In the event that the appointed game official is not in attendance within fifteen (15) minutes after a scheduled kick-off the referee no-show must be reported to the League using the appropriate form.

14.9.1 For Grass Roots games, the two teams MUST agree on an alternate game official or person and proceed with the game. Failure to proceed with the game will result in the game being removed from the schedule

14.9.2 For competitive, recreational, and open divisions the two teams may agree on an alternate game official and proceed with the game. If the two teams are not in agreement the game will be rescheduled as per Rule 8.4.

14.10 The game official must submit completed game sheets accompanied by any Disciplinary Reports, Trial Registration Permits or Temporary Eligibility Permits to the District office within forty-eight (48) hours of the final whistle

14.11 Lightning/Severe Weather Policy

The continuance of the game is at the referee's discretion. The Ontario Soccer Association has a Weather Policy in place that should be followed in such conditions. The Policy mirrors the "30-30 Rule" as directed by Environment Canada. The "30-30 Rule" should be known and understood by all involved in the game. When you see lightning, count until the time you hear thunder. If this time is thirty (30) seconds or less, seek proper shelter. Wait thirty (30) minutes or more after hearing the last thunder before leaving the shelter. If you cannot see the lightning, just hearing the thunder is a good back-up rule.

14.12 Heat Advisory Policy

In the event of a heat advisory (as issued by Environment Canada) it is MANDATORY for match officials to provide water breaks as follows:

1. At the midway point of each half.
2. Provide a 60 second break.
3. Game clock is stopped during mandated water breaks.

This is MANDATORY for player safety and cannot be ignored. If a heat advisory has not been issued and team officials are seeking water breaks, the request to the match official should occur prior to the game. These water breaks will be permitted at the discretion of the referee.

The safety of players, coaches, management and spectators is the primary concern in any weather event that occurs during all matches sanctioned by SWRSA. The Match Official has the final say over delaying or restarting a match due to weather. Waiting to stop play or not waiting to start play may result in a serious injury or loss of life. Match Officials are expected to act responsibly when dealing with such events during matches they are controlling.

14.14 Match Official Travel Expenses (Open Divisions Only)

Depending on distance traveled a Game Crew may be entitled to claim a travel expense through the league. SWRSA has been split into four zones for the purpose of identifying applicable set travel expenses.

Follow the link for details including the identification of zones, eligibility, and the preset amounts of the [Match Official Travel Expenses](#).