



Welcome to this one hundredth and ninth edition of **“The Referee”**, the newsletter for all NSW State League Football Referees. This newsletter will enable our branch to communicate directly with our members and will cover issues and areas of interest to all referees. We wish to ensure that all information, educational resources and opportunities that our branch provides for referees finds its way to those who are likely to benefit most – and that’s you.



Upcoming events in 2022:

1. The Annual General Meeting and Awards Night is on Friday 9th December 2022 at the Bankstown Sports Club commencing at 7.30 pm.

The Definitive Angle PRO - USA - Video Reviews MLS Week 33

1. MTL vs DC: Review for penalty kick (foul challenge) – not given

Click on the video link to review the incident - https://youtu.be/fdX2Oz_9F8A

What Happened: Ismaël Koné (MTL - Dark Blue 28) entered the D.C. United penalty area in possession of the ball, bearing down on goal with Donovan Pines (DC) – White 23) in close pursuit. The referee did not identify an offence by Pines in real-time and allowed play to continue; however, the VAR saw that Pines had used both hands to push Koné to the ground, preventing him from shooting and denying him an obvious goalscoring opportunity. As such, the VAR recommended a Video Review.

Having seen the footage for himself at the RRA screen, the referee agreed and awarded a penalty kick to CF Montréal (Dark Blue), before issuing a red card to Pines for DOGSO.

On-field decision: Play on.

Type of review: Penalty kick.

Final decision after review: Penalty and red card (DOGSO).

Length of review: 1:50.

PRO's Opinion: *This was a very efficient and effective use of the Video Review system to rectify a very clear and obvious on-field error.*

2. LA vs RSL: Review for penalty kick (foul challenge) – not given

Click on the video link to review the incident – <https://youtu.be/a5XVBWjHQQE>

What Happened: Javier Hernández (LA – White 14) went down in the Real Salt Lake penalty area under challenge from Marcelo Silva (RSL – Red 30). In real-time, the referee did not identify an offence by Silva and penalised Hernandez for handball after he fell to the ground, feeling he had tried to draw the foul from Silva. He awarded a direct freekick to RSL.

The VAR checked footage of the incident and formed the opinion that the non-award of a penalty kick was a clear and obvious error. The footage showed that Silva had placed his right arm onto the left shoulder of Hernandez before his right leg then made contact into the back of Hernandez's left leg, tripping him.

As such, a Video Review was recommended, but when the referee arrived at the RRA, he found the screen not to be functional. In such circumstances, the procedure stipulates for the referee to hear a description of the incident from the VAR and then make a decision. Based on the information provided by the VAR, the referee changed the on-field decision.

On-field decision: Direct freekick (to Houston Dynamo).

Type of review: Penalty kick.

Final decision after review: Penalty (to LA Galaxy).

Length of review: 3:20.

PRO's Opinion: *This was a correct Video Review intervention as there had been no offence committed by Hernandez. The only offense was the one by Silva when he fouled Hernandez. It was unfortunate that the screen did not work, and in these unusual circumstances, the referee was correct to take the advice of the VAR and change the decision to reach the correct outcome.*

3. NSH vs HOU: Review for penalty kick (foul challenge) – not given

Click on the video link to review the incident – https://youtu.be/7Bj9_e5CR-E

What Happened: Corey Baird (HOU – Navy 11) went down in the NSH penalty area under challenge from Walker Zimmerman (NSH – Yellow 25). The referee did not identify an offence in real-time and allowed play to continue.

However, when the VAR checked footage of the situation, he saw that Baird had been brought down by Zimmerman, whose right leg had made foul contact into the left leg of Baird after Baird had tried to hook the ball past Zimmerman. This was a clear foul, and the non-award of a penalty kick was a clear and obvious error. As such, the VAR recommended a Video Review, and after looking at the footage for himself at the RRA screen, the referee concurred and awarded a penalty kick to HOU.

On-field decision: Corner kick.

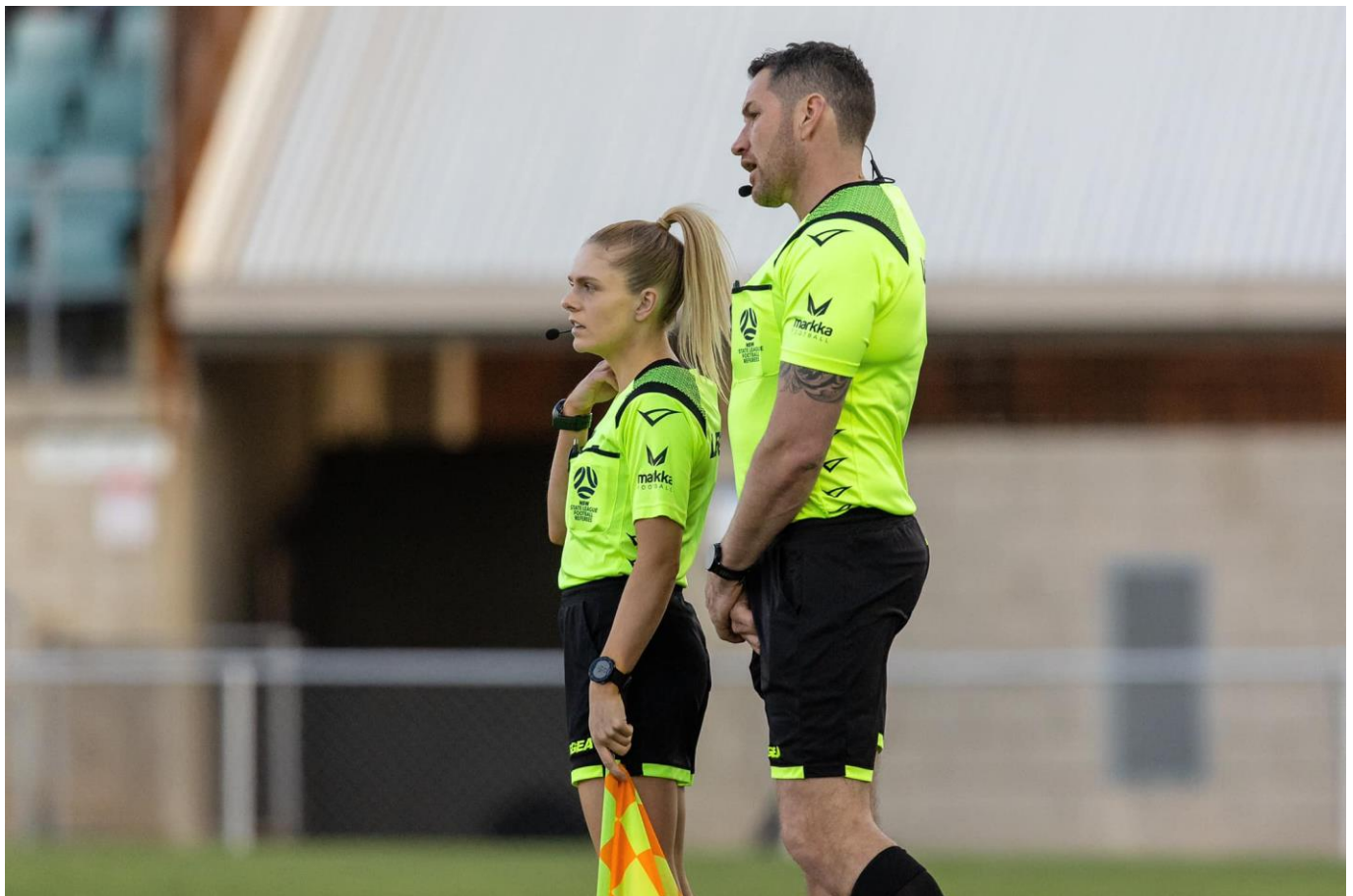
Type of review: Penalty kick.

Final decision after review: Penalty.

Length of review: 1:50.

PRO's Opinion: This was an efficient and effective use of the Video Review system to rectify a clear and obvious error.

Modified and adapted from The Definitive Angle by Professional Referee Organization – October 2022



Instant Gratification & The Negative Impact On Performance

Do you become frustrated when you don't see your marks increase immediately? Sometimes, referees expect too much, too quickly. These officials believe increased efforts will have an immediate impact on their marks.

For example, a baseball pitcher spends a lot of time working with a pitching coach to add another pitch to his arsenal. At the beginning of the season, he expects to increase his strikeouts per game dramatically. However, it takes time to gain comfort on the mound in live situations.

Or a swimmer who has put extra effort into honing their freestyle technique. She expects to drop significant time in the 100-metre freestyle but sees no time drop early in the season. Seeing improvement requires a high degree of repetition.

The expectation of immediate success often causes a referee to give up on their efforts just when improvement may be around the corner. Improvement requires effort but also patience. You will see the benefits of your work as long as you trust the process.

What Does It Mean To Trust The Process?

Trusting the process means focusing on building your officiating ability over time. Improvement, of course, requires effort and focus. Although, you should understand that there is no such thing as an overnight success.

Elite referees are successful because they are committed more to improvement than earning appointments to key fixtures. The marks will take care of themselves when you work on your officiating. For progress to happen, you must be patient, persistent, and trust that your work will eventually pay off.

When you have an improvement-oriented mindset and the patience to persist, you will be more equipped to handle disappointment. In addition, when you adopt an improvement mindset throughout your refereeing career, you will achieve much more of your potential.

The Tennis Perspective

Take, for example, professional tennis player Carlos Alcaraz. No. 9 Alcaraz defeated 21-time Grand Slam champion Rafael Nadal in the quarterfinals and, a day later, edged out world No. 1 Novak Djokovic at the 2022 Mutua Madrid Open. Alcaraz won the tournament, but he is committed to improving his game further.

"Well, I think that I have to improve everything still. I have always said that you can improve everything. You never reach a limit. Look at Rafa, Djokovic, [Roger] Federer. All of them improve, and they have things to improve. That's why they are so good, and that's why they are so much time up there because they don't stop... That's what I want to do. I want to keep on progressing. I have really good shots. I don't say that I don't have them, but I know that I can improve them, and they can be even better." – Carlos Alcaraz, Professional Tennis Player. Alcaraz's mindset has paid off, but his mentality will continue to raise his game further throughout his career.

Patience is not just a virtue but an essential element to success.

Tip For Focusing On The Process:

Success requires a goal and a goal plan. However, refereeing success also requires patience. If you do not see improvement, you can evaluate or alter your plan, but you cannot entirely give up on the plan.

Modified and adapted from an article in The Third Team Blog by Nathan Sherratt – October 2022



2021 -2022 Laws of the Game Quiz

A thorough understanding of the Laws of the Game is an essential quality of a good referee. All referees should regularly review their Laws of the Game book to ensure they are correctly interpreting and applying them.

This monthly LOTG Quiz is highly recommended for all active referees and assessors and counts towards meeting part of the criteria for honour games consideration and annual awards. To reinforce your knowledge, you are encouraged to utilise your Laws of the Game Book to assist in answering the quiz questions. All quiz questions are based on the new 2021/2022 IFAB LOTG.

Click Here

Click on the "Click Here" button to complete the highly recommended monthly LOTG Quiz to test yourself on how well you know the laws.

October 2022 LOTG Quiz Answers: 1 - C; 2 - A; 3 - D; 4 - B; 5 - C; 6 - D; 7 - B; 8 - A; 9 - C; 10 - A.

Save These Dates

Friday 9th December 2022 - AGM and Awards Night at the Bankstown Sports Club commencing at 7.30 pm.



**Richard Baker - NSWSLFR Member and
Newsletter Editor**

