



Welcome to this sixty third 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!



**Happy New Year to All
NSWSLFR Members and
Referees Worldwide**



“Tensions” are primarily caused by players (but occasionally those watching). Look out for the personal battles that can develop, which will lead to one deliberately fouling another or players trying to wind each other up with snide remarks. There can be various reasons for these – such as conflict carried over from a previous game or the feeling one player has “got away with something”. Whatever the reason you need to look out for both the verbal and non-verbal cues and then manage the players by letting them know you are aware what is going on and then applying law and the usual management approaches thoroughly – i.e. don’t give the feud a chance to develop.

Great News - Our Two New FIFA Officials

Congratulations go to Kurt Ams (Referee) and Lance Greenshields (Assistant Referee) who have been added to the FIFA list for 2019. Their achievement is very well deserved for all their hard work, dedication, determination and effort to make it by going that little extra bit further. NSW State League Football Referees know they will wear their badges with pride and distinction.



Kurt and Lance join a distinguished list of NSWFLFR members who have been honoured with a FIFA badge for their services and dedication to the art of refereeing -

Referees	Assistant Referees
Tony Boskovic	Manny Loupis
Peter Rampley	Kevin Tooke
Gary Power	John Bowdler
Richard Lorenc	John Cameron
Simon Micallef	Kevin Humphreys
Con Diomis	Stewart Lockrey
Brett Hugo	Alex Spiroski
Matthew Breeze	Jonathan Streater
Simon Przydacz	Peter Vrtkovski
Strebre Delovski	Alex Glasgow
Amelia Stanilas (Morris)	Sarah Ho
Kurt Ams	Lance Greenshields

Laws Of The Game 2018/2019

The 2016/17 revision of the Laws of the Game was probably the most far-reaching and comprehensive in The IFAB's history. The aim was to make the Laws clearer, more accessible and to ensure they reflect the needs of the modern game. As with any large-scale revision, there is always a second 'follow up' stage and many of the changes for 2017/18 were clarifications which made the text clearer and/or easier to translate – most are the result of requests from individuals, groups and national FAs from around the world. In addition to the clarifications, there were some changes which were extensions of principles established in the 2016/17 revision and the 2017 AGM also approved some significant changes to help develop and promote football, including:

- an extension of the flexibility of national FAs (and confederations and FIFA) to modify some of the 'organisational' Laws (e.g. increasing the maximum number of substitutes to five, except for the highest level) to help promote and develop the football for which they are responsible as The IFAB believes that national FAs know best what will benefit football in their country
- the introduction of temporary dismissals (sin bins) as a potential alternative sanction to a caution (YC) in youth, veterans, disability and grassroots (lowest levels) football
- extension of the use of return substitutes to youth, veterans and disability football (they are already permitted in grassroots football).

The Law changes for 2018/19 are mainly further refinements to the major revision and the inclusion, after rigorous testing, of 2 major options for competitions:

- the use of an additional substitute in extra time
- the use of video assistant referees (VARs), subject to permission from The IFAB and FIFA

The electronic version of the Laws of the Game 2018/19 and supporting documents can be found on The IFAB website: www.theifab.com

Click on the following links for details of Law Changes 2017/18:

[Presentation - Changes to the LOTG 2018/2019](#)

[Outline Summary of Law Changes 2018/2019](#)

[Full Version - Laws of the Game 2018/2019](#)

2018-2019 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.

A new format has been introduced, in our Newsletter, for testing your knowledge of the LOTG. 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 current 2018/2019 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.

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

Important Dates

Wednesday 16th January 2019 – Practice Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 7.30 pm onwards.

Sunday 20th January 2019 – Assessor's seminar at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown NSW 2200, starts at 8.30 am. **Note:** Pre-registration through the Registration JotForm is essential. The seminar is compulsory and all assessors are required to attend. Failure to attend will impact on appointments.

Wednesday 30th January 2019 - Practice Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 7.30 pm onwards.

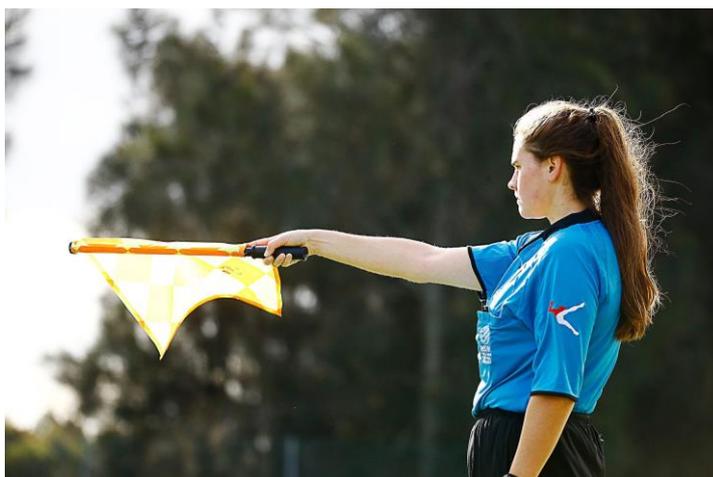
Sunday 3rd February 2019 - NSWSLFR Annual Seminar at Bankstown Sports Club, 8 Greenfield Parade, Bankstown NSW 2200. Conducted from 08:30 to 13:00 (Registrations from 08:00).

Wednesday 13th February 2019 – Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 6.00 to 8.30 pm – be there at 5.30 pm for warm up and name confirmation. **Note:** Fitness Test Pre-registration must be completed before the designated date as places are limited.

Sunday 24th February 2019 - Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 8.00 to 11.00 am – be there at 7.30 am for warm up and name confirmation. **Note:** Fitness Test Pre-registration must be completed before the designated date as places are limited.

Wednesday 27th February 2019 – Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 6.00 to 8.30 pm – be there at 5.30 pm for warm up and name confirmation. **Note:** Fitness Test Pre-registration must be completed before the designated date as places are limited.

Sunday 3rd March 2019 - Fitness Tests at Barden Ridge Athletics Track, Recreation Drive, Barden Ridge NSW 2234. Conducted from 8.00 to 11.00 am – be there at 7.30 am for warm up and name confirmation. **Note: Fitness Test Pre-registration must be completed before the designated date as places are limited.**



Treatment/Assessment After a Caution/Sending Off

Previously, an injured player who received medical attention on the field of play must leave before the restart. This can be unfair if an opponent caused the injury as the offending team has a numerical advantage when play restarts. However, this requirement was introduced because players often unsportingly used an injury to delay the restart for tactical reasons. As a balance between these two unfair situations, The IFAB has decided that only for a physical offence where the opponent is cautioned or sent off, an injured player can be quickly assessed/treated and then remain on the field of play. In principle, the delay should not be any longer than currently occurs when a medical person(s) comes on the field to assess an injury. The difference is that the point at which the referee used to require the medical person(s) and the player to leave is now the point at which the medical staff leave but the player can remain.

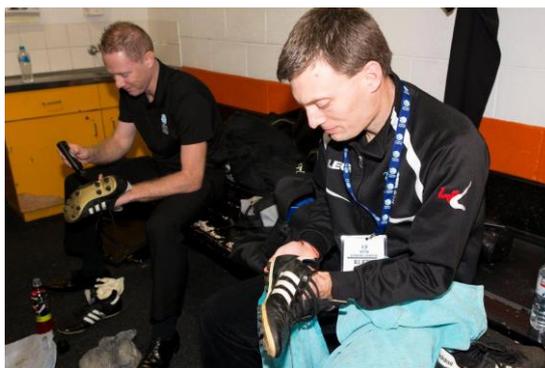
To ensure the injured player does not use/extend the delay unfairly, referees are advised to:

- be aware of the match situation and any potential tactical reason to delay the restart
- inform the injured player that if medical treatment is required it must be quick
- signal for the medical person(s) (not the stretchers) and, if possible, remind them to be quick

When the referee decides play should restart either:

- the medical person(s) leaves and the player remains or
- the player leaves for further assessment/treatment (stretcher signal may be necessary)

As a general guide, the restart should not be delayed for more than about 20–25 seconds beyond the point when everyone was ready for play to restart. The referee must make full allowance for the stoppage.



Incidents Behind the Referee's Back

Assistants have to be alert to player misconduct that occurs behind the referee's back. The key to success is to keep an eye on any area where players from opposing teams are close together. As a general rule if an offence occurs that requires action by the referee, wait until the referee is facing you before raising your flag. When the referee has stopped play, beckon the referee to you and report to the referee what you have seen and/or heard. It is not the assistant's role to insist what action the referee should take – just simply report what has happened. However, if the referee requests a recommendation on an appropriate response you may offer an opinion.

In cases of serious breaches of the Laws one or both assistants may choose to flag even though the referee's back is turned. This is appropriate if it is believed that this may prevent further problems. If only one assistant has flagged it will alert the other assistant who may then flag if the referee is looking in that direction. Both assistants must be aware of each other's actions for this system to be effective. This cooperation also applies when the assistant nearest the technical area signals that a substitution is required, but the referee is facing away from the assistant and cannot see the signal. The other assistant should assist by also signalling for a substitution. Attentive assistants are likely to enhance each other's roles and the match as a whole.

Zone of play: As a general rule assistants should indicate offences that have occurred in their own zone of play. However, should a major violation occur the assistant must draw the referee's attention to it even if the incident occurs on the far side of the field of play. This is required under Law 6. Before signalling consider and rapidly answer these questions:

- Was the referee able to see what happened?
- If I signal for the offence will I be assisting or interfering?



Richard Baker - NSWSLFR TSC Member and Newsletter Editor

