

LOWER ISLAND SOCCER ASSOCIATION
“SITUATIONAL AWARENESS”
BULLETIN #1

1. **WHEN MUST SUBSTITUTES WEAR A “PINNIE ?”**

Substitutes are required to wear a pinnie when they are on the team bench or when warming up/stretching. A substitute when ready to enter the game leaves their pinnie AT THE BENCH, comes to the halfway line and steps back about 2 metres so as not to interfere with play. To reiterate, a substitute “does not” wear a pinnie when they are at the half way line. In this way, the substitute is ready to enter the field of play immediately after the player he is replacing has exited at the nearest touchline.

2. **WHERE SHOULD SUBSTITUTES “ENTER THE FIELD OF PLAY ?”** The substitute only enters during a stoppage in play; **only at the halfway line**; after the player being replaced has left; and after receiving a signal from the referee. Substitutes can only enter the field at the halfway line. Not from in front of their bench; not from the warm up area...only from the halfway line.

3. **WHAT ACTION CAN I TAKE IF A “FAN/SPECTATOR” IS HURLING ABUSE OR CONSTANTLY PROTESTING MY DECISION’S ?** As officials for the Lower Island Soccer association, mostly refing youth games, we should not be subject to any form of abuse from supporters and spectators. **We never engage or get into a verbal altercation with those watching the game.** Enthusiastic cheering, passion for the game and some “moaning and

groaning” about our decisions goes with the territory but if someone on the sidelines is making you uncomfortable and has crossed the line with their language and consistent verbal abuse, STOP the game the next time the ball is out of play. Approach the head coach of the team the abuser is with and ask him/her in a polite but confident tone, to deal with the person giving you all the grief. Point him/her out if necessary as that often helps quell the storm. If the abusive language includes swearing and other personal attacks ask the coach to have him/her removed. Otherwise a warning might work. If the warning doesn't work and the offender keeps at it, ask the coach to have him/her removed or you will “abandon” the game ! The head coach of each team is responsible to control the behaviour of their supporters. The LISA Discipline Committee will support you ! LISA as an association, has a **zero tolerance policy** when it comes to abuse of officials.

4. **WHAT ACTION CAN I TAKE IF A “TEAM OFFICIAL” IS HURLING ABUSE OR CONSTANTLY PROTESTING MY DECISION’S ?** A team official who commits a cautionable or sending-off offence, either on or off the field of play is disciplined according to the offence.

The yellow card communicates a caution and the red card communicates a sending-off.

Only a player, substitute, substituted player or team official may be shown the red or yellow card.

Use what is called the “Ask – Tell – Dismiss” 3 phased approach to managing a team official.

“ASK” – sharp whistle to stop play. In a confident but non confrontational manner “ask” the team official to stop what they are doing. Advise them this is their warning.

“TELL” – sharper whistle to stop play. Advise the team official they have received an earlier warning and that they you are now “telling” them to stop. The team official should now be shown a “yellow card.”

“DISMISS” – sharpest whistle to stop play. At this phase the team official likely knows what’s coming next. You can tell the team official you have asked, told, and are now sending them off. Show the team official a “red card” and don’t restart the game until the team official has left. If they refuse to leave inform them that you will be abandoning the game.

Referee’s also have the option of showing a straight red card if foul, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures are used.

5. WHO HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE “GAME BALL ?” The referee has responsibility for the game ball from the time he/she is provided the ball (from the home team) until the end of the game when he/she returns the ball to the home team. The game ball should remain in the possession of the referee at half time. Not left in the centre circle.

6. WHERE SHOULD THE ASSISTANT REFEREE STAND ON A CORNER KICK ? On the goal line, behind the corner flag, with the flag held in their left hand. The AR is considered the “goal judge.”

7. WHAT SHOULD MY POSITIONING BE ON A CORNER KICK ? Use what is termed the “static / dynamic” position and approach to managing corner

kicks. Take up your position just outside the penalty area (static.) As soon as the ball is kicked into play utilize various running styles (dynamic) to achieve the optimum angle of view. Focus on the penalty area and activity in front of the goalkeeper as that is where any challenges will come from. Not the kicker taking the corner.

8. WHAT IS THE PROCEDURE FOR A DROPPED BALL INSIDE THE PENALTY AREA: The ball is dropped for the “defending team goalkeeper” in their penalty area if, when play was stopped:

- the ball was in the penalty area or
 - the last touch of the ball was in the penalty area
- | |
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| The ball is in play when it touches the ground |
| All players (of both teams) must remain at least 4 m (4.5 yds) from the ball until it is in play |
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9. SHOULD THE REFEREE USE THEIR WHISTLE TO INDICATE A GOAL HAS BEEN SCORED ? The short answer is “NO” – the referee should never use their whistle to indicate a goal has been scored. The referee should point to centre and back away from the penalty area as they watch for potential misconduct or excessive celebration. Using the whistle to indicate a goal can create confusion...was there an offside ? A foul committed ?

10. **PRO TIP !** “No two games are ever the same.....we’re always learning !”

Any questions, please reach out to me via text or email, OR if you have any suggestions for future bulletins please let me know.

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