



A Soccer Officials Association
for West Michigan
<http://www.wmisoa.com>

WMSOA — News

West Michigan Soccer Officials Association

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Important News — Change in Newsletter Format

This is the first WMSOA newsletter in the new format which will be available on the www.wmisoa.com website and will be emailed periodically to all WMSOA members with a known email address. If you would like to receive this newsletter via email please make sure that your membership dues are up to date and that your email address is on file. You may email any news, comments or requests for email copies to Jack Wolf at: jl.wolf@comcast.net.

Important News — New Web Site

WWW.WMISOA.COM is the website location for all WMSOA news. Want to keep up to date on what is happening in your sport and have a great source of information and dates, visit this site. Managed by David Whitehouse, this website is an ideal reference for news, upcoming events and dates, tournament information, and references to other useful websites. Comments or information that you would like to see added - contact Dave at dwww@whiteware.com

Soccer Upgrades in 2005

The below referee and assessors have achieved new levels in West Michigan.

To USSF grade 6: Dale Heyboer, Jan Milek, Frank Roder

To USSF grade 7: Jim Backowski, Paul Holwerda, Larry Olsen,

Tod Vela, Dave Whitehouse, Bob Powers, Mark Wolf.

New USSF Assessors in West Michigan: John Corbett, Tony Gonzalez

Congratulations to all and if you would like to upgrade please make sure that your application is completed and returned to Mike Bodary by 15 April 2005. Contact Jerry Ouellete at 269-965-5903 or email him at gwo73mg.aol.com.

Last Chance to attend MHSAA rules meeting.

Below are listed the last two opportunities to attend a High School rules meeting for the spring soccer season. If you attended the fall 2004 meeting your attendance is not required - however if you did not and wish to officiate any MHSAA tournaments in the spring, you must attend a spring 2005 rules meeting. Below are the last two dates available to you.

LIVONIA (Churchill HS) – Thursday, February 24, 2005

EAST LANSING (MHSAA Office) – Wed., March 9, 2005

Improve your High School Soccer Officiating skills.

Several times each year a workshop is held to work on the skills, techniques and field mechanics of high school soccer officiating. This workshop is recommended for officials with less than three years High School officiating experience and is a great chance to improve and learn how to make the dual system work for you from two officials with many years of high school experience.

The next workshop will be held at the Sports Exchange (44th and Byron Center in Grand Rapids) and will be run by Frank Warren 616-399-1012 and Greg Philbeam 616-455-5095. Please contact either for additional details.



Kevin Stott (FIFA referee) in Michigan.

Over 100 Michigan referees listed intently to the five hour presentation at the December Lansing recertification clinic made by Kevin Stott. With a refreshing open and candid style Stott presented many examples from his previous professional games of both excellence and areas for improvement. Stott has been an MLS referee since 1996 and a FIFA referee since 1995 and is one of 46 officials selected to compete for one of the 30 referee positions at the World Cup in Germany 2006.

Social Security Numbers Needed - Keith Miller

Part of the requirements for both High School and College soccer game assignments is to supply the schools with the assigned officials social security number. Please take a moment to get Keith and Don Dahl your numbers to make their assigning job easier. This information will be kept strictly confidential.

News From Brewer Park - John Corbett

As we approach spring please see the attached letter from the desk of John Corbett. John is the referee assigner for many local soccer associations: (GV Premier, GRASA, Kentwood SC, Panthers SC, CATS) - Brewer Park (Plainfield Area Select Soccer) - Northview HS and Blythefield CRC.



LEAVING THE FIELD OF PLAY WITHOUT THE REFEREE'S PERMISSION

Q. What does leaving the field of play without the referee's permission mean?

A. Players who leave the field without the referee's permission most often do so for unsporting reasons for example, to create an unfair offside situation (see *Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game* 11.10). They may also leave the field to indicate dissent or to manage the referee's next decision. If a player does leave the field for a reason that results in gaining a tactical advantage for his/her team and has not obtained the referee's permission to do so, the player has committed misconduct and must be cautioned and shown the yellow card.

Where it is apparent to the referee that the player leaving the field without permission has not done so to express dissent or to gain an unfair advantage (e. g., exited to change shoes or replace a torn jersey) and has merely forgotten to obtain permission (or assumed permission was given), the referee should consider this a trifling breach of the Laws. A word of warning to the player should be sufficient in such circumstances, even if that player then re-enters the field without obtaining the referee's permission.

Leaving the field during the course of play (*Advice* 3.9) is not considered to be leaving the field of play without the referee's permission.