

Overall one of the best weekends to date for attendance. A few people were late, but this is a huge improvement over prior weeks. Thanks for taking your commitments seriously.

Weather: When games are canceled due to weather, officials only get paid if the game kicks off. This is an industry standard. There are times when officials get paid for officiating 10 minutes of a game due to a weather cancelation. And then there are times when officials are ready to officiate, but the game never starts so they do not get paid. WRSA tries very hard to communicate at least 60 minutes prior to any first game cancelations due to weather. Please subscribe to the WRSA text messaging system by texting WRSA1 to 84483 from your mobile phone. You will then get text notifications of delays and cancelations.

Indoor Games: A unique feature of playing soccer indoors is that there is a chance that the ball might hit a foreign object and come back into play (that foreign object being the netting above the field). I want to make sure that we all understand the proper restart for this occasion. To begin, we should look in the LOTG to see if there is anything specific for a ceiling or net. Law 8: The Start and Restart of Play does state that a dropped ball is given to one player of the team that last touched the ball at the position where it last touched an outside agent. I would consider the netting to be an outside agent. The proper restart would be a dropped ball directly below where it hit the netting and given to the team which last touched the ball. This not the same as other indoor leagues where it is considered a turnover.

Restarts (DFK and IFK and the Importance of Getting These RIGHT): Due to increased feedback from coaches and team managers about officials knowing the proper restart, we will be focusing on this exact subject for the next few weeks. There is no excuse for an improper restart by an official for typical fouls. We will be outlining these scenarios over the weeks to come in great detail, but please ask questions if you are unclear. There is a HUGE difference between an IFK and a DFK restart and there is no judgement in these decisions. The restart is clearly stated in the LOTG for every foul. As licensed officials, we need to know these situations and restarts.

Ref HQ Phone Number: If you are not going to be in Ref HQ **thirty** minutes prior to your first game, you **MUST** call Ref HQ and let us know. We replaced several officials this weekend who were not on time. When replaced, you will lose the pay you would have received for being at the game. There is no excuse for not knowing this number. As a reminder, it is 316-779-3642. It should be setup as a contact in your phone.

Positive Feedback: We continue to receive positive feedback from the teams in regards to the officiating at WRSA. Often times this feedback is then followed with some suggestions, but we are doing a great job and it is not going unnoticed. Continue to work hard and ask questions when appropriate.

Paper Checks: Effective Friday, 9/20/2019, all referee checks are held at the Stryker Indoor Building for pickup. The location was moved from Wichita Sports Forum to Stryker. Ask a Stryker staff person to get the checks for you. A direct deposit form is provided with the checks to encourage you to deposit to your checking or savings account for quicker payment. All referees were notified Friday if a check was being held for them at Stryker.

For the love of the beautiful game,

Joshua Bartel, Director of Officials, WRSA

jbartel@strykersportscomplex.com