

Observing the Area Candidate

Recognize the candidate is being critiqued on their ability to successfully referee a TYPICAL U-12 **AYSO** game. The observation should focus mainly on the candidate's basic understanding and application of the "mechanical" aspects of refereeing, the Laws of the Game and the Diagonal System of Control.

Appearance

It is expected that the Area candidate will arrive at the game properly attired and have the required equipment.

Pre-game

Area candidate should:

- arrive at the match at least 20 minutes before it starts, be properly equipped, and be ready to walk onto the field.
- administer the field, players and field equipment inspection
- provide simple but acceptable pre-game instructions to their assistant referees
- demonstrate acceptable mechanics during the coin toss, leadership in acquiring match cards and match ball.
- properly position themselves for the kickoff, and direct the referee team and the players as to their position for the kickoff

Fitness

In general, the candidate is expected to:

- keep up with play (15 to 20 yards from area of active play) while generally traveling the diagonal
- sprint as required
- demonstrate the rudiments of anticipating play

Attitude

Candidate:

- must practice the "**AYSO** Team" philosophy at all times
- should be friendly and accommodating to fellow referees, players and coaches
- while indicating some nervousness, must demonstrate an aura of authority

Courage, Character and Consistency

Candidate must:

- demonstrate their willingness to call fouls equally for both teams when they occur
- be capable of recognizing and dealing firmly with any challenges to their authority on or off the field, and interference from the sidelines

Positioning, Mechanics and Signals

Candidate must:

- demonstrate their knowledge of the operation of the diagonal system of control

- consistently orient themselves in a manner that maximizes their eye contact with their assistant referees
- consistently demonstrates their knowledge of the acceptable position for those restarts that occur in a TYPICAL U-12 **AYSO** game
- indicate their awareness of proper restart signals and use them accordingly

Accuracy of Decision

Candidates must:

- consistently recognizes and whistle fouls which occur in a TYPICAL U-12 **AYSO** game including penal and non-penal fouls
- recognizes the difference between offside position and offside participation
- apply the proper penalties and restarts

Control

Candidates should demonstrate that they have full control of the game at all times by:

- starting and stopping the game on time
- stopping and starting the second half on time
- controlling substitutes
- handling injuries
- being aware of the readiness of players and the assistant referees
- providing sufficient whistle signal level so that players are aware so that the referee has stopped play

Conclusion

To satisfy the field performance requirements at the Area level while refereeing a TYPICAL **AYSO** U12 game, candidates must be reasonably successful in demonstrating:

- knowledge of the Laws
- Laws application
- the mechanics of the diagonal system of control
- proper positioning for restarts