



Eastern Massachusetts Soccer Officials  
Association  
<http://www.emsoa.org>  
2016 Newsletter



## Fall Meetings

### Mandatory Rule Interpretation Meetings:

All active referees **must** attend to one of these meetings or send a message to [emsoa@emsoa.org](mailto:emsoa@emsoa.org) before Sept 11, 2016 explaining why you cannot attend.

- **North Chapter** - meeting at (*New Location*) Loyal Order of Moose, 140 North St, North Reading, MA 01864
  - Sunday, August 28th @ 7:00PM
  - Thursday, September 1st @ 7:00PM
- **West Chapter** - meeting at The Crown Plaza Hotel, 320 Washington St., Newton, MA.
  - Tuesday, September 6th @ 7:00PM
- **South Chapter** - meeting at Hanover High School, 287 Cedar St., Hanover, MA.
  - Wednesday, August 31st @ 7:00PM
- **All Chapters** - Meeting at VFW Post 2498, 20 Junction St, Needham, MA.
  - Saturday Sept 10, 2016, 1:00 to 3:00 pm

These dates and locations may change. Check the Calendar Page of the EMSOA web site for changes, ([http://www.emsoa.org/emsoa\\_calendar.html](http://www.emsoa.org/emsoa_calendar.html)). All changes will be posted at least a few days before the scheduled meeting. There is no extra credit for attending more than one of these meetings.

You can meet your requirement by attending the Mandatory Rules Interpretation Meeting at any other Soccer Officials' Association. Make sure the Secretary/Treasurer of the other Association knows that you are from EMSOA.

Cape Cod Soccer Officials Association (<http://www.capecodsoa.org/>)

Mon Aug 29, 2016, 7:00p, Yarmouth Police Dept., 340 Higgins Crowell Rd, Yarmouth, MA 02673

Central Massachusetts Soccer Officials (<http://www.thecmso.com/>)

Aug 29, 7:00 PM, St. John's High School, 378 Main St, Shrewsbury, MA.

Whaling City Soccer Officials Association (<http://www.wcsoa.org/wcsoa/Home.html>)

Tuesday August 30th at 6:30pm, Our Lady of Angels Band Center, 1446 Acushnet Ave., New Bedford, MA 02745.

## Regular Chapter Meetings:

All active referees are required come to **ONE** of these meetings.

- **North Chapter** - meeting at (*New Location*) Loyal Order of Moose, 140 North St, North Reading, MA 01864
  - Thursday, September 29th @ 7:00PM
  - Sunday, October 30th @ 7:00PM
- **West Chapter** - meeting at The Crown Plaza Hotel, 320 Washington St., Newton, MA.
  - Tuesday, September 20th @ 7:00PM
  - Thursday, October 27th @ 7:00PM
- **South Chapter** - meeting at Hanover High School, 287 Cedar St., Hanover, MA.
  - Wednesday, September 21st @ 7:30PM
  - Wednesday, October 19th @ 7:30PM

## MIAA Registration & Background Check

- The web address for all MIAA registrations is:  
<http://miaa.arbitersports.com/front/110185/Site>
- All **ACTIVE** high school soccer referees are required to register **EVERY YEAR** with MIAA using the MIAA list on Arbitersports.com. The cost is \$10 per academic year for each sport that you officiate. The yearly registration opens July 1, 2016 and MIAA says officials for the Fall sports must do this by August 15, 2016.
- If you signed up for an MIAA background check last year, you do not need to do it again this year. Your background check is valid for 3 years. If you did not get an MIAA background check last year, go to the MIAA registration page, sign up for the background check and pay \$35.

## MIAA Honors Go to EMSOA Members

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association awarded the first ever Official of the Year awards. They presented an award to the best male and female official in each high school sport. For soccer, MIAA recognized EMSOA member **Jeff Kearney** the 2016 MIAA Boys Soccer Official of the Year and EMSOA member **Cara Pember** the 2016 MIAA Girls Soccer Official of the Year.

*Congratulations to both!*

## Concussion Awareness

The concussion awareness requirement online training is the same as it has been in the past several years. Massachusetts state law requires all sports officials to take one of the online concussion awareness courses **after** July 1, 2015 and **before** they start the season. When you take one of the online courses, print the completion certificate to paper and have the paper with you at every game site. Information about how to find a concussion awareness course can be found on the EMSOA web site (<http://www.emsoa.org/concussions.html>) or MIAA web site (<http://www.miaa.net/>). The NFHS web site (<http://www.nfhs.org/>) and the Center for Disease Control web site (<http://www.cdc.gov/>) offer the course. There are other web sites with similar online concussion awareness training.

## Knowledge of the Rules: Online Test

For the first time in EMSOA history, all members are asked to take an online test about situations based on the Rules. Online tests have been mandatory for the past few year is other soccer referee associations. The EMSOA test is not mandatory and there is no passing or failing grade. However, you are strongly urged to take the test. After you have answered all the questions, the correct answers are shown based on the NFHS and MIAA Rules. You should take some time to read the answers and the Rules the answers are based on. The entry page for the test can be found at:

<http://www.emsoa.org/test/>

The code needed to start the test is: 1959

The test questions and the code that makes the test work were developed by members of the Executive Board as part of their effort to improve your understanding of the Rules. The Executive Board intends to make online testing a regular part of the training of the membership. If you have suggestions for improvement, send us a note. If time permits, there will be a brief discussion about the online test at the Rules Interpretation meeting.

## Policy for Referee Uniforms

**Reminder:** The primary shirt is the yellow USSF shirt with vertical black stripes. The first alternate shirt is the black USSF shirt with vertical white stripes. If both referees have another shirt style and/or color on the field, they may wear the other shirt style and/or color but **ONLY IF BOTH REFEREES ARE WEARING THE SAME SHIRT STYLE AND COLOR**. Also, referees should **NEVER** wear a shirt that is the same color as the shirt color of one of the teams on the field.

## EMSOA Assessment Program

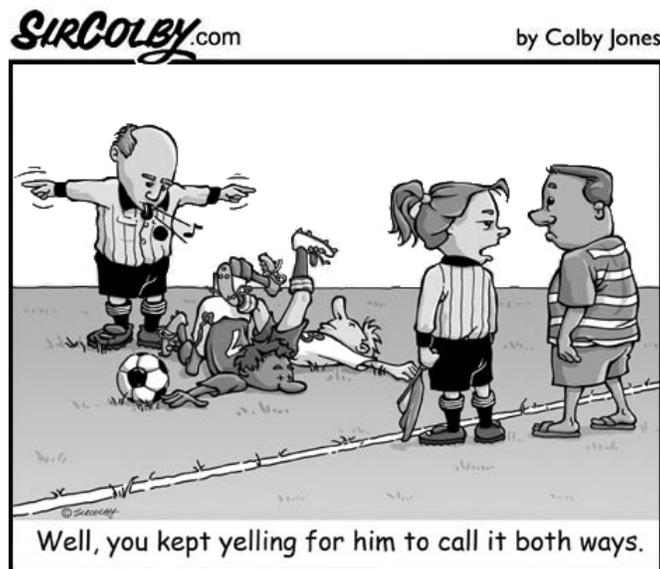
Assessment (noun, ə-ˈses-mənt): the act of making a judgment about something

Many referees think of “assessment” as a test to determine whether they will be assigned to higher or lower level games. That may come from the fact that USSF referees need assessments to determine whether they can move up to a better grade level or can maintain a high grade level. In EMSOA, an assessment is not a requirement for getting better games or getting post-season tournament assignments.

In EMSOA, assessments are part of your association's program to help you to be a better referee. With a few rare exceptions, your assignor (commissioner) will never see the write-up done by the assessor who comes to see your game. Assessors are fellow EMSOA referees with many years of experience. They are watching your game to observe the strengths and weaknesses of you and your partner and how well the two of you work together to manage the game. At the end of the game, the assessor will share his observations with you.

Ideally, every referee would be assessed every 5 years or so. Due to manpower and budget limits, the EMSOA assessors concentrate on assessing referees who are new to EMSOA within the last 5 years. Sometimes the assessor comes to a game with new or relatively new EMSOA referee and a referee who has been a member for many years. The assessor will look at both referees on the field and after the game will talk to them about how to better manage the game. The assessor will emphasize the strong points of the performance he saw and may offer suggestions or options for improvement. As with feedback in any environment, the referees being assessed have the final decision as to how to incorporate the feedback into their referee repertoire.

Some long-time members may feel uneasy that someone is telling them that they can improve their game. The fact is that everyone can improve his/her game. Whether you are a new member or a long time member, if you receive an assessment, read it, think about it and work in future games to improve your contribution to the referee team.



## Substitutions

Over the years, there have been some member who have trouble with the proper procedure for substitutions. Below is a chart with everything you need to know. If it will help you, cut this out and put it in your pocket when you are doing games.

<b>Substitutions Made During a Playing Period</b>		
<b>Clock Running</b>		
Substitution Type	Player(s) at Halfway Line Prior to Stoppage	Player(s) Comes to Halfway Line After Stoppage Occurs
Goal Kick	Allow Substitution	Don't Allow Substitution
Corner Kick	Allow Substitution*	Don't Allow Substitution
Throw In	Allow Substitution*	Don't Allow Substitution
*At least one substitute must be from the team putting the ball back into play for all to enter		
<b>Clock Stopped</b>		
Goal Scored	Allow Substitution	Allow Substitution
Injury/Concussion	Allow Substitution	Allow Substitution
Communicable Disease (Blood)	Allow Substitution	Only Replace Player(s) Leaving
Illegal Equipment	Allow Substitution	Only Replace Player(s) Leaving
Misconduct (Caution)	Allow Substitution	Only Replace Player(s) Leaving
Misconduct (Disqualification)	Allow Substitution	Don't Allow Substitution**
**A disqualified goalkeeper may be replaced but a field player must come out to reduce numbers		
<b>Substitutions Made between Periods</b>		
Substitutes do not have to report in nor be beckoned onto the field		

**Note:** Reporting-in requires notifying the scorekeeper. If there is no scorekeeper, then the player(s) wanting to substitute into the game must notify the nearest official. In either case substitutes must be in the official area at the halfway line in order to be beckoned onto the field