

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR OFFICIALS

Q.1. -- Where do I get information about officiating in GEJFA?

A.1. -- Information regarding officials can be found on the GEJFA website at www.gejfa.org under “Officials Corner” in the links on the left margin of the home page. Select “Handbook” to view a detailed list of administrative items, such as scheduling, uniforms, pay, as well as GEJFA-specific rules and game management.

Q.2. -- What is GEJFA looking for in an Official?

A.2. --The requested minimum age is 18 years old. While we are looking for adult officials, high school students who possess a high degree of maturity are welcome and constitute a large percentage of beginning officials. We are looking for individuals who understand football and desire to become involved with youth sports. An extensive knowledge of the rules is not a prerequisite, but a willingness to learn, the ability to make decisions quickly and fairly are important. New officials should be able to attend several 1-1.5 hour training classes (no classes for 2021 are being planned but online training may be available) and one or two jamborees prior to the beginning of the season where our experienced officials will give you excellent training and allow you to get “hands on” experience prior to officiating regular season games.

Q.3. -- How to I apply to become an Official?

A.3. -- Go to the GEJFA web site at www.gejfa.org and, under “Official’s Corner” follow instructions to “Register to become a GEJFA Official.”

Q.4. -- How are officials assigned to each Saturday?

A.4. -- We attempt to pair the same officials together as a crew as much as feasible. We prefer each official to work at least 3 games each Saturday they work. If they want to work more, usually this can be arranged. At some fields there are as many as 6 games a day and some officials work the entire day’s schedule at a field. We do our best to keep an official at a single field for the day, although there may rarely be some instances where an official will work at two locations on the same day. Each official updates their availability via email our online assignment software during the season. Assignments are typically posted no later than Tuesday prior to the upcoming Saturday’s assignment.

Q.5. -- How are new officials “paired” with other officials?

A.5. -- We try to put 1st and 2nd year officials in crews with senior officials. The more often they work in the same crew the faster they will improve. Officials are assigned to their geographic areas as much as possible.

Q.6. -- What are officials paid per game?

A.6. -- Officials are paid at the following rates:

- Rookie Officials less than 18 YOA: starting \$40/game
- Rookie Officials 18 YOA or older: starting \$50/game
- PNFOA (or equivalent) Officials: starting \$60/game
- There are \$2/game incentives for working more than 20 games/season
- There is a \$2/game bump up in pay for subsequent years to a maximum

- Payment is made by check at the end of the season. Checks are generally available at the GEJFA Championships. Any checks not picked up at the Championships will be mailed out the week following the Championships.
- A W-2 Form must be completed to receive payment.

Q.7. – What about uniforms?

A.7. – All officials must wear the following at a minimum: cap (black baseball style), shirt (black/white stripe), black pants (shorts or white pants if all crew members dress alike), whistle with lanyard, penalty flag (yellow with weight), and bean bag. Black athletic shoes are encouraged. Officials are responsible for purchasing their uniforms. There are many online stores that offer a full line of appropriate gear as well as complete packages at a discount. Information on these sites will be supplied to Rookie Officials prior to the season.

Q.8. – Who pays for the uniforms?

A.8. – GEJFA offers up to a \$125 one-time uniform reimbursement allowance toward actual uniform costs, paid at the end of the season (keep and present your receipts) for new officials who work a minimum of 20 games.

Q.9. – Where do I go if I have further questions?

A.9. – Email gejfaofficials@gmail.com with any additional questions and we will be happy to help!

