

GREATER EASTSIDE JUNIOR FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Frequently Asked Questions For New Game 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 the “Referee’s Handbook” to view a detailed list of administrative items, such as scheduling, uniforms, pay, as well as Greater Eastside Junior Football Association (GEJFA) specific rules and game management.

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

A.2. --The minimum age is 18 years old. While we are looking for adult officials, high school students that possess a high degree of maturity are welcome and constitute a large percentage of beginning officials. We are looking for individuals that have an understanding of football and the 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 quick and fairly are important. New officials should be able to attend several 1-1.5 hour training classes 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” select the “Officials Registration Form”. There are both online and paper versions of the Registration Form. Most people find it easier to fill out the online form, but the paper form can be printed and mailed to the address on the form. Also fill out the online background check which is also under “Official’s Corner”.

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 be some instances where an official will work at two locations on the same day. Each official completes an availability sheet at the beginning of the season and updates their availability via email during the season. Assignments are typically emailed by Wednesday prior to the weekend of assignment, although we attempt to complete the schedule at least a week in advance.

Q.5. How are officials assigned to a crew?

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 general geographic areas as much as possible.

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

A.6. – Officials are paid on longevity and experience at the following rates of pay:

1st Year: \$20.00 per game.

Returning officials will receive a \$2.00 raise in pay to a maximum of \$30.00 per game.

PNFOA officials: \$36.00 per game. Senior Crew Chief : \$38.00 per game (Web site report required)

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. Under “Official’s Corner” select “Referee References” for links to a number of online uniform suppliers. New officials will be given a flag & bean bag.

Q.8. – Who pays for the uniforms?

A.8. – GEJFA offers up to a \$100 uniform reimbursement allowance toward actual uniform costs (keep and present your receipts) for new officials who work at least 16 games are reimbursed \$100 toward uniform costs.

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

A.9. – Call the Referee Coordinator, listed on the web site registration form.