

## Game Prep

You should arrive to your scheduled game at least 15 minutes prior to game time.

Player cards must be signed and laminated with a photo and presented to the ref prior to each game. The ref will check each player in. No card = No play! Players must be carded for your team. We recommend that the coach keep all of the teams' cards throughout the season to assure that they are not lost. (Putting them on a key ring or clasp of some sort works great!)

Coaches must present their ID cards as well. A coach card allows you to step in and coach for any other SAI team if needed. Assistants must have cards to be acting as the head coach on the sideline.

Have your game line-up card (sticky roster sheet) prepared and ready to give to the ref just before game time. Players need to be listed in uniform number order. Coach must initial the game cards after each game.

## Referees

Refs may be young and inexperienced and just like your players and yourself, they may need time to develop. You can play an important role in helping them to improve by letting them concentrate on the game. You can help by encouraging them, by accepting the inevitable and occasional mistakes and by offering constructive post-game comments. On the other hand, you could discourage and demoralize the referees by criticizing their decisions, by verbally abusing them.

Your example is powerful, for better or worse. If you insist on fair play, if you concentrate on your players' enjoyment of the game and their overall, long term development, and if you support the referee, your players and their parents will notice. If you encourage (or allow) your players to play outside the rules, if you're overly concerned about results and if you criticize the referee harshly, your players and their parents will also notice.

If you have a major complaint, or if you think the referee was unfair, biased, unfit or incompetent, report your opinion to your league. Your reactions will be taken seriously if they are presented objectively and formally.