

# Laws of the Game

## Law 6 – Assistant Referees

Tips and Techniques

Practical Flagging

Presenter – Jim Ouliaris



# Presentation Overview

## Laws of the Game Law 6 – Assistant Referees

### Tips and Techniques – Practical Flagging

Presenter – Jim Ouliaris

Location –

Date –

#### Session Outline

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| Part 1 – What do we expect from as Assistant Referee?              | 10 Minutes |
| o Discuss overheads with participants                              |            |
| Overhead No. 1 – Assistant Referee                                 |            |
| Overhead No. 2 – AR – Law 6  |            |
| Overhead No. 3 – What else is needed!!                             |            |
| Part 2 – Practical Flagging – Tips and Techniques                  | 20 Minutes |
| o Show participants the signals required for Effective Lining      |            |
| Part 3 – Self Assessment – How can I improve?                      | 05 Minutes |
| o Discuss the need for evaluation and reflection with participants |            |
| Part 4 – Question and answer time                                  | 10 Minutes |
| o Using case studies discuss role of Assistant Referee             |            |
| o Conclusion – Winston Churchill – Never, Never, Never Give Up     |            |
| Part 5 – Professional Reading                                      |            |

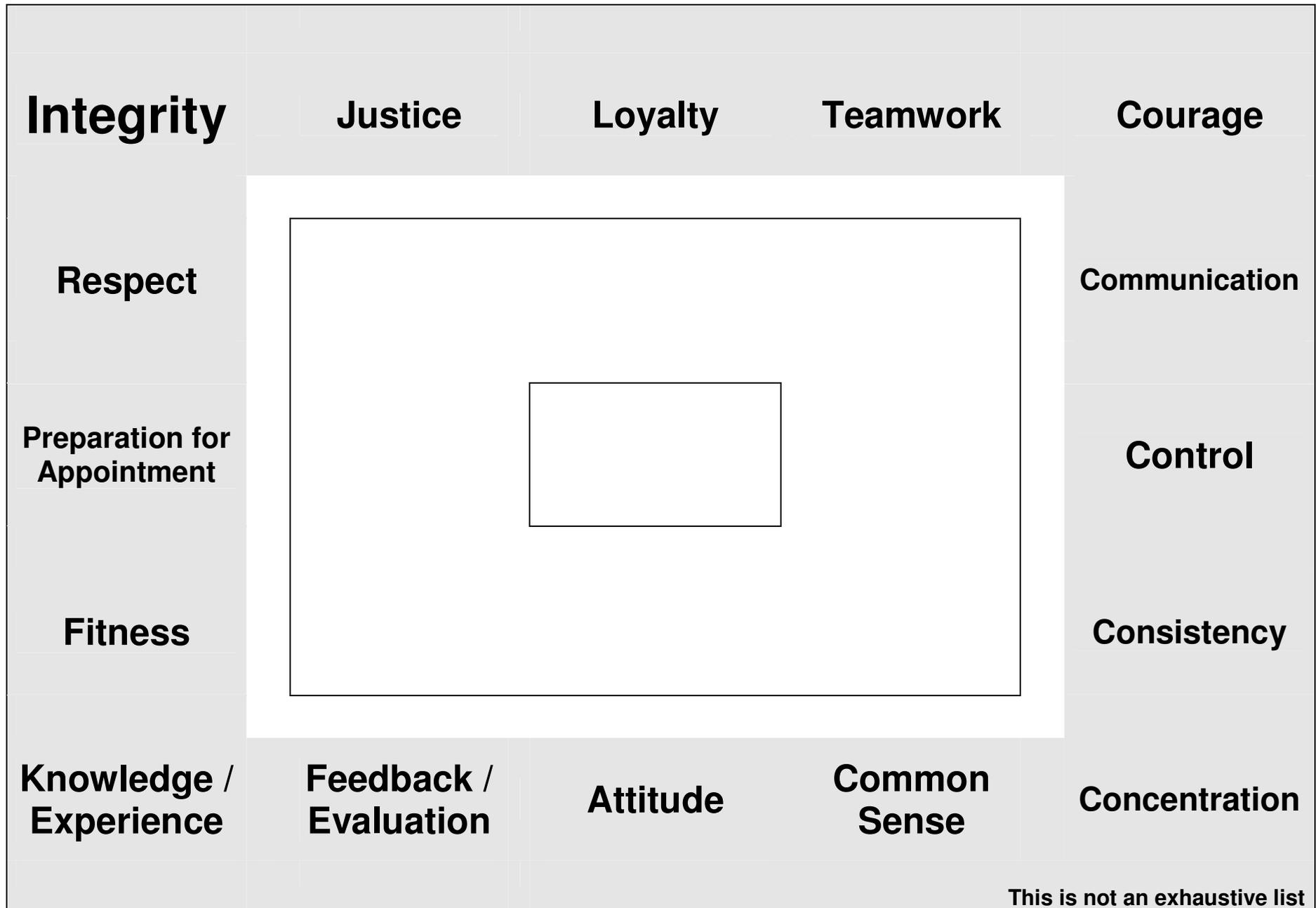
# What do we expect from as Assistant Referee?

**Assistant  
Referee**

**Law 6**

<b>Law 6</b>	Two assistant referees are appointed whose duties, <u>subject to the decision of the referee</u> , are to indicate;	Duties:	Corner (Law 17)
		Ball out of play (Law 9)	Goal Kick (Law 16)
			Off-side (Law 11)
	Be removed for undue interference or improper conduct – Report		Substitution (Law 3)
	To control the match – enter the field to control the 9.15 distance		Throw-in (Law 15)
	Assistance:	Penalty Kicks (Law 14)	Misconduct (Law 12 & 13)

**Law 6**

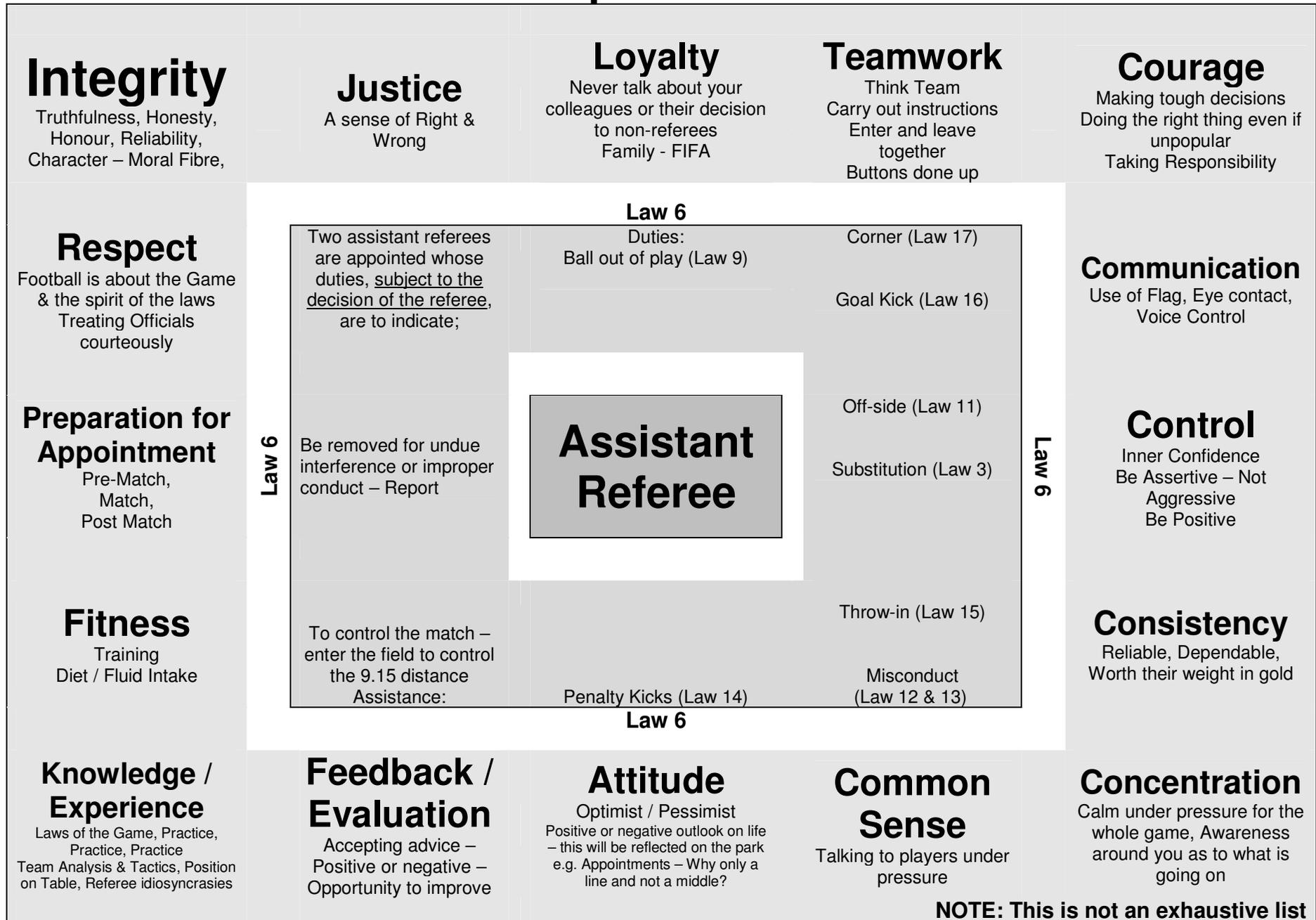


This is not an exhaustive list

Overhead No. 3



# NOTES – What do we expect from as Assistant Referee?



**NOTE: This is not an exhaustive list**

Presenter's Handout

“Good assistant referees are great, but great assistant referees are worth their weight in gold”

Jim Ouliaris

# Practical Flagging – Tips and Techniques

Duties	Tips and or Techniques
<b>Positioning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You should always face the field of play when giving a decision</li> <li>Side stepping (Crabbing) motion – Feet parallel to each other at most times (Avoid walking)</li> <li>Body posture should be positive – Always look up (give a sense of belonging)</li> </ul>
<b>Signaling</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear – A means of communication and Confident – No doubt in your mind</li> <li>Crisp – Communicate to all around you which way</li> <li>The flag should always be available to the referee i.e. always carry the flag in the hand nearest to the line</li> </ul>
<b>Ball out of play (Law 9)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Positive eye contact is the key, make sure you are looking at the referee especially if there is a tight decision</li> <li>Give the direction of the throw. If unclear then raise the flag above your head and go with the referee</li> </ul>
<b>Corner (Law 17)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always indicate a corner near the corner flag and with your right hand</li> <li>Stand behind the flag at all times for your corner or on the far side</li> <li>You may nod to the referee that everything is in order or give him a discreet signal</li> </ul>
<b>Goal Kick (Law 16)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always indicate a goal kick with your right hand near the goal line and always follow the ball to the goal line before you indicate</li> <li>Stand level with the edge of the goal area until the ball has been placed correctly, and then take your position with the second last defender.</li> <li>If the ball has not been correctly placed, inform the player and re-place it.</li> </ul>
<b>Off-side (Law 11)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always be in line with the second last defender at all time</li> <li>Judgment between interference and non-interference at the moment the ball is touched</li> <li>2 Part Signal (First to indicate off-side, and secondly to indicate where)</li> <li>Raise the flag in your right hand and hold your signal until the ball is correctly placed</li> </ul>
<b>Substitution (Law 3)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise the flag above your head holding the flag in both hands (Remember to cross flag)</li> <li>Use your voice and tell the player to wait until the other player has left before he can enter.</li> <li>The opposite assistant should also raise his/her flag to get the attention of the referee.</li> </ul>
<b>Throw-in (Law 15)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally speaking you have control of your own half. You can tell players where to take the throw-in. Remember the 2 metre rule here. Use of voice control is crucial.</li> <li>Raise your flag in the air in the arm that you would indicate the direction of the throw-in</li> </ul>
<b>Misconduct (Law 12 &amp; 13)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Always make eye contact with the referee for any incident – does he have a clear or unclear view? Confer, and then decide.</li> <li>Within approximately 10 to 15 metres in front of you should be your responsibility.</li> <li>Raise your flag in the air in the arm that you would indicate the direction the free kick should go to</li> </ul>
<b>Penalty Kicks (Law 14)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If the referee believes something has happened and you think it is a penalty sprint to the corner flag, and place the flag in your right hand by your side. Remember eye contact and a nod of the head</li> <li>If the referee has not seen something happen and you think it is a penalty, raise your flag and then sprint to the corner flag, and place the flag in your right hand by your side. Remember eye contact and a nod of the head</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To get the referee's attention – Place the flag across your chest (Remember to cross flag)</li> <li>Indicate how much time is left – Generally under three minutes (Hand across your chest)</li> <li>Keep a record of the game for example nearest records, furthest observes</li> </ul>
<b>Controlling the 9.15 distance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At corners or free kicks you should get the wall or players back at least 9.15 metres back by firstly using your voice, then stepping onto the field of play (approximately 5 or so metres) and finally counting out the required distance (only as a last resort)</li> </ul>
<b>Do's</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Listen to the referee's instructions and carry them out</li> <li>Teamwork – Get there early / Become familiar with the referee / Enter and leave together</li> <li>Use your voice where possible – throw-ins, corners, goal kicks, free kicks, whilst play is in progress etc (get involved but avoid taking control)</li> <li>Be reliable, punctual, courteous, etc</li> </ul>
<b>Don'ts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Don't command – just assist</li> <li>Avoid signaling across your body</li> <li>Point with your hand not with your finger</li> </ul>

## **Law 6 – The Assistant Referees**

### **Duties**

Two assistant referees are appointed whose duties, subject to the decision of the referee, are to indicate:

- when the whole of the ball has passed out of the field of play;
- which side is entitled to a corner kick, goal kick or throw-in;
- when a player may be penalised for being in an offside position;
- when a substitution is requested;
- when misconduct or any other incident has occurred out of the view of the referee;
- when offences have been committed whenever the assistants are closer to the action than the referee (this includes, in particular circumstances, offences committed in the penalty area); whether, at penalty kicks, the goalkeeper has moved forward before the ball has been kicked and if the ball has crossed the line.

### **Assistance**

- The assistant referees also assist the referee to control the match in accordance with the Laws of the Game. In particular, they may enter the field of play to help control the 9.15m distance.
- In the event of undue interference or improper conduct, the referee will relieve an assistant referee of his duties and make a report to the appropriate authorities.

# Practical Flagging – Tips and Techniques

Duties	Tips and or Techniques
<b>Positioning</b>	
<b>Signaling</b>	
<b>Ball out of play (Law 9)</b>	
<b>Corner (Law 17)</b>	
<b>Goal Kick (Law 16)</b>	
<b>Off-side (Law 11)</b>	
<b>Substitution (Law 3)</b>	
<b>Throw-in (Law 15)</b>	
<b>Misconduct (Law 12 &amp; 13)</b>	
<b>Penalty Kicks (Law 14)</b>	
<b>Controlling the 9.15 distance</b>	
<b>Communication</b>	
<b>Do's</b>	
<b>Don'ts</b>	

Participant's Handout

# NOTES – Case Studies – Assistant Referee’s – What would you do?

- 1 An assistant referee signals that the ball has passed over the touch-line, but before the referee has declared the ball out of play a defending player inside the penalty-area strikes an attacking player. What action should the referee take?**

After having taken the appropriate action in relation to the offence the referee shall restart the game with a throw-in because the ball was out of play when the offence occurred

- 2 May a referee ask an assistant referee to give an opinion as to whether or not the ball crossed the goal-line between the posts?**

Yes, his / her role is to assist the referee. It is up to the referee to accept the decision.

- 3 Is the ball out of play if any part of the ball overlaps either the goal-line or the touch-line?**

No, the whole of the ball must cross the line

- 4 The ball accidentally hits the referee or an assistant referee on the field of play and rebounds into goal. What should the referee's decision be?**

The referee shall award the goal

- 5 If a part of either foot of a player taking a throw-in is on the touch-line or if his toes are inside the line and his feet on the line, can a throw-in be taken correctly?**

Yes, it is correct (see Law XV Throw-in), provided part of each foot is on or behind the touch-line and on the ground.

- 6 If a neutral assistant referee signals an offence or serious foul play or violent conduct committed by a player and not seen by the referee and this player's team scores a goal what action should the referee take?**

As long as play has not restarted, the goal shall be disallowed, the guilty player sent off and the match continued with a free-kick at the place where the infringement occurred, subject to the overriding conditions of Law XIII.

- 7 May the advantage clause be applied if a throw-in taken incorrectly sends the ball directly to an opponent?**

No. The throw-in shall be retaken by a player of the opposing team

Presenter's Handout

## Case Studies – Assistant Referee’s – What would you do?

- 1 An assistant referee signals that the ball has passed over the touch-line, but before the referee has declared the ball out of play a defending player inside the penalty-area strikes an attacking player. What action should the referee take?

- 2 May a referee ask an assistant referee to give an opinion as to whether or not the ball crossed the goal-line between the posts?

- 3 Is the ball out of play if any part of the ball overlaps either the goal-line or the touch-line?

- 4 The ball accidentally hits the referee or an assistant referee on the field of play and rebounds into goal. What should the referee's decision be?

- 5 If a part of either foot of a player taking a throw-in is on the touch-line or if his toes are inside the line and his feet on the line, can a throw-in be taken correctly?

Participant's Handout

# Self Assessment for Assistant Referee's – Feedback Form

Referee's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Assessor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Game: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_  
 Time of Game: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_ Ground Conditions: Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory  
 Match: \_\_\_\_\_ v's \_\_\_\_\_ Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Seniors or Reserves

	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Seldom	Never	<b>Opportunities for Improvement / Comments on Performance</b>				
<b>Communication</b>										
How well did I communication with the Referee?										
How well did I communication with the Players?										
<b>Decision Making</b>										
Was my flagging sharp and crisp?										
Were my decisions clear and quick?										
Did I give my decisions with confidence?										
<b>Duties</b>										
Was I in position?										
Did I display teamwork?										
Were my offside decisions correct?										
Did I signal for all fouls & misconduct?										
Did I signal for all 'Ball out of Play'?										
Did I handle substitutions well?										
<b>TOTAL</b>										
<b>Assessment Scale</b>										
<b>Extremely Bad</b>	<b>Very Bad</b>	<b>Bad</b>	<b>Unsatisfactory</b>	<b>Satisfactory</b>	<b>Fair</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	
0 – 11	12 – 15	16 – 21	22 – 24	25 – 29	30 – 34	35 – 41	42 – 46	47 – 51	52 – 55	
<b>General Comments About My Performance</b>										

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_ / \_\_\_ / \_\_\_

Participant's Handout

# THE ROLE OF THE ASSISTANT REFEREE

<http://footballreferee.org/training23.htm>

The whole process of being an effective assistant referee is simply down to Helping, Supporting and Communicating with the referee. Well that sounds easy, but can I suggest that it is not. Week in, week out, I have seen first class performances by assistants on this league. Here are my thoughts as to what makes a good assistant referee.

## **1. Communication**

The expectations of the Unibond League are high. We expect good solid performances from all our officials. First impressions are important. Your manner, composure and attitude need to be just right. Be part of a team, because when it comes to the crunch we need to be together, in unison, especially when trouble arises. It is important that a degree of trust is built up between officials before, during and after the game. Talk to club officials, players etc, if they want to talk to you, but not to the detriment of the team building between the officials. Listen very carefully to pre-match instructions and if you need to, ask for clarification.

## **2. Confidence**

Without doubt confidence develops with experience. As a referee I assess my assistant before the game. What they are saying, how they are feeling, is there something not right? If so, do I need to focus the assistants on the job in hand? If I feel comfortable before the game, it gives me confidence in my assistants. Likewise this confidence should rub off on the whole team. Knowledge gives confidence. Learn from your experiences and watch referees perform. At the end of the day your ambition must be to gain promotion into the middle of this league. Develop some ideas of how teams play. Do they use the sweeper system, or have they got a midfield manager? Which players cause problems? It's not a case of prejudging more a case of learning and gaining in confidence in your own ability.

## **3. Contact**

Always remain in contact with the referee. Look, to see where your referee is. Watch him at all times, looking for his positional situations and his movement. Maintain eye to eye contact, even if the referee is not looking at you. When that little ricochet comes you'll be looking and will have seen the little directional signal that assists you.

## **4. Comprehension (Involvement)**

Remember it is all about helping and assisting. You need to be able to read the game as if you were refereeing it. It may be a fast flowing end-to-end thriller and the referee is playing a lot of advantage. Is there a need for you to signal for a slight shirt pull or an innocuous challenge close to you with the referee nearby and obviously seeing the incident? On the other hand the game can change very quickly, both in tempo and aggression. Be aware of this when the tackles are flying in, be positive and give support and help the referee. It is really about sensing the atmosphere and appreciating that a game goes through a number of phases. Is the referee's personality rubbing off on the players? If so join in.

## **5. Concentration**

There are a number of distractions such as managers, trainers and substitutes, not forgetting the spectators. Remain focussed on the field of play, watching what happens on that green bit, not behind you. I tend to talk to myself, yes OK I know what your thinking, silly old sod. However, by reminding myself, 'where's the number 5', 'where's the referee', this allows me to remain focused on play. At offside situations I continually think, 'where is my second to last defender', 'is the player off side', what is he doing'? Again in certain circumstances I find counting 1,2,3, before raising the flag gives me thinking-time as well as adding credibility to the decision. If the ball doesn't reach the player in the offside position, you haven't involved yourself and your reading of the game is commendable.

There are certain areas of the field of play which I refer to as "critical areas". On an assistant's diagonal, the area immediately in front of him, running from the halfway line to the goal line and extending into the field of play about a third of its width. The penalty area on his diagonal and the goal-line, again on his diagonal. I think when play is concentrated in any of these areas it is of utmost importance the assistant remains alert and focussed. The referee may be looking through players and not see an infringement, but the assistant should have seen the holding, pulling etc. and give a decisive flag.

In summary, it is all about teamwork: the referee being the leader but ably supported and assisted by two very important members of the team, you the assistants.