

## **SOME IMPORTANT REMINDERS to referees officiating for the Blue Ridge Classic League:**

1.) Center Referees or their Assistant Referees are required to examine all player passes before all Blue Ridge Classic League games. This is not optional. Please check for details and the consequences for not having player passes by reading Section 11.8 - "Rules of Play for BRCL Games" in the League's Policies and Procedures Manual at <http://www.brclsoccer.org/opsmanual/>.

2.) "Each Team must supply the Referee with a list of names and jersey numbers of all players on their VYSA Roster." (Section 11.9) "GAME DAY ROSTERS" Can be printed from the Youth Leagues Rostering package.

3.) "Only carded Coaches, Players, and Team Officials are to be on the team's side of the field during the game. Each BRCL team is limited to four (4) carded officials (this includes coaches)." (Section 11.1)

4.) "Jerseys must be tucked into the shorts during the game." (Section 11.3)

5.) ". . . the player receiving a caution (yellow card) **MUST** be substituted for." (Section 11.2)

6.) "Any time a caution or ejection is administered, an explanation for such action shall be provided to the offending player by the referee. If a send-off is administered, the referee shall provide an explanation therefore to the coach of the offending team." (Section 11.10)

7.) In Section 11.4 of the "Rules of Play for BRCL Games, there is no prescribed or preferred METHOD that referees must use to check player equipment. There are some things that referees must look for (i.e., shinguards, safety straps on glasses, no jewelry, etc.) when officiating BRCL games. For player safety in general, though, referees should follow the guidance provided in FIFA's Laws of the Game - Law 4 - The Players' Equipment. The particular method that referees use to check equipment is an individual decision. The following suggestion for how referees might want to consider checking player passes and equipment simultaneously has been made by a member of the Referee Liaison Advisory Committee:

"When asked by the ref, the coach should gather all players in front of the ref and coach. If the ref has something to say to the team, that is the time to do so. The coach then calls out each player using proper name on the pass showing pass to the ref. The player steps forward, shows the ref the bottom of his/her cleats, shows that he/she is wearing proper shinguards as well as no jewelry. Players should then step behind the ref and coach until the last player and card match."

8.) A special note for new or inexperienced Assistant Referees: take your time in deciding whether or not a player was on or offside **WHEN THE BALL WAS PLAYED**. This is especially important to be able to recognize on long passes from deep in a team's defensive end when a striker "breaks" or runs forward to catch up to a ball from an onside position. As an AR, be in the right location along the touchline even with the second-to-last

defender, use your peripheral vision, good listening skills (as to when the ball was struck), and patience and you should do fine with this offside call. And remember: the offside player has to be involved in the play or interfering in some way so as to gain an advantage **WHEN THE BALL WAS PLAYED** to him or her.