



CENTRAL LANCASHIRE JUNIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE



Referees' Guide – 2023/24

Before the Game

- Close dates no later than 8 days in advance, dates should be closed on pitchsiderefs.co.uk. This may become slightly earlier or later dependent on a number of factors, but will ALWAYS be communicated via the WhatsApp group.
- Dates should be closed for ANY reason that means you cannot referee a CLJFL game. This includes when you are playing, coaching, injured, on holiday or refereeing in another league (e.g. if you want to referee a LSFL game in the morning, please close your morning with us).
- Managers must have contacted the referee by 8pm on the Thursday prior to a Sunday game, or 8pm Sunday for a midweek game. If they fail to do so, please notify the league Referee Secretary.
- We ask that where possible, referees arrive 30 minutes prior to kick off. However, we appreciate there can be some incredibly busy schedules. If you plan to arrive less than 15 minutes before kick-off, please notify the manager when confirming the fixture.

During the Game

- As per the Club Assistant Referee Guidance, your decision is final.
- Match length is as follows: U11/U12 (9v9) – 30mins E/W, U13/U14 (11v11) – 35mins E/W, U15/U16 (11v11) – 40mins E/W.
- Normal laws of the game apply. The sinbin rule is in use for dissent, and players should stay in the sinbin for 8 minutes. It is the duty of the referee to time this and call the player back on to the field of play.
 - Offsides are in use for all CLJFL games, and you should provide each team with a flag.
- All cup ties that are a draw at the end of normal time, are decided by kicks from the penalty mark. There should be 5 takers from each team, with the shootout to be carried out in accordance with Law 10.3.

After the game

- Match fees are as follows: U11/U12 – £27, U13/U14 – £30, U15/U16 – £35. Where appointed, Assistant Referees receive £20 at all ages. Total fee should be split by home and away team.
- Ideally, your fee should be paid upon arrival, if not, immediately after the game. You should not wait around for your fee. If the manager delays payment in anyway, you should leave and inform the Referee Secretary. The league will then make payment, and chase the club for the fee, along with a fine.
- Any cautions (dissent included), sending offs or other/extraordinary misconduct should be reported on wholegame.thefa.com.
 - **ALL REFEREES** should complete a short match report after **EVERY GAME**. This can be done at bit.ly/fulltimereports If there were any issues, or you select 'incidents of poor behaviour' for any option, please tick 'flag report' at the bottom. Please notify referee@cljfl.co.uk of any issues.