REFEREE PROFESSIONALISM

PURPOSE: To establish the proper conduct and deportment of High School Referees prior to, during and after High School soccer games.

PROCEDURE: All members of SGVSOA are expected to represent this association, themselves and California Interscholastic Federation –Southern Section (CIF-SS) and Los Angeles City (CIF-LA CITY) with the highest standards of conduct. Pursuant to this end each referee is expected to follow these guidelines.

1. Arrive at the field at least 15 minutes prior to the game, ready to officiate the game. Introduce him/herself to both coaches, any school officials (e.g. Athletic Director) who may be present, check both teams for safe equipment, go over any special instructions with both coaches, and captains, conduct the coin toss and proceed with the game.

2. The referee's uniform shall conform to the uniform approved by the Southern California Soccer Officials Association (SCSOA) NO EXCEPTIONS. The officials shall be dressed alike in the uniforms primarily consisting of a shirt approved by the state association (in the event of a color conflict between the officials and either team, the officials shall change to a jersey of a color distinct from both teams). Black shorts, predominantly black shoes and black stockings with 3 white stripes.

3. During the course of any soccer match many things happen which could affect the referee's emotions and attitudes, it is imperative that each referee remember that regardless what happens no matter what is said or done the referee must maintain his/her composure. Always address players, coaches and spectators with respect and proper language. Never – Never use improper language or gestures. The referee should never reduce him/herself to anything less than being a professional, no matter what abuse he/she should receive.

4. Each referee should also recognize that his colleagues also deserve respect regardless of their qualifications. At all times referees should avoid disagreeing with each other when teams are present. In the case where a decision needs to be made the senior officials will make the decision.

5. The referee should also remember that they are there to officiate a soccer match not be ball handlers, equipment special or medical experts. Once the game starts the referee's attention should be primarily on the game. When the game is played in a stadium ALL spectators should be in the stands. This should be communicated to the coaches and any school administrator who might be there. Not only is this requirement in the High School rule book, it will also minimize spectator interference.

6. When the game is complete, the referee should leave the field as soon as possible. The match report of the game MUST be sent in on the ARBITER. These reports are to be sent in with in12 hours of the end of the game. If a coach is sent off or there is a major incident (e.g. bench clearing fight or player injury's) a detailed match report must be sent to the association president, either electronically FAX or E-mail (the preferred method) and the association president shall be contacted by telephone the day of the game.

SGVSOA EXECUTIVE BOARD