

# High School Mind Set

## I. Identify the School Game Setting

- A. **Age groups and related skills:** The games will range from highly skilled players to beginning players. Both types of matches need your full attention. Tougher matches mean you need to be on top of your game and the beginners are looking at you all the time to tell them what to do.
- B. **School Rivalries:** Ask other referees and talk with the players while you are checking their equipment. You can learn a lot about what to expect before the match even begins.
- C. **School Settings**
  - i. **Peer Pressures:** Remember that there is much more peer pressure at the high school settings than at CYSA or AYSO matches because peers the matches take place at the schools.
  - ii. **Parents/Friends:** will be in the stands watching
  - iii. **More spotlight effect:** School stadiums are often a more formal setting for these matches.

## II. Identify the differences in Control Techniques:

- A. **Control of players:** Be fair and firm, earn their respect. They will usually be disciplined by the school for red cards.
- B. **Control of Coaches:** High school coaches can be “carded” and should be shown an appropriate card when necessary. LA city games...if the coach is ejected the match is terminated.
- C. **School Administrators and Where They Relate:** LA city matches must have an administrator present at all times or no game. Other matches are supposed to have a school administrator present. Use these people if you have spectator problems. Identify administrators before the match starts. The Athletic Director has the authority to start or cancel a match up to the point where you blow your whistle and start the match. Once you start the match it becomes your responsibility to decide if the conditions are safe.
- D. **Use of advantage:** Use common sense, if a match is getting out of hand it is usually better to call the foul. Some of these players are very hot headed and may feel you are not protecting them.

## III. Differences in Administration Techniques:

- A. **Handling of Injuries/Ejections:** Reports must be filled out and faxed to Tony within 24 hours. He will check to see that it is clear and accurate before forwarding it to the CIF liaison.
- B. **Importance of Record Keeping and Handling of Misconduct Reports:** It is imperative that you keep accurate records and get your misconduct reports in within 24 hours. It is the senior referees responsibility to make sure this gets done. Go over the incidents before you leave the field with your partner or partners to be sure you all have all of the necessary information.
- C. **Payment Administration:** You should be paid before the match by the coach or an administrator. If you don't get the check before the match, make sure to get it at half time. You do not want to be hanging around after the match looking for your check. The fee schedules will be discussed later.
- D. **Dos and Don'ts regarding before, during, and after the match.**
  - i. **Touching players: NEVER TOUCH A PLAYER..PERIOD.** The coach and school officials are responsible for the players. If a player offers to shake your hand after the match, don't be rude. But you should be walking away from the field as soon as the match is over.
  - ii. **Socializing with Coaches:** Don't do it! A quick hello and a request for the roster is all that is necessary. If you spend time with one of the coaches and not the other, you will have trouble if the other coach feels you are favoring the other team. Be cordial with both coaches and take care of your business.

- iii. **Tighter control:** do your job and use your head
- iv. **Leave immediately after the match:** Blow the whistle, meet up with your partner and leave. Don't socialize with anyone at the field. If there is a fight after the final whistle, you don't want to be there.
- v. **Spectators in the stands, not on field:** Whenever possible the spectators are required to be in the stands. Only the team's personnel and players are allowed to sit on the bench, all others must be in the stands. If there are students taking pictures of the game, instruct them as to where they are allowed to be.