

Square FC & Square Rangers Code of Conduct for Match Officials

(Originally drafted: 10 January 2006 / Last updated: 6 August 2007)

Introduction:

Square FC provides football on Saturday mornings for children and young people aged 9 to 18. All Square FC teams play in the Christian Youth Football League.

Square Rangers provides football on Saturday mornings for children and young people aged up to 13. Square Rangers plays in the South Beds Saturday League.

Code of Conduct:

1. Match officials (including referees and assistant referees) should carry out the Laws of Association Football whilst being unbiased and fair to both teams.
2. Match officials should be honest and completely impartial at all times, irrespective of the teams, players or team officials (e.g. managers/coaches and their assistants) involved in the match.
3. Match officials should display consistently high standards of behaviour. They should, at all times, be positive role models.
4. Match officials should not be afraid to make decisions.
5. Match officials should, at all times, make decisions with due regard for what is in the best interest of the game.
6. Match officials should have regard for the safety and protection of all players at all times.
7. Match officials should remain uninfluenced by players, team officials and spectators.
8. Match officials should show respect towards team officials and spectators, even when emotions are running high.
9. Match officials should show due respect when speaking with the players, even in the event of infringements.
10. Match officials should not tolerate the use of any abusive, insulting, offensive, inflammatory and/or racist language from players, team officials or spectators and should take appropriate action. (*Where such language has been used by Square FC players, team officials or spectators the referee should contact the club Chairperson or Secretary about the matter within 48 hours of the match being played.*)
11. Match officials should report any misconduct by a player, team official or spectator to the appropriate league.
12. Match officials should listen to comments from managers at half-time and full-time, and should be willing to explain decisions made during the game if asked to do so.
13. Assistant referees should assist the referee, and not insist on the decisions that the referee should take.
14. During the match, the referee's word is final.
15. Referees should not abuse their power.
16. All match officials are welcome to attend the special services at The Square (Dunstable Methodist Church) for players and their families.
17. Square FC and Square Rangers will ensure that all match officials know about and understand the club's Child Welfare and Protection Policy.
18. Square FC and Square Rangers will ensure that all match officials know about, understand, agree with, and remember to adhere to this Code of Conduct.