

Referee's Pre-game instructions for Assistant Referees

General:

1. Carry your flag on the field side.
2. Look at me when you signal.
3. Give unambiguous, precise signals.
4. Always follow the ball to the goal line; run if there is a shot on goal; try to anticipate deep play.
5. Avoid ball watching. Watch your 3-lines: touch line, goal line and offside line
6. Do not flag offside POSITION; wait for participation and flag the INFRACTION.

Flag Signals:

1. Throw-in: 45 degrees up in the direction of throw, except in referee's half, hold flag straight up (if I look).
2. Goal kick: 90 degrees pointing straight onto the field.
3. Corner kick: 45 degree down toward corner on your side.
4. Offside: Hold flag straight up. Give near-center-far signal after I whistle.
5. Goal: Good goal, jog toward halfway line; bad goal, stand and watch me, if I allow it, move toward halfway line.
6. To alert me: Reflect other AR's flag, if I don't see it.
7. Ball not properly put in play: Hold flag straight up; jiggle it, put it down.

Positioning

1. Stay even with next-to-last defender or follow the ball if it goes past the next-to-last defender (this is the "off-side line"), EXCEPT in the following circumstances:
2. Goal kick: Check ball placement in goal area then move to edge of the penalty area ("18 yard line") to monitor clearance.
3. Corner kick: Stand behind the flag, looking down the goal line.
4. Penalty kick: Stand on the goal line where the penalty area line meets the goal line. If the goal is scored, carry flag down and go around the corner flag toward the halfway line. If goal is not scored and the ball is still in play, run diagonally across the field to proper position. If the ball goes into the goal and then comes out and I don't see it, raise your flag and hold until I whistle, then put the flag down to your side and run toward the halfway line.
5. Offside infraction: Stay put at the point of infraction if I don't see your signal. Keep flag up until I acknowledge it or the defense clears the ball.
6. Ball improperly put in play: Stay put if I miss your signal, especially if a score is an immediate result. Pull your flag down and move to your assigned position if I give you a thumbs up.
7. If a foul occurs in front of you and I don't see it, put flag straight up and wiggle it. If I blow my whistle, point the direction of the kick. If I don't call it, put your flag back down and continue to your proper position.