

## Expectations for Referee Performance Based on Grade Level

### Grade 8 Referee/AR

- Entry level or novice referee competent to referee youth games up to U16 as a referee and U19 as an AR.
- Since no fitness test is required, he/she may not exhibit good field positioning during dynamic play or good recovery from extreme field positions; often lacks sprint speed and high work rate for entire game.
- Focused on basic fouls recognition; probably will not recognize subtle fouls, gamesmanship, persistent infringement, time wasting, simulation, etc.
- Has some difficulty in recognizing misconduct, serious foul play and violent conduct when they occur.
- Usually runs a rigid diagonal or runs up and down the center of the field (i.e. doesn't recognize the need for a flexible diagonal when the game demands it).
- Often has his/her back to the AR, thus missing offside flags and other signals, and doesn't use dead ball situations to get eye contact with the AR's.
- If a pre-game discussion occurs, it is often basic and deals with mechanics and signals.
- He/she lacks confidence to manage players with a word, gestures, and personality.
- May lack courage or understanding to award Penalty Kicks, Send Offs, and Cautions when the game demands them.
- Ignores coaches and doesn't have the courage or understanding to insure they behave and are not abusive.