

COSMO LEAGUE GUIDE TO MARKING REFEREES

The mark awarded by a club must be based on the Referee's overall performance. It is most important that the mark is awarded fairly and not based upon isolated incidents or previous games. The Referee's performance should be determined by the table below which should act as a guide for the overall mark which should fall within the mark range for each standard of performance.

Mark Range	Comment
9-10	The Referee was extremely accurate in decision making and very successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play, adding real value to the game.
8-9	The Referee was very accurate in decision making and successfully controlled the game using management and communication skills to create an environment of fair play.
7-8	The Referee was accurate in decision making and controlled the game well, communicating with the players, making a positive contribution towards fair play.
6-7	The Referee was reasonably accurate in decision making, controlled the game quite well and communicated with players, establishing a reasonable degree of fair play.
5-6	The Referee had some shortcomings in the level of accuracy in decision making and control, with only limited success in communicating with the players resulting in variable fair play.
5 and below	The Referee had significant shortcomings in the level of accuracy of decision making and control with poor communication with the players which resulted in low levels of fair play.

Notes

A mark between 7 and 8 represents the standard of refereeing expected.

When club officials are marking a Referee, they should always look at the game as whole and not isolated decisions.

The result of the match should not influence the mark and disciplinary action should be judged objectively.

When a mark of 5 or lower is awarded, an explanation must be provided. The purpose of this is to assist Referees to improve their performance levels, so the comments should be as helpful as possible. While some Referee's may have below average performances, there will usually have been some positive aspects of their performance, so extremely low marks should be very rare.

The following points should be considered in conjunction with the marking table:

- the overall performance
- measure the performance on this game only
- don't penalize the referee for errors by the Assistant Referee
- the starting point for the mark is 75 with fluctuation to reflect the performance with your expectations of this level of football
- be fair and objective
- try not to issue the mark immediately after the game, but allow a period of reflection on the Referee's mark

The following questions focus on the key areas of a referee's performance. They are intended as an "aide memoire", are not necessarily comprehensive and need not be answered individually. It is, however, worth considering them before committing yourself to a mark for the referee.

Control and Decision Making:

How well did the referee control the game?

Were the players' actions recognized correctly?

Were the Laws applied correctly?

Were all incidents dealt with efficiently/effectively?

Were the appropriate sanctions applied correctly?

Was the referee always within reasonable distance of incidents?

Was the referee well positioned to make critical decisions, especially in and around the penalty area?

Did the referee understand the players' positional intentions and keep out of the way accordingly?

Did the Referee demonstrate alertness and concentration throughout the game?

Did the Referee apply the use of advantage to suit the mood and temperature of the game?

Was the Referee aware of the players' attitude to advantage?

Did the referee use the assistants effectively?

Did the Officials work as part of a team, and did the Referee lead and manage them to the benefit of the game?

Communication and Player Management:

How well did the Referee communicate with the players during the game?

Did the Referee deal effectively with players crowding around after decisions / incidents?

Did the Referee's level of involvement / profile suit this particular game?

Did the Referee understand the players' problems on the day, eg: difficult ground / weather conditions?

Did the Referee respond to the changing pattern of play / mood of players?

Did the Referee demonstrate empathy for the game, allowing it to develop in accordance with the tempo of the game?

Was the Referee proactive in controlling the game?

Was the Referee's authority asserted firmly without being officious?

Was the referee confident and quick thinking?

Did the Referee appear unflustered and unhurried when making critical decisions?

Did the Referee permit undue questioning of decisions?

Was effective player management in evidence?

Was the Referee's body language confident and open at all times?

Did the pace of the game, the crowd or player pressure affect the Referee negatively?