



www.sjsl.org

Referee Evals – Pilot Program Results



Some of the most common questions/complaints addressed to the league deal with the quality of our referees. To provide a mechanism for coach feedback, we set up a referee evaluation form so that the coaches could help the league to identify those referees who were at the top of their game, and those who needed a second look. All coaches were required to complete a referee evaluation online by noon of the day following their game. The results were positive in some regards, disappointing in others, and occasionally entertaining.

Although we had over 2,600 games during the Spring 2016 season, we had only 3,755 referee evaluations (out of an expected 5,200) submitted. While that sounds like a lot, it is about a 72% compliance rate, and a lot of those submissions were less than timely. Less than half a dozen took the additional opportunity afforded to email the league president with serious concerns. Voluntary compliance is obviously a weak area. We agreed not to fine anyone last season, but reminded everyone that it would likely change for the Fall 2016 season.

The average referee score was 8.23 out of 10.0. The average rating by coaches who won their game was 8.4, while the average rating given by those coaches who lost their game was 7.8. The U16 coaches were the happiest, giving an average

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Referee Evals - Pilot Program Results	1
Referee Evals - It's Not Rocket Science!	2
Inclement Weather Policy	3
Round 8 - Frozen League Rosters	3
Sportsmanship Awards	3
Open Board Position	3
Spring 2017 Dates	4

rating of 8.57, while the U10 coaches gave the lowest score at 7.91.

371 different referees were used to cover our SJSL league games. Of those referees who received 10 or more evaluations, Bob McHarness received the highest average score, 9.50. Of those receiving 15 or more evaluations, Dan Ribecchi received the highest average, 9.38. Gary Rambo had the highest average score of those with 20 or more evaluations, 9.25, and Jonathan Foglein received the highest score, 8.98, of those who received 25 or more evaluations.

Using statistical resources, focusing only on those who received at least 4 evaluations, 51 referees scored 9.00 or higher, 221 scored between 7.48 and 9.00 (one standard deviation), and 47 scored below 7.47 on average.

This information was forwarded to the referee assignors and certain referees were identified to be removed from future SJSL games, and others were to be assigned mentors. The top referees were also identified, informed, and congratulated for an excellent job well done.

AVERAGE RATINGS (OUT OF 10)



Overall

The referee called an appropriate number of fouls to control the game and maintain a safe environment for the players.

The referee was adequately fit for the level of competition and showed good movement on the field and made an attempt to be in position to watch the play.

The referee was consistent with his/her calls and called the game evenly.

The referee understands the Laws of the Game even if I did not agree with all of the calls made.

I would like to have this referee officiate more of our games in the future.

If I had to give this referee an overall rating, I would rate him/her at:

8.23

8.14

8.66

8.23

8.33

7.93

8.09

Referee Evals – It's Not Rocket Science!



Of course, tabulating all of this data is made all the more challenging when the information is not entered correctly.

Although we actually only had 371 different referees, we had 751 unique names based on often creative spelling. This was time consuming to decipher. Despite being able to ask the referee for his/her name, checking with your opponent, checking with your club rep (who has access to all of the names in Arbiter), or even asking the league, we had entries such as “Do not Remember,” “Forgot”, “Illegible,” “No Name,” “Mr. Notgiving,” “Not Provided,” “x,x,” and of course “Sipper, F.” No clue what the last one was based on. Referee Schuylar Rockey was misspelled 15 out of 18 times (perhaps understandable – but you could still ask!). Joseph Rosenberg and Andrei Petre were each misspelled 11 times, and Ed Schwartz 10 times.

The game number is a seven (7) digit number

found on both the game schedule and the game day roster. Notwithstanding this, we had a couple of dozen games with only 6 digits given. Plus we had some helpful entries such as: 10, 25, 11, and my personal favorite, someone's cellphone number.

Game dates would seem to be an easy thing to come up with. Nonetheless, for the Spring 2016 season, we had 1 game reported as 2014, 5 reported for 2016, 2 for 2017, and 1 for 1964 (perhaps a serious flashback episode).

Admittedly some coaches and teams were confused by the switch to the birth year age level for team designations. Accordingly, to identify the age group, we had entries such as: U1, U11 – U13 (for one team), U25, U90, U98, U121 and U1120. Of course, we also had l-13 and c11. Not sure how to explain those.

Some teams both won and lost the same game and a couple lost and tied the same game.

All very entertaining, but also time consuming to fix, update and tabulate in an attempt to get some useable information.

Inclement Weather Policy:



SJSJL will follow the following inclement weather policy for league wide decisions:

If a club determines that its fields are closed, unplayable or going to be unplayable, the club reps must email the SJSJL Games Commissioner no later than **8:00 am** so that the commissioner can contact the referee assignor. If the games are being moved to a different location, you must inform the Games Commissioner of the new location and all of the teams that are being moved. The club must ALSO follow the "To Close Your Field" link and report the field closed and any additional required information. Please direct your coaches to immediately contact their opposing teams.

8:00 – 8:30 am: The SJSJL Games Commissioner will make the decision to cancel that day's round depending on weather conditions. For the fall season, the round is normally made up on an open weekend or scheduled as make up games. In the spring season, however, a round cancelled for inclement weather is not normally made up.

8:30 – 8:45 am: The SJSJL Games Commissioner will notify all SJSJL executive board members and assignors of his/her decision.

8:45 – 9:00 am: The club reps will be emailed the decision to close the league and information on if and how the round will be made up. If the league is playing, no email will be sent. The final decision will also be posted on the www.sjsjl.org website.

9:00 am: If the league is NOT playing, the club reps should begin calling and informing their coaches and directing them to call their teams.

Round 8 – Frozen League Rosters:



Just a reminder, all team rosters are frozen for league play for the current season after Round 8. Players transferred and/or new players added after November 6th are not eligible to play in any remaining SJSJL league games for the Fall 2016 season, although they may be eligible to play in tournaments.

Sportsmanship: *sportsmanship* AWARD

The league sportsmanship awards traditionally given at the end of every fall season will be suspended for the Fall 2016 season. It is recognized that there were a lot of upheavals in the soccer world, with all of the Player Development Initiative changes, team composition changes and new coaches. It was anticipated that there would be a good number of mismatched ratings as both the teams and the league worked through the process. It is expected that the sportsmanship program will return after this season.



Open Board Position:

SJSJL has one open position on the Executive Board. The league is looking for someone with website or computer programming experience to join the board in the position of First Trustee. The trustee position will be tasked with assisting in updating and revising the league website, improving league communications, assisting in the team ratings process, and other tasks as needed by the Executive Board.

Interested individuals should contact Bob Cooper at vp@sjsjl.org for an application.

SJSL Executive BoardPresident: [Larry Young](#)Vice President: [Bob Cooper](#)General Secretary: [Jim Miller](#)Treasurer: [Tom DiValerio](#)Registrar: [Chuck Snyder](#)Fall Games Commissioner: [Mike Trojak](#)Spring Games Commissioner: [Helmut Lackermayer](#)Rules Compliance Officer: [Tom Olbrich](#)First Trustee: [Open](#)Second Trustee: [Ed Eichen](#)Third Trustee: [Gary Rambo](#)Recording Secretary: [Scott Hartman](#)Information Officer: [Joe Arone](#)

Find us on the web at:

www.sjsl.org**Spring 2017 Dates:**

Important dates for the Spring 2017 season have been announced:

December 3, 2016	Online registration opens
January 4, 2017	Registration closes
January 12, 2017	Invoices sent out
January 24, 2017	Registration meeting
February 3, 2017	Ratings posted for comment
February 5, 2017	Ratings removed
February 28, 2017	Game schedules posted
March 12, 2017	Round 1
March 19, 2017	Round 2
March 26, 2017	Round 3
April 2, 2017	Round 4
April 9, 2017	Round 5
April 16, 2017	Easter (no games scheduled)
April 23, 2017	Round 6
April 30, 2017	Round 7
May 7, 2017	Round 8 (Transfer deadline)
May 14, 2017	Round 9
May 21, 2017	Round 10

