



GROUND OFFICIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of each competitive team participating in matches to provide Ground officials for each match. The Ground Officials must;

- Be 18 and over and not under the influence of alcohol.
- NOT to be involved in any other duties whilst acting in this capacity (not playing, refereeing, coaching/managing the game in progress or involved in canteen or bar duties etc)
- Be clearly identifiable, including wearing a Ground Official vest as specified by FCQ.

Home Ground Official Duties and Responsibilities

The Home Ground Official is the Official for the team playing at their home ground. For neutral venues the home Ground Official is from the first team listed on the draw. The Home Ground Official duties include:

- Before the match check the referees' room and make sure it is clean and comfortable, check that an alternate playing strip is available if required and appropriate match balls are available for referees.
- Meet Match Officials and Away Ground Official at the referee room 10 minutes prior to kickoff.
- Escort referees to the field. They must also escort them off and on at half time and off the field at the completion of the match. If a Ground Official is not present to escort referees to the field then referees will not leave the referee room to commence the match. If a Ground Official has not arrived by 15 minutes after the scheduled kick off time then the game will be abandoned and the match awarded to the away team.
- If an official referee and/or assistant referees are not present, ensure that a referee and/or assistant referees are arranged either by the club or by consent of the referee and/or two teams playing.
- Patrol all fields being used ensuring that spectators are not in a prohibited area (i.e. too close to the sidelines, behind goals, within 10 metres or on player benches etc).
- Ensure that the spectators' behaviour is orderly and is not verbally or physically abusive to the referee or the assistants, players or other spectators.
- Address any patrons not abiding by the Spectator Code of Behaviour to desist, should they refuse request them to leave. However, in situations where the risk of personal harm is too great, Ground Officials are not to put themselves at risk. In such situations, if necessary, the Match Officials should be informed, and those Match Officials appointed to the game are empowered to abandon the match if they deem it necessary to do so and/or if required call security or police to have them removed from the premises.

Home Ground Official Duties and Responsibilities (continued)

- Document disorderly spectator's behaviour is and if there is any abuse to the referee or his assistants, player's or other spectators.
- Direct and assist any ambulance if called to attend a player or any other person.
- Work closely with the appointed Referees and Away Ground Official to ensure that the day's activities are completed in the best possible atmosphere for players, spectators, coaches, officials and referees.
- Ensure that both teams leave the grounds in a proper and orderly manner. Liaise with the away club's club official to assist in this.
- Ensure the referees' safety at all times.

Away Ground Official Duties and Responsibilities

The Away Ground Official is the Official for the visiting team. For neutral venues the Away Ground Official is from the second team listed on the draw. The Away Ground Official duties include:

- a) Meet the Home Ground Official and Match Officials at the referee's room 10 minutes prior to kick off. Notify the match officials and the Home Ground Official where you will be located.
- a) Ensure away teams spectators' behaviour is orderly and is not verbally or physically abusive to the referee or the assistants, players or other spectators. However, in situations where the risk of personal harm is too great, Away Ground Officials are not to put themselves at risk. In such situations they must notify the Home Ground Official who in turn may notify match officials.
- b) Work closely with the appointed Referees and Home Ground Official to ensure that the day's activities are completed in the best possible atmosphere for players, spectators, coaches, officials and referees.
- c) Assist the Home Ground Official to ensure that both teams leave the grounds in a proper and orderly manner.
- d) Ensure the referees' safety at all times.

Thank you