

DATE: 6/4/07

TO: ASSIGNORS

FROM: William Fahey, SCA

SUBJECT: GAME PRIORITY IN REFEREE APPOINTMENTS

First: As assignors we are expected to abide by the “Assignor Code of Ethics” {page 13, in the Administrative Handbook}. There is a priority list for games on Page 41.

Typically, regional/national competitions take precedence over any local competitions. These include, but are not limited to, Professional League Matches (ie. A-league/D3 Pro) and State Cup Competitions {adult and youth matches U17 and higher}. In the case that a referee is given one of these assignments, then it is the obligation of the referee to notify the effected assignors ASAP so that they have the best opportunity to find replacements. The assignors are not allowed to fine or hold grudge against the referees for accepting these “highly regarded” games. There are no other matches that have appointment priority or precedence over any other match within Western New York. The referee is expected to abide by his/her Code of Ethics and keep all assignments that they have accepted.

There are several areas within Western New York, {Rochester and Buffalo}, where Premier and First Division games require state grade referees, or higher, in the middle and at least one experienced AR. Cooperation with other assignors is essential on those occasions when league scheduling causes resource issues. Those experienced referees on your rosters should have a back-up plan if priority games are assigned.

When a referee declines an appointment that was previously accepted, it will be considered a Turn-Back. There are special situations, physical injuries, priority games, etc., that require the assignor to understand without imposing consequences. Assignors should report any abuse of this policy by a referee to the State Referee Administrator and the SCA.

In conclusion: This memo is to restate the policy of game priorities within Western New York. Cooperation is required within all districts as well as all assignors. The Arbiter assigning system has taken advantage of technology available, but it cannot replace the “personal touch” required by the assignor.

Sincerely,

Bill