

## Officials Code of Ethics 2018/2019

National Federation of State High School Associations	NFHS
Colorado High School Activities Association	CHSAA
High School Soccer Officials	HSSO

Officials at an interscholastic athletic event are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.

**Officials** shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

**Officials** shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.

**Officials** shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.

**Officials** shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

**Officials** shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.

**Officials** shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession. Officials will not use alcohol or other mind-altering substances prior to officiating the day of a game. Sobriety is an important part of official comportment, and referees must be aware of how substances (and substance abuse) will affect how their judgement is perceived.

**Officials** shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear to be hazardous.

**Officials** shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

**Officials** shall take precautions to avoid perceived conflicts of interest, in which a connection to participants (players, coaches, administrators) or schools may exist that could be seen as bias:

***Without the prior approval of the head coach of each team, an official shall not serve as a referee on a game involving a team from a school which that official has attended within the previous three year period, nor shall the official serve as a referee on a game from a school at which a child or step-child attends or has attended within the previous three year period. The referee should block those schools in ArbiterSports, and/or notify the assignor of restrictions.***

As a member of the High School Soccer Officials, I state that I have read and understand the above, and will abide by them at all games officiated by me.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Location of preseason clinic attended: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: Mike Chipman  
24194 Sumac Drive  
Golden, CO 80401

or FAX 303-277-4901

or Email scanned copy to [mchipman@coorstek.com](mailto:mchipman@coorstek.com)