

## Referee Report – 2018 Season Report

To begin, on behalf of the referees, I thank the leagues for their support over the past season. Leagues and Discipline committees have taken a strong stance against abuse of referees. Fines and suspensions were assessed to send the message to players and coaches that abuse of officials will not be tolerated. It is unfortunate that it seemed that it was at the small sided level that we had the most issues with coaches and parents.

Over the past 3 years we have experienced a steady decline in referees both registered and willing to referee. Our numbers are down and even with new referees taking courses, some of them never even referee a single game. This year 13 registered referees did not referee at all. We also lost a few of our most qualified referees during the season. This seriously impacted referee scheduling this season.

### **Statistics** - 2018 Season – All leagues

Total games scheduled in 2018 – 2956

7243 spots total

69 unfilled

69 no shows or day of cancellations

234 confirmed then cancelled

Actual Fill rate = 99.04%

No shows and late cancellations were up drastically this year and games where the referee accepted the game and then later cancelled was through the roof. Much of this was due to referees taking on part time jobs and their schedules for the part time job would change and as a result they would cancel the referee assignment.

Registered Referees (2017 numbers in brackets):

206 Small sided (125)

92 District (128)

4 Regional (4)

1 Provincial (1)

48 Youth (same as District but 14 or 15 years old) (8)

13 did not ref a single game

Submitted availability for Outdoor games (2017 numbers in brackets):

April – 128 (135) – 394 games

May – 132 (134) – 440 games

June – 117 (131) – 341 games

July – 92 (102) – 410 games (2 tournaments)

August – 70 (91) – 209 games

September – 79 (92) – 375 games

October – 56 (68) – 116 games

**Mentoring** - We conducted a mentor clinic this year to ensure we have certified, qualified mentors for our referees but due to a shortage of officials we needed the mentors to referee far more often than I had hoped. This meant that fewer mentor sessions could be conducted.