

# **Somerset County League (Respect) 2013-2014**

## **How to improve Your Respect Scores**

Last season, our league was awarded the FA Gold Respect Award for acknowledgement of the work that we are undertaking to improve Respect within our league. This covers players, managers and club officials.

We were able to provide clubs with information on how they were doing across the season and every club now has a baseline from which to work. This season, we will expect every club to be working hard to improve on their last season's performance but particularly those clubs near the bottom of their division table.

During this season, our league officers will be looking to be much more pro-active with supporting clubs that seem to be struggling with any element of the Respect process in terms of low scoring. The suggestions below have been generated to help all clubs understand what makes the referee mark high and low. The referees feedback is only half the battle of improving the scores for clubs, clubs also need to be pro-active and honest about how their own players and managers really behave on match days and draw the lines between what is acceptable and what is not.

Last season saw many clubs consistently perform well and a number of clubs who were marked low at the start of the season finished much higher up the table because they were pro-active in making changes, so this shows that it can be done if you want it to work.

Don't forget bad discipline in your club will cost you money. Good discipline can earn your club money.

The following suggestions are based on general feedback from our referees from last season.

None of these are rocket science but is factual and will make a difference.

### **How to Improve Players Scores**

#### **Do's:**

- 1, Accept the referees decision, he/she is not going to change their mind.**
- 2, Speak to the referee like an adult.**
- 3, Acknowledge good decisions made by the referee and assistants more often.**
- 4, Respect your opponents more often.**

#### **Don'ts:**

- 1, Stop back chatting to the referee and assistants when he/she has made a decision.**
- 2, Stop making silly comments or using swear words towards the referee and match officials when he/she's back is turned.**
- 3, Stop blaming other players and opponents when something hasn't gone your way.**
- 4, Stop trying to get opponents cautioned or sent off for offences on the pitch.**
- 5, Do not react negatively towards an opponent when the referee is dealing with the issue.**
- 6, Make sure that when you enter the field of play, your attitude is to play football and not become aggressive towards your opponents.**

### How to Improve the Technical area Scores

#### Do's:

- 1, Make sure that your technical area is kept tidy in terms of equipment.
- 2, Make sure that your management team and substitutes are sat down and within the marked area unless they are warming up.
- 3, Make sure that the only people in the technical area are those written on the team sheet.
- 4, The team manager is in control of his/her technical area.
- 6, The team manager is pro-active in spotting and preventing players from using bad behaviour on or off the pitch.

#### Don'ts:

- 1, Stop criticising or using bad language towards the match officials.
- 2, No supporters or children should be in the technical area.
- 3, No bad language used towards the players and opponents.

### How to Improve the Captains Scores

#### Do's:

- 1, Be pro-active in stopping his team mates from arguing or back chatting with the referee.
- 2, Lead by example at all times.
- 3, Support the referee when he is talking to one of his team mates.
- 4, Help calm his players down.
- 5, Listen and act.

#### Don'ts:

- 1, Don't argue with or criticise and back chat the referee.
- 2, Fail to act on a request from the referee to control a team mate.

### How to Improve the Club Assistant Referee Scores

#### Good Assistants Do:

- 1, Are impartial.
- 2, Listen to the referees instructions.
- 3, Understand the rules.
- 4, Confident in their own decision making.
- 5, Understands that sometimes the referee will over rule them.
- 6, Want to be doing the Assistants job.

#### Good Assistants Don't:

- 1, Coach their own players during the game.
- 2, Shout at, argue and disagree with decisions made by the referee.
- 3, jump on the band wagon when players are unhappy with a referee decision.
- 4, Talk to spectators during the game.