

Greetings,

Today's message deals with 'who is in charge?'

Since the implementation of the Double-Dual (3-Whistle) System of Control in Colorado, CHSAA and HSSO have had several questions from coaches about which referee is in charge. Here is the answer: The Center Referee is the 'first among equals.' Therefore, by definition, the Center Referee is in charge of the crew.

Specifically,

- The Center Referee should lead a complete pre-game discussion to review the duties of all officials.
- The Center Referee should lead a pre-game meeting with both head coaches, the site coordinator, the ball runners, scorekeeper, and the timer.
- The Center Referee is responsible for submitting all post-match reports.
- The Center Referee is responsible for performing the functions of the 'head referee' as described in NFHS Rulebook (see: 5.2.2, 5.3.2, 5.4.1, 6.2.1, 6.3.1, 6.3.3, and 7.1.3).

This should not be news to anyone who has received the 3-Whistle training or watched the 3-Whistle training video which is available on the CHSAA website ([CHSAA Three Whistle Training - YouTube](#)).

Thanks for taking the time to read this message. And, please feel free to contact me (william.gessner@hotmail.com) if I put something in the message that you disagree with.

Have a great season!

Bill

William Gessner
President
Colorado High School Soccer Officials