Greetings,

Let me start with some good news. The CHSAA Legislative Council passed the fee increase that was promised. Here is the soccer pertinent news.

Beginning with the Fall 2019 Boys' Season, the Center Referee in a Varsity Match will receive \$59.00 plus travel (or \$2 travel stipend), and the Assistant Referees will each receive \$54.50 plus travel (or \$2 travel stipend). Also, CHSAA added an "Ironman" fee for sub-varsity equal to 1.5 times the game fee (typically \$65.25 plus travel (or \$2 travel stipend)).

And, the Good Faith clause has been updated. (See the underlined section.) When a school makes a good faith effort to contact an official of a postponement or overbooking, no fee shall be paid that official. That same official shall have the opportunity to work the rescheduled contest. When an effort to contact an official has not been made, and a match is canceled within 24 hours of the match, the official shall receive 100% of the standard fee, plus any travel allowance due will be paid to an official who shows up to referee the contest.

Getting down to business at hand, the playoffs are just around the corner. The playoff dates are: May 7, 8, 10, 11, 15, 18, 21, & 22. We count on <u>everyone</u> to keep their availability current as we select referees for the playoff assignments. Please take time to update Arbiter as soon as you are aware of any potential work, travel, or family conflicts. Do it today based on what you think your schedule will be this month.

When you get your playoff assignments, please remember the playoff requirement is to arrive one-hour before the match so you can inspect the pitch and do a complete pregame with your crew, with the players, and with the coaches. Please refer to the Playoff Advice note on the HSSO website (http://hsso-colorado.org/).

All playoff matches require a decision. While you are at the HSSO website please review the Post Season/Tournament Game Tie Breakers guidance.

As usual, HSSO will sponsor a suite at Dick's Sporting Goods Park during the finals (May 21 & 22). Please stop in and enjoy watching the matches with your peers.

Looking ahead, HSSO will operate its 3rd Annual High School Referee Camp in association with the University of Denver at Dove Valley. The camp will run from 1:00 PM to 7:00m PM on Friday 7/19. From 8:30 AM to 5:30 PM on Saturday 7/20 and from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM on Sunday 7/21. There will be a social event following the Saturday sessions. This is a great opportunity to improve your overall referring skills. The early enrollment cost is only \$50. For more information, check the link on the HSSO website and/or contact John Bissell (jebissell@comcast.net).

Finally, I want to thank all of you for all the good work you have done this season!

Billi William Gessner President Colorado High School Soccer Officials