

March 2019

Greetings,

The Spring season is about to begin, and we need referees! Please reach out to your peers who officiate NISOA, adult, or USSF matches, but do not officiate high school matches. Ask them to join us.

You probably have heard that after 17 years of the Double Dual (3-whistle) system of control, the Colorado High School Soccer Committee has voted to reverse course and return to the Diagonal system of control. This will begin in the fall 2019 season. We will work with your Area Directors to give some refresher training in the summer recertification classes.

We have been advised that the fees committee is proposing a pay raise to coincide with the change to the Diagonal system of control. Beginning in the fall season, the center referee will earn \$59, and the assistant referees will each earn \$54.50. This is expected to be approved at the April 24th CHSAA Executive Council meeting. (Please take the time to advocate for this pay raise with your principal, coach, or AD friends.)

It is the spring season. It will be cold and wet. There is now a cold/wet weather garment that closely resembles the new USSF referee jerseys. I do not advertise for any company. However, since I have been looking for this very product for years, I suspect many of you have been looking for it as well. In case you are interested, here is the website: <https://www.refereestore.com/cold-wet-weather-uniforms/>. BTW, I recommend ordering a size up as they are not stretchable.

There have been some questions about referee ratings. This is a program that HSSO has worked on in the Denver metro area to assist assigners in placing the most appropriate officials possible on matches. HSSO is planning to implement the program statewide to help standardize the assigning process. If you are curious about how we are rating officials, you can check the HSSO website (<https://hss-colorado.org/>). To get your specific rating please contact John Bissell (jebissell@comcast.net) who is coordinating the program.

If you are interested in improving your skills as a referee, HSSO is planning on running another camp for referees in July. Please contact John Bissell (jebissell@comcast.net) if you are interested.

Finally, in part due to a promise I made my wife and in part to my conviction that after eight years on the board - and five years as president - it is time for a new president with energy and new ideas ... Therefore, I shall not seek, and I will not accept, the nomination for another term as HSSO President. I am not resigning. I promise to continue to work hard through the end of my term in June. I decided to share this with you today so that there is plenty of time for candidates to emerge.

See you on the pitch!

Bill

William Gessner
President
Colorado High School Soccer Officials