



# DIRECT KICK

An informative newsletter brought to you by Catoosa Soccer Association

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## Top stories in this newsletter



General Membership Meeting and Elections



Thank You!



Looking Forward to Another Great Season



Laws of the Game Explained

## Catoosa Soccer Association General Membership Meeting and Executive Board Elections



The next general membership meeting will be held Monday, August 6th, beginning at 6:30pm. Members are defined as registered players (within the past year), parents/guardians of registered players, and board members. The meeting is open to everyone, but only members may vote.

During this meeting, besides the normal business, elections will be held for the following Executive Board positions: Facilities Director, Registration Director, Treasurer, and Vice President.

Anyone wishing to be considered for any of these positions must be nominated and the nomination accepted by the sitting Executive Board. Any member can nominate any other member for any position. If the nomination is approved by the Board, the nominee will be contacted by a representative of the Board to inquire as to whether the nominee accepts. Once an acceptance is made, the nominee becomes a candidate and is added to the ballot. Sitting Boards members do not have to be nominated.

Nomination forms can be found online at [www.catoosasoccer.com/documents](http://www.catoosasoccer.com/documents), and must be submitted no later than Tuesday, July 24th in order to give the Board time to contact nominees.

## Fireworks Fundraiser



By the time this goes out, the fireworks fundraiser will be over. The CSA Executive Board would like to extend a heart-felt, "Thank you" to those who gave of their time to help bring in funds to help improve the club for not their own children, but the children of everyone else, and especially to those who do not even have children playing.

The money raised will help purchase things such as a storage building, nets, and other various items needed to effectively run a club!

## Fall Registration Open!



Registration for the fall 2018 season is now open. All players, coaches (including assistants), and team managers must complete this registration. An "Early Bird" discount is available for those who register before August 1. There is also a family discount for players in the same family, registering at the same time, and is available for up to 5 players after the first registered player.

Individual account login information has been sent to all players that were registered this past spring. **Registration will end on Sunday, August 12 at 11:59pm. Click here to register a player!**

Also, all coaches, assistant coaches, and any other team official MUST register for the fall season as well.

[Coaches](#)   [Other Team Officials](#)

## Field Day and A Day of Scrimmages



On August 25th, the CSA will host "A Day of Scrimmages". This event will allow teams to see what areas they are succeeding in, as well as those areas that need improvement. The scrimmages will be refereed, with the referees being mentored during the scrimmages. The overall effect will be that teams and referees should have a better season.

In order to prepare for this day, and the rest of the regular season, we will have a field day to get our place ready for games.

People have said that if there is enough notice, then they would be willing to help. There are 6 weeks until Field Day. Please sign up to help. It will start at 9am and last until we are done. Lunch will be provided.

[Sign up here.](#)

## Laws of the Game Explained: The Referee (Law 5)



Law 5 tells us what authority and decisions of the referee, as well as the powers & duties of the referee. The most important thing to know is the authority a referee has over a match. As Law 5 states, "Each match is controlled by a referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game in connection with the match." After that, it is a matter of applying the Laws.

Next, Law 5 addresses the decisions of the referee. "Decisions will be made to the best of the referee's ability according to the Laws of the Game and the 'spirit of the game' and will be based on the opinion of the referee who has the discretion to take appropriate action within the framework of the Laws of the Game. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. **The decisions of the referee, and all other match officials, must always be respected.**" That is a direct quote from the Laws of the Game. There are a few more things that could have been listed here, be to be as concise as possible, focus will be put on the most important items.

What everyone needs to know about this is that, just like in any other sport, the referee has the final say, whether or not YOU agree! No matter how much you argue, when the ball is put back into play, the decision stands. Remember, this is not American football, where there is time to review EVERY play; Soccer is fluid and is should continue moving.

The powers & duties of the referee are where a lot of people get confused, mainly because they do not know what the powers & duties of the referee are. So, here is the list: the referee 1) enforces the Laws of the Game; 2) controls the match in cooperation with the other match officials; 3) acts as timekeeper, keeps a record of the match and provides the appropriate authorities with a match report, including information on disciplinary action and any other incidents that occurred before, during or after the match; 4) supervises and/or indicates the restart of play.

You might be thinking, "Only 4 things!?! That doesn't seem too hard!" Just remember, there are multiple items below each of those 4 headings, such as when can extra time be added, or whether or not a foul is worthy of a card, or what the proper restart is and what happens if the restart is illegal. In other words, there are many items listed under each of those 4 headings.

The truth is simply this: unless you are a referee, you really do not understand the pressure involved with just getting out on the field of play, much less having to keep the game moving while being insulted and having people argue with the referee — even without knowing and understanding the 17 Laws. Yelling at them, regardless of a referee's age or experience level, does not help in ANY way. **Remember: you wouldn't want someone coming to your place of work at yelling at you and telling you how bad you are!** Keep the game fun by giving positive encouragement to players, coaches, AND, yes, even referees.