

Sue's News

Friday June 16

I have to say it's been an exciting 3 days, but it all works because of the lead referees and staff who make it run more smoothly. Thanks to all for 'taking care of business'. I hope you are all looking forward to having some time off tomorrow afternoon.

SHIRT of the DAY

Saturday June 17 – NEW gray AAU polo (or white certified)

FINALS DAY

Tomorrow is the first finals day. Remember the losing team must stay to officiate on the same court. We do not have any extra referees to cover any team that leaves, so make sure you tell both teams one of them must stay to officiate. If you allow the losing team to leave, then you are responsible for finding replacements.

Tomorrow's matches can start as soon as all 3 teams are ready to play.

SCORESHEETS on FINALS DAY

Tomorrow, you must come back to get additional sheets and we know how long the walk is from some courts, so let's help each other out and enter the scores as soon as we can (or make the walk back to championship to get it entered). If you don't have a smartphone, have your partner do it or your friend next door. Just get it done as soon as possible!

ROSTERS

Rosters for the first session are on red paper. The roster must be checked prior to the start of the match and must be initialed, dated and timed

TRANSPORTATION

If you work at North/South in the morning and then work at Disney later in the day, you must take the bus back to the hotel and then catch the van to Disney. The van(s) for Disney will load in the back by the busses.

If you want to drive your own car to Disney, you must have a DISNEY parking pass. You can pick up a pass in the office, at the hotel at the end of the front desk or in the morning where the busses or vans are loading.

COURT SPACE

The space between the courts where there is a net is NOT A WALKWAY!! Please do not use it as such. Spectators and cameras should not be allowed in that space.

If you are the referee for the next match, STAY AWAY from the table until the previous match is finished. You cannot put your 'stuff' on the table nor can you sit at the table. Watch from close-by, but not in the immediate area.

NEED YOUR HELP

I really need your help! I've had to go 'to bat' for you every day of this session regarding how many scoresheets you can take at one time. But I think I lost that battle today. There are too many sheets that are showing up late to the courts, too many sheets that are not being turned immediately after the match is complete and too many sheets that have multiple errors. There are too many scoresheets that are not complete with winning and losing team names. I don't

understand how you can enter the scores in your phone, if the team names are not on the sheet.

This is a national championship and every team in attendance should expect the best from the paid referees. Prior to the start of the match, both referee names **MUST** be printed on the scoresheet.

After the match is complete, the R2 verifies the work of the scorers. Then the R1 verifies the scores and the correct winning/losing team names. The scores are entered into the mobile app and the referee who is leaving the court will return the scoresheet immediately to the scoresheet area. (It is not a problem if you need to get out your reading glasses to see the sheet.)

So here's where I need your help – I need you to **PROMISE** to enter the scores into your phone as soon as the match is done and immediately return the sheet. If so, I might not have to put these new regulations into place. However, the new regulation will affect everyone. Anyone who holds a scoresheet and does not bring it back immediately after the match will **NOT** be paid for that match. The same regulation could apply for referees who do check the scoresheet for winning and losing teams and correct scores.

I know you can do it. You do it every weekend, so why not continue to be the best at what you do?

REFEREE PROFESSIONLISM

I'm starting to get a few (more than I would like) reports about unprofessionalism behavior by referees.

These actions are not acceptable and could cause you to be sent home immediately:

- arguing with your partner at the court
- calling your partner 'names'
- swearing at your partner
- not accepting your partner's suggestion for sanctions
- lying to the lead referees about how a situation unfolded
- bullying, pressuring or being unkind to the scoresheet workers
- continually complaining about match counts
- giving away your matches on your own to someone else. If you cannot work, the desk referee will assign someone to work in your place.

If you can't be nice, then maybe you shouldn't be here. There is no excuse for you to treat others in that way.

Even though it is the final day, we still have to remember our manners and treat coaches and players right. It is not necessary to belittle players or think we need to teach them how to play. You must maintain a professional demeanor before, during and after your match. We must follow the rules as they are written. We cannot put our own personal spin or interpretation on the written word.

FINALS

All gold finals are played at ESPN. There is very specific protocol for the finals matches. The lead refs will assist you. Congratulations to those referees selected.

COACHES

Only 1 head coach and 1 assistant coach are allowed to stand. Only the head coach is allowed to address the second referee.

TIME MANAGEMENT

Time management! Time management! Time management! Do your captains meeting first and get the 4-4 warm-ups going. Do the roster check during warm-ups, not before. Every wasted minute adds up and accumulates and is the major reason courts run late.

CHAIRS AROUND THE COURTS

It is not necessary to move chairs away from the courts more than one foot. Chairs are being moved too far from the court which then does not leave enough walkway between the chairs. It is not necessary for a referee to move chairs. And if the coach is moving the chairs, it not necessary for them to do that either.

CHECKOUT PROCEDURES

EVERY referee must check out of the first session by verifying their match counts. The in-person checkout process will begin after 11 am. Match counts will NOT be updated until after 10 am. If you prefer to checkout in person, stop in the office sometime after 11 am or before you leave for the day. If you are at DISNEY, you may call the general office number.

If your match counts are correct according to the match counts posted on the website, you can use the online [Express Checkout](#) form (located on the assignment page) and you do not need to go to the office.

If you have a discrepancy, you must submit an [online schedule request form](#) noting the issue. Do NOT leave until you have been contacted with a resolution to your issue.

No referee should enter the assigning room unless you have been given permission.

If you are leaving at the end of this session, make sure you leave your nametag (for next year).

There are match tally sheets available in the office and the south officials lounge and at Disney.

SECOND SESSION OFFICIALS REGISTRATION

If you are coming to start working in the second session, you can register at the convention center in the administrative office N322 anytime from 12:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The office might be open a little after 5, but will be closed as soon as the last match is finished. If you do not make it to registration before 5, make sure you text the admin phone (531-375-8588) as soon as you arrive in the city, so we know you are here. You can then register before you start to work on Sunday morning. There will not be a pre-tournament officials meeting prior to the start of the second session. But all referees starting to work in the second session should watch the referee powerpoint and read the Points of Emphasis document that are posted on the website and reply to the specific email that you have read both documents.

If you arrive in Orlando after check-in time, just make sure you check-in the next morning as soon as possible in room N322.

Thank you to everyone for making this first session run very smoothly. The staff appreciates your dedication to making this a great event!!

And to those who are leaving after this session, thanks for being here and safe travels! We hope to see you next year!