

Becoming A BBOWS High School Soccer Official

Thanks for your interest in finding out what it takes to become a certified high school soccer official for BBOWS. Please check the BBOWS website at www.bbows.org

What is BBOWS?

The **B**altimore **B**oard of **O**fficials for **W**omen's **S**ports is a service organization providing the most desirable sports officiating services to girl's and women's sports. Our Board recruits, trains, and provides continuing education for people interested in becoming an official.

The members of the Baltimore Board strive to provide the leadership appropriate in terms of ethical conduct and consistency with the highest level of performance and achievement of the athletes involved.

In general what times are soccer games scheduled?

Games are generally scheduled on all weekdays at starting times ranging from 3:30PM up to 6PM. Officials need to arrive at the game site no later than 30 minutes prior to start time of the game and dressed and on the field 15 minutes before game time. There are minimal Saturday games that occur during the season, but there is some "rec" ball to officiate on the weekends.

What schools does BBOWS provide officials for the sport of soccer?

The following schools are serviced:

- Baltimore County Public (MPSSAA)
- Baltimore City Public Schools

The soccer season runs from September to November.

What is the registration fee to become a BBOWS soccer official?

The total registration fee is \$125.00 for a brand new official. This covers the cost of the training class, annual BBOWS sport specific season registration fee, MPSSAA sports insurance coverage, high school federation rules and casebook. There is also a requirement of your attendance at seasonal soccer sport meetings as well as the annual BBOWS meeting that is held in the June.

What type of instructional training is provided for officiating soccer?

There are instructors who provide classroom and courtside training. Training classes are held in August from 7:00 to 10:00 at a local high school or designated site. There are organized play dates that provide non-paid officiating opportunities prior to the start of the season. The rules for high school soccer are governed by NFHS (National Federation of State High School Associations). The NFHS On-line Test must be taken and completed with a passing grade of 75. The training fee (including the registration process must be paid prior to the first class.

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What are physical demands associated with the sport of soccer?

They are very physically demanding. You must be able to jog, sprint, change direction for 90 minutes. As the players' ages and skill levels increase, the speed of competition becomes more challenging. Your concentration level and ability to anticipate must increase as well.

What are the uniform/equipment requirements and their associated costs?

The uniform consists of:

- ✓ Gold and black shirt
- ✓ Black Shorts – Coach length
- ✓ Black 3 white stripe knee highs
- ✓ Predominately black field shoes
- ✓ Black Fox 40/Mini Fox worn with a black lanyard)
- ✓ Black ball Cap (optional)
- ✓ Black jacket (optional)

The associated cost for all of this uniform and equipment is **generally less than \$150** if you have shoes.

What are the game fees for officials?

In general , two officials working together on a Varsity game make anywhere individually \$65-\$66 per game. Two officials working together on a Junior Varsity (JV) level game can make \$55.50 per game.

How am I assigned games?

BBOWS uses an assigner for each sport. Officials do not get assigned by an individual school or school system. Your games are scheduled using a web-site (www.arbitersports.com) and sent by e-mail. Factors influencing assignments are availability, attitude, experience, meeting attendance, and dependability. You must have access to the internet to receive assignments via Arbiter (www.arbitersports.com).

Where do I buy my uniform?

Black shoes can be purchased at any sporting goods store. You can also go online at the following websites.

www.theofficialschoice.com

www.purchaseofficials.com

www.sos-sports.net

www.honigs.com

www.cliffkeenofficials.com

www.smitteez.com

www.gerrydavis.com