

10.5 GROUND OFFICIALS

- a. All clubs hosting matches at their fields should have a Ground Official assigned.
- b. In instances where a team is playing at a neutral field, the visiting team is not required to provide an official unless they have multiple, matches assigned at a neutral venue (such as when their field is closed and their games are moved in their entirety to another venue).
- c. A person assigned the responsibility of ground official should ensure that they introduce themselves to marshals of all teams and any match officials appointed to the ground. A ground official should advise the match official as to where he will be located whilst the match is being played. (This should be within line of sight of the referee and not in the club canteen or away from the playing area)
- d. Ground Officials duties shall be to:
 - i. Assist the referee as required
 - ii. Ensure that team Marshals are aware of their responsibilities, and if they are not, outline to them what their duties are.
 - iii. Where necessary, assist Team Marshals to ensure that spectators, team officials or reserve players do not encroach onto the pitch.
 - iv. Ensure that good order amongst spectators is maintained.
 - v. Ensure that alcohol is not consumed in the immediate vicinity of the playing area and that the local by-laws relating to the consumption of alcohol are upheld.
 - vi. Sign the team sheet in the space provided to acknowledge their presence at the fixture in case the association needs to contact you.
- e. A ground official has the right and responsibility to ask any abusive person to leave the area of play.
- f. if any action should be taken against their club member or report to the opposition club, details regarding the action that was taken against their club member/s should be provided by the Ground Official.
- g. Should any incident arise out of a match that is for consideration by the Association, the ground official shall complete a written eyewitness report. The report should be submitted to the club for forwarding to the association.
- h. A Ground Official shall be prepared to appear at any association inquiry formed to deal with specific incidents where the ground official was in attendance.
- i. While it's not necessary that a Ground Official is fully conversant with Association Regulations or the Laws of the Game, it is advisable that they have access to a copy of the Association Regulations and access to a phone to contact the Association should an emergency arise.
- j. All Ground Officials shall have obtained the age of 18 years of age.
- k. Ground Officials will be required to wear a vest, as made available by the NFA with the NFA logo and markings.
 - i. Penalties may be imposed by the NFA Board for breaches of this regulation.