

# MDSFA COLOURED VEST PROGRAM

## ORANGE/RED VEST

### TEAM OFFICIAL refer to Local Competition Rule 222.4

The orange/red vest is to be worn by team officials. The object of the vest is to be readily identifiable to a referee. It is anticipated that the person wearing this vest will be located in and around the supporters associated with their own team. It is expected that the person wearing this vest will be able to speak to parents of their team and calm them down so that issues don't escalate.

If required the referee can ask the team official to stand with a person who is abusing the officials and or then be directed to get a Ground Official to attend to the person.

The team official is not responsible for any one from the opposition and should not get involved in incidents that involve opposition team spectators.

There is to be 1 vest per team at every game where there are spectators.

I.e. if a team only has 11 players and no spectators there is obviously no body on the side line to control. The referees will acknowledge this and allow the game to commence.

## GREEN/YELLOW VEST

### GROUND OFFICIAL refer to Local Competition Rule 222

The green/yellow vest is for Ground officials. The duties and job description are set out below.

### Job description

- Thoroughly understand your club/association:
  - codes of conduct for parents, players, coaches and officials
  - processes for dealing with sport rage incidents
- Understand club/association disciplinary procedures and penalties
- Understand the degree to which club/association rules can be enforced on non-members (non-members are not necessarily bound by club rules)
- Be skilled and confident at resolving conflict and dealing with difficult people
- Support and uphold the principles of fair play
- Be visible at all times during game days
- Use a formal incident recording and reporting process.

## **Tips for conflict resolution**

- Receive other people's comments without interruption
- Speak pleasantly – be aware of the tone of your voice and the type of language you use
- Use non-aggressive body language and facial expressions (eg. don't point your finger, don't stand with your hands on your hips)
- Don't become emotionally involved
- Be patient
- Stay calm no matter what the person says or does
- If the conflict turns physical, don't get involved – call the police immediately
- Look for signs of the situation getting out of hand (eg. tension growing on the sideline) and act early before it reaches boiling point.

## **Duties of Ground Official**

The following are the basic requirements of the Ground Official:

1. Make themselves known to Referee before the start of each match;
2. Assist in ensuring that teams are ready to start games at the scheduled kick off time;
3. Ensure that spectators do not encroach onto the playing field during the match;
4. Ensure that the area behind the goal area is kept clear at all times;
5. Ensure that no persons enter the field of play, including coaches or managers (especially to treat injured players) until signalled by the Referee;
6. Assist the Referee as requested at any time;
7. Ensure that alcohol is not consumed in the immediate vicinity of the playing field until after completion of the last match.

In all other matters pertaining to ground control, the Club & Ground Official must ensure that no conduct is permitted that would prove prejudicial to the Club or Association.

## **BLUE VEST COACH**

Each coach in competition matches from under 11 up shall be required to wear a sky blue vest to identify themselves to the referee. The object of the blue vest is for the referee to ensure that the coach is accessible visually for on field incidents as well as for any instruction regarding the game.

## **MAROON JACKETS**

### **MDSFA OFFICIALS**

From time to time officials representing the Association will attend matches at random, because they are requested, because they have an interest in the team/club or simply just to watch a game of football. Each member of the Local Competition Committee (LCC) is a liaison officer to several clubs and will and can be available on game days to assist with issues.

Please be courteous to them as they are only there to observe as well as to offer advice. The LCC members are volunteers and give of their time freely to assist where and when possible and practical.

In years gone past the maroon jacket has had an often adverse effect around the grounds and they have been loathed when seen turning up at playing fields.

We have gone to great lengths in recent times to make the LCC more user friendly and provide a more business like approach to our stakeholders – the members, with an improved level of customer service.