

Spring 2009

My friends in soccer,

My name is Michael Prate and I am the Director of Referees for the West Islip Soccer Club. I have been involved with the West Islip Soccer Club for the past 10 years, as a parent, coach and board member. I have been involved in the Referee Program for the past two years.

Referees play an important role. They help to maintain order on the field and help to create a fair & safe atmosphere for players to compete. This is an important role, requiring maturity and responsibility, which are key elements that are stressed and taught in this program. The referee program is viewed as a teaching tool, providing an education to those who are involved. It allows a front row seat to some of the most exciting youth soccer the club has to offer.

The WISC referee program is an excellent way for members of our community to become involved in the ***Beautiful Game, Soccer***. Whether you are a player, coach, mom or dad, or a fan that is looking for some more involvement the referee program might be for you. Our Referee program covers games in our inter-mural (U8 through U9/10) and in covering games for Suffolk Soccer Inter-league (U10 through U19). As referees get older additional opportunities are also available through the United States Soccer Federation / Long Island Soccer Referee Association.

Referees here in the club are recognized for the time and effort that they put in. Referees, who meet the criteria for eligibility, have the opportunity to get paid for games they do. Referees are also offered the opportunity to earn community service hours that are needed for school (Middle or High School). Community Service, the giving back of talents you have, is encouraged strongly.

If you are interested, we invite you to visit the clubs web page @ www.westislipsoccer.org, and click on the link for Referees. This link will provide you with an explanation of the clubs eligibility policy. It also provides links for forms and additional details about the program. If additional information is needed please contact me via e-mail.

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