



### **Schedule 7: The Role of the Ground Official:**

The Ground official should:

- Wear an official jacket to identify yourself.
- Make sure your name is on the team sheet.
- Assist in the control of the spectators from their own club.
- Assist the match officials in any way when requested.
- Try to ensure the FSC Inc Codes of Behaviour are adhered to
- Ensure the safety of players
- Ensure the safety of spectators
- Ensure the safety of match officials
- Assist the Match Day Supervisor when required
- Complete relevant reports
- Assist with complaints.

What a Ground Official Does NOT do:-

- Try to control angry spectators
- Try to control opposition teams' spectators.
- Get into situations where injury may occur.
- Get involved in dangerous situations.
- Try to stop people drinking alcohol

#### **Helpful hints.**

By the time a Ground Official is required, a situation is usually inflamed. Try to be aware of the feelings of the crowd and react early to stop poor behaviour before it escalates.

Introduce yourself to the opposition Ground Official and make sure you both agree on what to do when called upon.

Only control your own people, remind them of the damage they do to your club's reputation. Make yourself aware of the Codes of Behaviour.

Use the FSC Inc Incident Report to accurately record any incident, no matter how minor. Sometimes a number of similar reports from different sources highlight future problems.

Ground Officials are not the police. Some behaviour, such as drinking alcohol is against the Law, not just our rules, but whilst we ask you remind anyone drinking that it is illegal to do so, we do not expect you to make them stop. If you think their behaviour is declining due to alcohol consumption, call the police.

Stay safe – look after yourself.

#### **Complaints**

People who complain do so because they think they have a genuine problem. Not dealing with the original issue will manifest itself later and usually lead to Sport rage.

Offer the FSC Incident Report Book to people to write any complaint or perceived problem. Refer complaints to the correct person, and tell the complainant that their complaint will be dealt with.