**PROFESSIONALISM**

**Appearance** – Always look your best by wearing the proper uniform and keeping it neat and clean. This is what gives coaches and parents their first impression of you as an official.

**Timeliness** – Being on time means being early. Always show up early and get comfortable.

**Rules Knowledge** – It takes a long time to fully understand all the rules. Continually review the rules and their application to help you develop more quickly.

**Mechanics** - In addition to knowing the rules, officials need to know where to go on the field and what their responsibilities are at any given time.

**Game Management** – There are opportunities in every game when an official can keep a game running smoothly without using a flag or whistle. Some of these will be discussed in class.

**Focus** – Concentrate on your responsibilities throughout the entire game – don’t lose focus. Try to not get distracted and don’t dwell on a call that you make.

**Conditioning** – Stay in good shape so you look the part and you can always get to the right position to make your calls

**Communication** – Communication is a very important part of your job. Constantly communicate with your partner. Use appropriate contact when needed with the players and the coaches.

**Conduct** – Be respectful at all times. Try to avoid appearing aloof or indifferent

**Confidence** – Br firm and demonstrative with your calls. Coaches and parents will see you as a more accomplished official than if you are quiet and appear timid.

**Consistency** – Try to be consistent with your calls on both teams. Also try to stay consistent with your partner – on the same page.

**Courage** – Try to get it right. Show the courage to make an unpopular call or no-call as long as you are confident that it is the right call.