



Guide to marking referees – Season 2024/25

When completing the match return for your game on either Full-Time or The FA MatchDay App (**NOT recommended**), there is a section to mark the referee.

The YEL wants consistency in marking, where possible, in the marks that managers give to referees. By everyone marking the referee in the same way, you will be playing your part in helping us to identify the potential 'Premier League stars of tomorrow' as well as allowing us to see who is struggling and needs a bit of encouragement and guidance.

ADVICE: Always reflect on the game before marking the referee and, if you are not sure, speak to a more experienced colleague within your club.

Please note: It should VERY RARE that a referee receives 100. This would suggest that they have given a perfect performance with no room for improvement

OVERALL DECISION MAKING

Marks out of 40

This can be very subjective. What we are looking for is your objective view as to whether the referee applied the laws of the game – not whether you agreed with their decisions. You should not be influenced by the score or the way your team or the opposition played. Laws of the game include giving throw ins, corners and goal kicks correctly, called fouls correctly, applied the advantage law correctly, made correct decisions in and around the penalty area etc. **Regardless of the result, please mark the referee objectively.**

35-40 - Made good, positive decisions throughout

30-34 - Occasional indecision but generally good positive decisions

25-29 - A lot of indecision but a few good positive decisions

20-24 – Generally poor decisions but occasional good decisions

19 or less – Poor decisions throughout with no good decision making

JUDGEMENT OF MAJOR DECISIONS

Marks out of 30

This is a hard one to be consistent on as some games are very easy matches to referee with no major decisions whilst others have lots of major decisions. Referees should NOT be penalised if there are no major decisions. It is also very subjective. You may think it was the wrong call when, in fact, the correct decision has been made. Unless a referee has got every decision wrong, they should not be receiving a mark of less than 15 out of 30.

25-30 - Referee made a good call on all major decisions OR if there were a lot of major decisions, they made an incorrect call on one OR there were NO major decisions

20-24 - Referee made an incorrect call on one or two major decisions where there were less than five major decisions in the game

15-19 – Referee made the majority of major decisions incorrectly where there were a number in the game to be made

14 or less – Referee made all major decisions incorrectly where there were a lot of major decisions in the game

OVERALL CONTROL

Marks out of 30

This is a relatively straightforward section. The questions that needs asking of yourself are: 'Did the referee maintain effective control of the game at all times? Did the referee have empathy with the game allowing it to develop in accordance with the tempo of the game?

Did the referee effectively control the temperature of the game – ie if tackles became excessive, if players started to become overly aggressive, if managers/parents became overly confrontational – did the referee calm the game down by asserting their authority by awarding more fouls, taking players on one side, stopping the game and speaking to the managers?

Control of a game is not just applying the laws!

25-30 – Referee demonstrated good/excellent control throughout the game and communicated with all participants effectively

20-24 – Overall control was reasonable. Referee attempted to address control issues

15-19 – On several occasions, the referee was not in control and did not attempt to address the issues

14 or less - The referee displayed no control and made no attempt to address issues