



# Field Marshal Responsibilities

## Montana State Spring League

The Field Marshal serves a critical role at games in enforcing safety and conduct Policies set in place by Montana Youth Soccer and the Host Club. For that reason, MYSA requires each Host Club to have at least one Field Marshal per two fields (if access and visibility are adequate) at each Montana State Spring League game hosted. Field Marshals must be knowledgeable of all applicable Policies, capable of conflict management and able to remain calm and neutral.

The primary purpose of the Field Marshal is not to police, but instead to help avoid conflict before it occurs and/or to defuse the situation early enough before it reaches a boiling point. The Referee crew and the Field Marshal work in tandem: the Referee crew controls the environment on the field and the Field Marshal does the same off the field. The two parties will work in partnership before, during or after a game to resolve a problem when the situation necessitates it.

### Equipment

- Bright colored vest or shirt such as orange for easy identification (often supplied by Host Club)
- Cell phone or radio for communication

### Primary Duties

- Report themselves to the Referee crew before each game to create a rapport
- Be present and seen by spectators at each game to deter improper behavior
- Ensure spectators follow all safety and conduct Policies in a non-confrontational manner.  
Examples include:
  - Sportsmanship is paramount. Unsporting behavior is prohibited in all forms
  - Dogs and pets are prohibited inside the facility or at the field
  - Use of tobacco in any form is prohibited
  - Spectators must be a minimum of 3 yards back from the touchline
- Monitor the atmosphere and keep the peace as needed
- Be attentive for injuries on the field. The Field Marshal may be called upon to contact first responders for medical assistance in the case of a serious injury

### Improper Conduct

- It is ultimately the responsibility of the coach to ensure spectators associated with his/her team conduct themselves appropriately. If a spectator is unruly and/or refuses to improve their behavior, the Field Marshal shall notify the coach during the game.
- The team's coach will be responsible for communicating the warning or send-off of the spectator to the spectator. The game may be paused during this time in conjunction with the referee crew.
- The situation must be addressed sufficiently in the opinion of the Referee crew before the game will continue. If the situation is not resolved to the Referee crew's satisfaction, they have the authority to abandon the remainder of the game.

99% of games will operate without incident, in which case the Field Marshal's only duty will be to enjoy soccer! Thank you for volunteering and for helping keep our game environments safe and fun!