



OFFICIALS RESOURCE SERIES

Soccer Gear Guide

A practical checklist for arriving prepared, looking professional, and handling the assignment with confidence.

**THE
STANDARD**

Confirm every item against your state association, governing body, conference, and assigner requirements.

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Soccer Assignment Checklist

Build your bag around reliability: the correct uniform, duplicate critical tools, comfort items, and protection for the conditions.

UNIFORM & PRESENTATION

- Approved referee jersey colors; bring at least two contrasting colors
- Black shorts, black socks with required markings, and black shoes
- Weather-appropriate base layer that matches uniform standards
- Assistant referee warm-up or outerwear when approved

ESSENTIAL TOOLS

- Two whistles with distinct tones
- Yellow/red cards, match wallet, score sheets, pencil
- Two watches or approved timing devices
- Coin and assistant referee flags when assigned

SMART BAG EXTRAS

- Sunscreen, water, electrolyte mix, towel, blister kit
- Air pump/pressure gauge if your competition expects officials to verify balls
- Spare jersey, socks, laces, cards, whistle, and watch battery/charger

Pack, Inspect, Perform

WHEN	WHAT TO DO
48-24 HOURS	Confirm venue, level, crew, uniform, arrival time, parking, payment process, and special instructions.
NIGHT BEFORE	Lay out the complete uniform. Charge devices. Test whistles/timers. Check weather and travel time.
ON ARRIVAL	Change or finish dressing privately. Inspect equipment. Meet the crew. Complete the required pregame.
AFTER GAME	Record game details, clean and dry gear, replace used supplies, and note anything needed before the next assignment.

AVOID THESE MISTAKES

- Only bringing one jersey color
- Depending on a single watch
- Using molded cleats that are unsafe for the surface

Starter Budget Strategy

PRIORITY	BUY FIRST	UPGRADE LATER
1	Required uniform and footwear	Second full uniform set
2	Required tools and protection	Premium bag/organizer
3	Backup whistle/timer and basics	Weather-specific duplicates

Important: This guide provides general preparation recommendations, not a universal uniform rule. Requirements vary by sport, season, level, state, conference, and governing body.