



HURLSTONE PARK WANDERERS FC

By now we hope you will have seen quite a bit of information about the Stand in Support of Referees that will be part of this weekend's round of football. Here is some information about how it will work, and also to share with your teams and supporters. Please make sure that everyone in your team has been informed of both the reasons for the guard of honour, what we are trying to achieve and how it will work.

What is the guard of honour?

Before the game begins, the players from each team will line up and walk on to the field each side of the half way line. They will then stand, forming an avenue (a guard of honour) for the referees to walk on to the field. Players and supporters will applaud as the referees walk on. [If you want to see an example check out this video on our facebook page.](#) Once the referees have walked through, players go to their usual places on the field and the game begins when the referee blows the whistle.

Will this happen for our non-competitive age groups (u8-u12)?

For our u8-u12 games, where there are game leaders rather than referees, we would still like the guard of honour to happen. Game leaders are our game officials.

We are aware that this will be something that will vary from club to club. At Ewen Park and Beaman Park we will be aiming to have a guard of honour for u8-u12 games. But you might find if you are playing away that other clubs do not have this in place. You could suggest a round of applause for the game leaders, either before or after the game.

What do I need to do as a team official? (if a guard of honour is happening)

Before the game:

Please confirm with the game leaders and ground officials whether there is a guard of honour the guard of honour to happen (we expect they will be but this is a courtesy)
Complete all the usual pre-game formalities (team submission, confirmation of opposition team) – please ensure this is done at least 5 minutes before the game

Two minutes before the game:

Make sure your players are organised near the halfway line and ready to walk on as part of the guard of honour (subs included). In the diagram this is shown as a line along the sideline, but be flexible, an organised huddle of players READY to walk on is fine

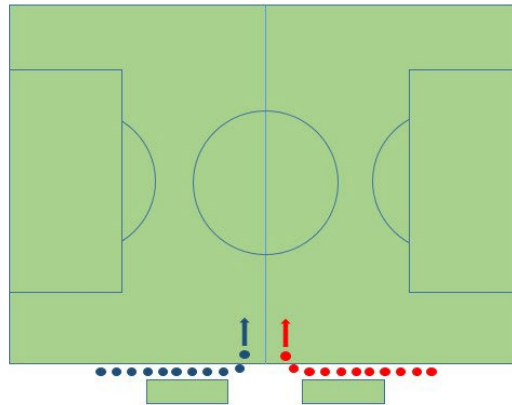
One minute before the game:

Players walk on to the field (each team on either side of the half way line) and stand approx. one metre apart facing the opposing team to form an avenue
Game leaders will then walk through the avenue, while players and spectators applaud

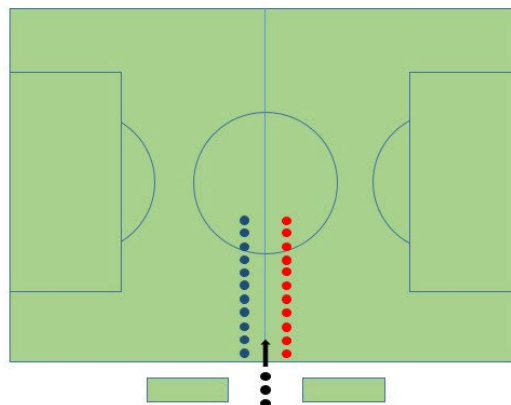
After that:

Players go to their positions and the game begins

1. Two minutes before kick off



2. One minute before kick off



What do I need to do as a team official? (if a guard of honour is not happening)

Talk to your opposition and the ground officials before hand to check out whether they are doing the guard of honour for u8-u12.

If not, you could suggest that players and supporters begin the game with a round of applause to appreciate the game leaders.

Be flexible about this – we are aware that this is not feasible for all clubs and that the reasons for the Guard of Honour are to support official referees.