



TASK Referee Informational Meeting

- Legal status of referees
- How to become a referee
- Referee grades
- Who can you ref?
- What do referees get paid?
- How do you get games?
- Great Things About Being a Ref
- Challenges of Being a Ref
- Questions

Agenda



Legal Status of Referees

- Referees used to be recruited and trained by each club, and were used exclusively by the club
 - A couple of years ago, a court case made this practice illegal
 - All referees are considered independent contractors
 - The training certifies you as a registered certified independent referee with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF)
 - Clubs contract with a Referee Assignor to request referees for games
 - Referees accept games and receive payment prior to the start of the game
 - A referee is free to work any game they are qualified for, for any club, in any state in the USA
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How to become a Referee

- All new referees and any referees who don't recertify the previous year need to take the New Referee course (Usually offered in January – March time frame)
- Approximately 8 hours of online work must be done prior to the course date
- On course date, you have about 4 hours of classroom time and 4 hours of gym time
- Seymour will host a class sometime in January or February (pending availability with the school)
- Existing referees must take the Referee Recertification Course (usually offered between October and December)
- Approximately 4 hours online, 2 hours of classroom, and 2 hours of gym time
- To certify as a referee for the year, you must pass an exam with a score of 75%

Referee Courses

- All youth becoming a referee who are 12 or 13 years old become a Grade 9 referee
- You can only referee recreational games
- On the date you turn 14, you are automatically upgraded to Grade 8

Grade 9 Referee

- All new referees who are 14 or older and recertifying grade 8 referees
- Grade 8 referees can work competitive or recreational youth soccer

Grade 8 Referee

- Must be 17 years old
- Must pass a course and test
- Must pass a fitness test
- Must spend at least 1 year as a grade 8 referee
- Must serve as center referee for at least 50 U16 – U18 games
- Must pass a field assessment

Grade 7 Referee

- Must serve at the next lower grade for at least 1 year
- Must complete 2 assessments as a referee and 1 assessment as an assistant referee
- Must pass class, exam and fitness test
- Must also pass an assessment each year as part of recertification
- Generally only done if a person is interested in being a professional referee

Grade 6 & 5

- These are professional referees
- Candidates must be invited by US Soccer or FIFA to the next level
- Grades 4 & 3 referee professional games in the US
- Grades 2 & 1 also referee international matches

Grades 4 - 1



Who Can You Ref?

- All U6 & U8 games (note, the East Central soccer district does not use referees for these games)
- Center & AR all U10 games
- If 12 – may additional AR U12 games
- If 13 – may additional Center & AR U12 games

Grade 9

- The same levels as grade 9
- All competitive games in the East Central soccer district
- You can be an assistant referee on games equal to your age (i.e. – a 14 year old can AR a U14 game)
- You can be a center referee on games 1 year below your age (i.e. – a 16 year old can center referee a U15 game)
- The older and more experienced you are will determine games offered to you.
 - A 1st year referee is likely to get offered younger games to gain experience, regardless of age
- Adults can work all position of State League games and AR regional league games

Grade 8

- All the same games as Grade 8
- All positions on regional league games
- All positions on adult amateur league games

Grade 7



What Do Referees Get Paid?

- Each state sets its own referee fees; if you work in a different state, the rates may be different
- If you work a tournament, the rates are set by the tournament; check the tournament website for rates
- Rates are currently in a phased increase in Wisconsin
 - Rates on the next page are in effect from August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018
 - Each year through 2022, the rates will increase by \$2/position

General Notes:

League	Age Group	Referee	Asst Referee
State League & EC	U6 & U8	\$12	N/A
State League & EC	U9 & U10	\$16	\$14
State League & EC	U11 & U12	\$28	\$18
State League & EC	U13 & U14	\$38	\$28
East Central	U15 & U16 Rec	\$42	\$28
State League & EC	U15 & U16 Comp	\$48	\$32
East Central	U17 – U19 Rec	\$48	\$32
State League & EC	U17 – U19 Comp	\$58	\$38
WI Dev Academy	U11 & U12 9 v 9	\$28	\$18
WI Dev Academy	U12 11 v 11	\$38	\$28
WI Dev Academy	U13 & U14	\$44	\$32
WI Dev Academy	U15 & U16	\$54	\$36
WI Dev Academy	U17 & U18	\$58	\$38
MRL & State Cup	U13 & U14	\$50	\$35
MRL & State Cup	U15 & U16	\$60	\$40
MRL & State Cup	U17+	\$70	\$45

- The more you work – the more you make
- My son, Ryan, started working as a ref when he was 12
 - During that first spring, he worked almost every week, plus 2 tournaments
 - He made over \$500
 - This fall – he has been busier, and not refed as much, and will make about \$400
- The more you are available and the more you accept games, the more you make

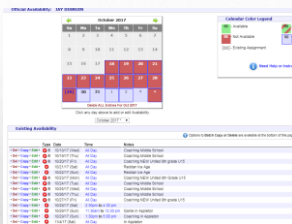
What Will You Make?



How Do You Get Games?

- You will get an account in the GameOfficials online system
- You must mark off when you are unavailable
- Assignors will look for referees in a region that are available and offer them games
- If you decline a lot of games, the assignors will be less likely to assign you games

How to Get Games



Setting Unavailable Times



Great Things About Being a Ref

- You gain a better and more in depth understanding of the laws of the game
- You become a better player and coach
- You get paid very well on an hourly basis
- You get to be around a game you love
- You get to view and understand the game from a different perspective
- You increase your confidence and leadership



Challenges of Being a Ref

- I love being a ref
 - However – you will be yelled at by parents, coaches and players
 - It will sometimes be personal
 - You may have to stand up to adults
 - You will always make a mistake in every game
 - It's expensive to start (think Christmas gifts!)
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Questions
