



Referee

Purpose

The AYSO volunteer position of referee is intended to manage soccer matches played between teams of youth players in the age groups from U-5 to U-19 according to the AYSO National Rules and Regulations, the FIFA Laws of the Game and the training curriculum as specified in the AYSO National Referee Program. The referee is expected to cooperate with coaches and other officials to develop a positive self-image in the players and to provide a good role model for all AYSO participants.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

The referee is expected to:

1. Support the AYSO National Referee Program in both specifics and spirit;
2. Attend Regional referee meetings before and during the season as required;
3. Attend specific referee training courses to develop refereeing skills;
4. Attend referee refresher courses (continuing education training) as necessary to maintain AYSO rules, the FIFA Law knowledge, and to become familiar with changes;
5. Officiate matches to which he/she is assigned according to the AYSO rules, the FIFA Laws and prevailing guidelines;
6. Keep a record of each match he/she officiates and make special reports as necessary;
7. Support the AYSO philosophies;
8. Follow AYSO Safe Haven guidelines and principles;
9. Support the Regional Commissioner and staff;
10. Cooperate with the Regional Referee Administrator and referee staff on issues pertaining to refereeing;
11. Present a healthy environment and model by refraining from consuming alcoholic beverages or using tobacco products in the immediate vicinity of the soccer fields; and
12. Carry out any other refereeing tasks as necessary.

Qualifications and Desired Skills

To be considered for the position of referee, the applicant must:

1. Annually submit an AYSO Volunteer Application Form;
2. Pass the AYSO screening and background check;
3. Be annually approved and duly appointed as Referee by the Region;
4. Complete AYSO Referee and Safe Haven certification;

5. Demonstrate good character and reliability;
6. Be interested in promoting the benefits of youth sports, especially soccer; and
7. Be physically capable.

Supervision Protocols

While performing as the referee, the volunteer is:

1. Subject to the bylaws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and guidelines of AYSO;
2. Under the overall authority of and directly supervised by The Regional Referee Administrator, and supervised indirectly by the Regional Commissioner; and
3. To maintain the recommended adult to child supervision ratio of 1:8 or less; that is one adult for every eight or fewer children and two adults (one of whom may be the coach and one of whom should be of the same gender as the group) present at all times. For the protection of both the children and the volunteer, no volunteer should permit himself or herself to be alone with any child or group of children (except his or her own) during AYSO-sponsored activities.

Time Commitment

The anticipated time commitment for a referee is a full year. The estimated hours to fulfill duties by month shall be filled in by the Regional Referee Administrator:

Orientation, Training, Certification and Continued Education Provided

To prepare a volunteer for the position of referee, AYSO will offer the following referee educational opportunities that volunteer referees are expected to take advantage of and participate in, as appropriate.

1. Orientation by the Regional Referee Administrator;
2. AYSO's Safe Haven Certification;
3. Various referee track workshops at the annual Section Conferences;
4. Referee training classes: U-8 official, assistant referee, basic referee, intermediate referee, advanced referee, and national referee;
5. Referee Advisor/Assessor training;
6. FIFA Law and AYSO national rules and regulations update and refresher courses; and
7. Annual Referee Update.

Activity Locations

While performing the duties of referee, the volunteer is limited to the following locations, unless expressly authorized in writing by the regional commissioner to hold activities in another location.

1. Assigned field locations;
2. Regional meetings and sponsored events;
3. Section Conferences;
4. Tournaments; and
5. Independent work at home alone, in committees of adults, or in a properly supervised situation with children.