Hello Referees

This hand book is for the purposes of explaining **How to navigate the**<u>WebYouthSoccer</u> website, and answering all of the commonly asked questions that all referees have when just starting out in our region.

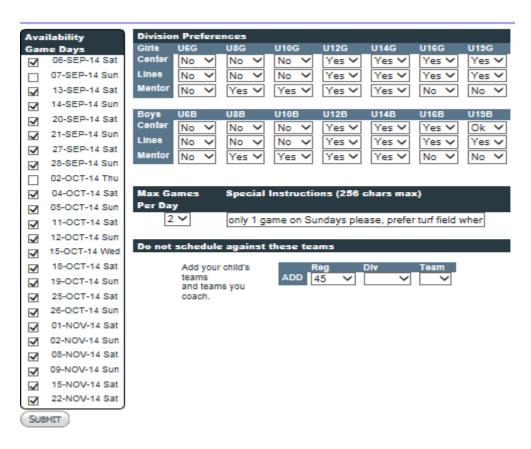
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All Referees need to "Set their Preferences."

Our region uses <u>webyouthsoccer.com</u> to assign games, and set preferences. You should have a log-in after completing the referee course, or if you have been a referee in the past.

To set preference, go to https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com, and log in. Click on "Referee", and then click on "Preferences".



The column on the left shows a set of dates. Click on all of the dates that you are available to referee. If your availability changes, simply "unclick" the date at a later time.

Proceed to indicate "yes, no, or okay" to the divisions you prefer or are certified to work, and what positions, AR or CR.

If you are a U7 or U8 referee, make sure you only say "yes" to U8 games on this page.

There is also a space to indicate how many games per day you are willing to work, and a section to write special instructions for your schedulers (such as "I only want morning games, etc.") Again, you can change this as often as you like.

The last section says "Do not schedule against these teams," and this is what will inform the system which team(s) you child plays on. It will aid the scheduler and tell them as to what field and what time your child is playing on each week. If you no longer have children that play in the league, please make sure that this section is blank.

Lastly, hit "submit" and you are done.

Preferences can be changed weekly or as often as you wish.

There is no scheduler for U7 & U8.

Referees for U7 & U8 are expected to Center their own child's game when their team is the "Home" team. You can and should assign yourself to the game by following the instruction on **Entering Your Game Stats**.

Sometimes as the visiting team, the opposing team will be contacting your coach because their team Referee is not able to work that game. You would be the first Referee to be asked to do this. If you are not able to, the coach will contact the RRA, and we will go to our U8 Referee pool to recruit a volunteer. Many youth volunteers have taken the training, and while not affiliated with any team, are able to help in these situations.

Assigning yourself to U7/U8 games

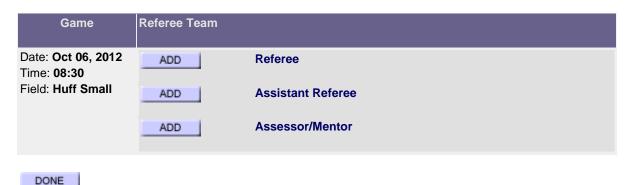
This message is for U7 and U8 referees only.

If you are working any game, either for your own child's team or another, please fill out the section on "Referee Team" before you enter your game stats. This will give you credit for working the game. Go to https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com and log-in. Click on "Referee" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on "Main Page", and look for "game input card", and click on that.

Follow the prompts; date, region 45, field and game time.

To assign yourself to a game hit "Edit" next to "Referee Team", which appears above the 2 game cards displayed.

The screen below is what should appear next. Type in your own name, and then click on "ADD." Then click on "Done", and your game will be credited to you.



Proceed with entering your game stats as usual.

Scheduling for U10 Games

There are schedulers for U10 boys and girls referees, however the "team referee" is expected to act as AR for their own child's game each week. The scheduler will assign a "Neutral" referee to act as Center. The Center Referee most likely will have their own child's game just before or just after the game they are assigned to, and on the same field. This is all "volunteer", and based on your ability, willingness and availability.

Sometimes boys and girls games share fields, and it is possible that Center Referees may be asked to work a Boys or a Girls game depending on the game scheduled right before or after your child on that same field.

Springer	08:30 R45-U10G	09:45 R45-U10G	11:00 R45-U10B	12:15 R45-U10B	13:30 R45-U10G
East	4 v 16	8 v 12	1 v 3	13 v 4	9 v 11
Springer	08:30 R45-U10G	09:45 R45-U10G	11:00 R45-U10G	12:15 R45-U10G	13:30 R45-U10G
West	1 v 2	17 v 3	7 v 13	15 v 5	6 v 14

If you are unable to referee your own child's game on any given Saturday, please contact your scheduler ahead of time. We have a pool of referees we can call on to volunteer to work the game.

Scheduling for U12 and U14

At U12 & U14 all three referees are neutral. They are assigned by a scheduler, and all referees rotate fields every week. We ask that you check the Webyouthsoccer website frequently to see if you have been assigned, and then "Accept/Decline" your games. If you are going to decline, please do so early in the week. Also, as people decline, the schedule changes, and your assignment may change. Be sure to check Friday night to see if your assignment has been changed.

Checking for assignments

Referees at U10 and above need to check for assignments frequently during the week, particularly the night before games to see if the schedule needed to be changed at the last minute due to declines.

To check to see if you have been scheduled for a game, go to https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com and log-in. You should see "Referee" on the left hand side of the page, and directly under that you should see "Main Page," and proceed to click on that.

On the far right your schedule for the week should appear.

Schedule for this week								
Day	Time	Field	Division	Duty	Accepted	Declined	Confirmed On	
Sat	08:30	Bubb	U12B	Lines	•	0	05-Sep-12	
Sat	11:30	Blach	U14B	Center	•	0	05-Sep-12	
Sun	02:00 N	Mayfield S	U16B	Center	•	0	05-Sep-12	
If declining an assignment indicate why, helps us assign you elsewhere. Your assignment will show above until we get you replaced.								
SUBMIT								

The next step is to "Accept" or "Decline" your games, and then hit "Submit." If you decline your game, please give a reason why, and indicate if there is a better assignment that you are able to do.

Please make a habit of practicing this function, as it really helps our schedulers fill all of the 160+ referee spots each week. It is wise to check one last time the night before your game to see if any changes have been made.

If for some reason you are not getting assignments, please contact the RRA.

Printing game cards

To print out game cards you must first log into https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com and click on "Referee", which will appear on the left hand side of the page. Then click on "Main Page", and then the section below will appear in the middle of the page:

Game Day Resources

Personal Schedule Game Card Package Game Record Package Region Game Grid [Area wide play]

Game Card Package and Game Record Package should print out the cards that you will need. **Game Record Package** prints out your center sheet, names which teams play, and which is the home team. The home team always appears on the left side of the page.

However, it is the coaches' responsibility to provide game line-up cards (Game Card Package) for the referee.

All coaches are responsible for printing out their own team's line-up card with the player's names and numbers in # order, and then gives it blank to the referee at the time of inspection.

The Assistant Referee then fills in who is subbed out, absent or injured for each quarter. In U7/U8 this is the responsibility of the Referee since there are no ARs.

If a player leaves injured during the game, whatever player starts the quarter is the player who is recorded for that quarter.

If you did print out the teams' line-up cards, please ask the coach for the one that he/she should have printed out, and take it. We don't want coaches getting used to the referee providing it for them.

Side of the field

Per AYSO guidelines, all coaches and players at U14 and below are to take positions on opposite sides of the field. There is no exception to this rule in Region 45.

In Region 45, our policy is to have opposing teams on **opposite sides of the field starting at U6 and all the way up to U14**. This is not a situation where the coaches can discuss it, and agree to share the same side. It is region policy, and it will be enforced.

The home coach decides which side of the field to occupy. The other team (coaches and players) must be on the opposite side.

At U14 and below, spectators are instructed to sit on their own team's side of the field, and between the two 18 yard lines. This line marks the beginning of the penalty area. They are not to stand or sit by the penalty area, or behind the goal line. If they are there, they must move before the game begins.

If spectators choose to sit or stand anywhere else on the field, they must **remain silent**. If they wish to sit in the shade and away from their team, they cannot cheer or make their presence known.

Parents taking photos beyond the goal line must be 10 yards off the field of play, and must remain silent.

If your division interlocks with other regions, as in U14, the other regions may have different policies, so please go over this at the time of inspection with all concerned. Spring league and tournament rules vary at the lower divisions, and in other regions.

Also, parents are not to enter the field of play even if their child is injured. If the referee deems it necessary, that parent will be called onto the field.

This guideline will be enforced by the referee at every game.

No Jewelry allowed

Players are not allowed to wear any jewelry of any kind at games. There are no exceptions. Earrings cannot be taped over, or covered by a hair band.

An attempt to deliberately deceive the referee in such a way can be considered a misconduct, depending on the age of the player, and the specific circumstances.

There can be no metal or plastic in the hair.

Medic alert bracelets are allowed, but must be taped over completely, with only the face of the bracelet showing the ailment of the player.

Diabetic insulin pumps are allowed, as well as hearing aids.

Religious necklaces are allowed, but must be taped over completely for player protection.

It is up to the referee to determine if the taping of the medic alert bracelet or religious bracelet is done adequately.

If the taping is done in such a way that the referee deems unsafe, the player will not be allowed to play.

If a player does have a medical condition, such as Asthma or other that may require a referee's attention on the field, this should be disclosed by the coach at the time of inspection.

NO CASTS or SPLINTS in a game or in practice, ever!!!

Any item intended to immobilize a bone, be it cast or splint, hard or soft, padded or not, is something with which a child is not to be allowed to play or practice. If the child shows up to a game wearing one, they are not allowed to play even if they remove it.

Braces intended to reinforce a joint are allowed provided there are no sharp edges. Metal ones should be padded.

Inspection of Teams

At least 15 minutes prior to the start of play, the referee team is required to inspect both teams. This should be done while the teams are warming up on the sidelines. If one or two of the referees is working the prior game, this can be done by any referee team member who is present for the next game to speed things along.

Introduce all referees to the coach, and ask if this is a good time to inspect the players. Indicate which team is home and away. Proceed with inspecting the player's cleats, shin guards, and uniforms.

No Jewelry is allowed, even if it is under tape. No metal or plastic hair clips are allowed.

NO CASTS or SPLINTS in a game or in practice, ever!!!

Medic Alert bracelets are allowed, but must be taped down to the satisfaction of the referee. The same goes for **Religious necklaces**. If this is still deemed unsafe by the referee, then the child cannot play. Insulin pumps and hearing aids are also allowed.

If a player does have a medical condition, such as Asthma or other that may require a referee's attention on the field, this should be disclosed by the coach at the time of inspection.

End inspection with any other instructions to the players, such as things like no retakes on throw-ins, etc., but keep these kinds of things to a minimum.

Remind the coaches of proper coach and spectator areas.

Substitution breaks

It is important that we all be consistent with the guidelines for sub breaks.

Substitution breaks are not coaching breaks. Players not subbing out are to remain on the field, and water can be brought to them.

The clock is running, and substitution breaks should be taken in a minute or less. Players can get water, and receive instructions of position changes in that amount of time. The only exception to this may be U7 & U8, where they are just too young to follow these guidelines. Also, if the weather is particularly hot that day, adding a small amount of time is understandable.

One thing to avert problems is to bring up these guidelines to both players and coaches at the time inspection. Instruct the players that if they are subbing out, that they must remain on the touch line at the halfway line, with their numbers facing the Assistant Referee, and they are not to leave until they are dismissed. This will prevent the need to hunt down these players, and save time. If these instructions are given at inspection, the referee will be showing the proper authority, without being adversarial.

Another thing to do as Assistant Referee is to give the coach a heads up when subs are a minute or two away. That gives coaches the opportunity to gather subs going in, thus making the exchange more quickly.

Encourage coaches to use pinnies as a hand-off from the players who are just coming on, to the ones who are subbing out. This helps to identify those players who are now subs.

As the Referee, if one team is taking too long to return to the field, announce that you are blowing the whistle in 15 seconds to start play. That usually gets everyone back onto the field immediately. Also, do not blow the whistle to start play until both ARs are in position, and each team has a goalkeeper ready. To do otherwise is unfair and invites complaints.

Again, it is important that we all follow the same guidelines, and show consistency from game to game.

Entering game cards

To enter game stats, log onto https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com and click on "Referee" on the left hand side of the page. Then click on "Main Page", and look for "game input card", and click on that.

Follow the prompts; date, region 45, field and game time.

You should then see the two game cards for the teams. Pick one team and hit "Edit". You can then go by player and mark accordingly.

Use an X for the quarter(s) that the player sat out.

Use an A for absent

Use an Inj for injured

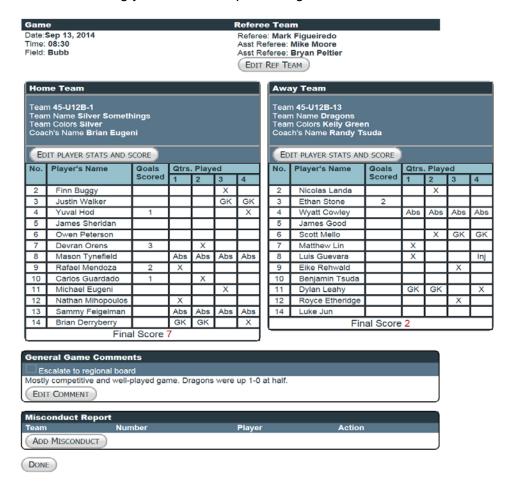
Use GK for goalkeeper for that quarter

When done, click on "Submit" at the bottom of the card, and then do the same for the other team. If you have any comments concerning the game, add those to the "Comments" section of the page.

If you awarded a card, hit "Add Misconduct" and follow the prompts to enter the information.

When complete, click on "Done" at the bottom of the page.

That should bring you back to the previous game selection screen.



Blow-out games

There is no "Blow-out" or "Mercy" rule. There was once long ago, but it was decided that it is wrong to punish a team for being strong. Also the quality of the game deteriorates when the winning team obviously has to stop scoring.

However, it is considered bad sportsmanship to embarrass the other team, and the Referee has little control or power to prevent this. But here are some things that we as Referees can, and should do when this type of game is either happening, or going to happen.

Have a heads up. If one team is playing down a man, there is more of a chance that this will be a lopsided game. Speak to the coach at inspection time, and inform him that the other team is down a man. He does not have to play down. Offer the suggestion that if his/her team is scoring easily, to please pull his strikers back, and allow other children who have never had the chance to score, to play forward. And this can be done at any time mid-quarter, not just during the substitution breaks.

If a goal is scored in the first minutes of play, this is a clue that it will be a blowout game. If the score is 3 or 4 to 0 in the first quarter, that is a good indication of which way the game will go.

If the same player or players are scoring repeatedly, all you can do is to inform the winning coach of how many goals have been scored, and who has scored them, and continue to do this.

If you have informed the coach repeatedly of the score, and he has not made an attempt to change his line-up, or employ other techniques to balance the game, all we have the power to do is to enter this information into the comment section of our game report. (You may inform the coach of this as well.)

Such comments will be acted upon by our board and the regional commissioner, and this coach will received a curt email, discouraging such action in the future, and offer suggestions as to how to prevent this from happening again.

Conversely, if a blow-out game happens, and the coach has tried everything he/she can to make adjustments, also enter that into the game report, so that just the lopsided score will not alert those who would take action on them.

If there is a game score of 7-0 or 7-1, and six different players score the 7 goals, then this is not considered this a blow-out game. Again, comments in the game card are appropriate.

As always, winning players should not be allowed to boast or tease about the score. If you witness such behavior, or if it is brought to your attention by a player, coach or parent, please take firm, immediate, and appropriate action. There is a zero tolerance for this at any time.

The enforcement of the rules cannot change just because a team is losing. We cannot call a game to favor the losing team. Calls must go fairly to both teams.

It is the referee's responsibility to keep children safe, keep play fair, and do everything we can to make it fun for the kids.

Entering the field of play

Coaches are not allowed to enter the field of play without the permission of the Referee. If there is an injured player, or players, the Referee will first assess the situation, and if the player is in need of assistance, the referee will quickly wave the coach onto the field, and the coach **must** wait for this.

Often times a player just needs moment to decide if they really are hurt, and many times the presence of the coach is not needed. However, the Referee should always err on the side of caution. If the coach does get waved on, the Referee will give a short period of time for the coach to tend to his/her player, and then the coach must make the decision whether or not to substitute that player. Of course in the case of concern for serious injury, all precautions should be taken.

Also, parents and spectators are **not** allowed onto the field even if their own child is down. It is upsetting to see one's child possibly hurt, but the coaches and the Referee will make the necessary decisions on how to proceed. A parent arguing with the Referee about this will not be tolerated, and may lead to a parent/spectator being sent off the sidelines completely.

This is a contact sport, players do go down, and sometimes cry. It is hard for a parent to see this. But the safety of the players is the Referee's first responsibility, and we take that very seriously.

Coaches are asked to send out an email to their parents to remind them of the guidelines, and overt a problem in the future. If this guideline is ignored by either the coach or a parent, please enter it into your comments on your game card.

Handling a Confrontational Coach or Parent

Soccer is an intense sport and it has a tendency to bring out strong emotions in people, even ones who don't have a tendency toward this behavior normally. The following techniques can help in these situations.

At the time of inspection, inform the coaches that they may approach the referee at a proper time, and in a respectful way to ask a question or make a comment. The proper times would be before the game, at the half, or at the end of the game. Always treat their comments and questions with respect, even if they are upset. Respond appropriately, or just say "Thank You" and walk away if nothing can be resolved.

If a parent is behaving in an adversarial or unpleasant way, make this known to the coach. If the behavior does not stop, try to identify this parent by who their child is, such as "Father of Pink player #4," etc.

Always include this information in the comments section of your game card.

Confrontational or disrespectful coaches or parents are not tolerated in our region, and swift action will be taken by the appropriate board members, and the RRA. If you just ignore this, the behavior will continue, and perhaps another referee will want to stop being a referee because of such conflicts.

Registering for Referee classes

- -Anyone interested in acting as a referee will first need to register as a volunteer in eAYSO. The website is http://eAYSO.org. Select either new or returning volunteer and continue through the registration process.
- Once you have registered as a volunteer, you can go into eAYSO, click on "MyeAYSO," then "course sign up," and sign up for a referee class. The list of classes, times, locations, and course numbers can also be found at http://ayso45.org/referees/training, but to actually register for the class, you must do this on eayso.org.

Select state "CA", then Section 2, Area A. Select course such as "U8 Official, Basic Regional Referee, U8 Upgrade to Basic Referee, or On-line Companion class, roster #, etc." To officiate at U10 or above you must be ranked as a Regional Referee and complete that training.

- Complete the online Safe Haven class (for new referees). The link to the Safe Haven class can be found at http://ayso45.org/referees/new-referees.
- Complete your referee training. Remember, if you are a new volunteer, **bring two copies of your volunteer form and a valid ID** to the class. If you are a returning volunteer, you may do an "e-signature", and the forms do not have to be printed and turned in.

If you take a class outside of our region, please don't turn in your form there. It must be handed in to a board member for region 45.

Your uniform and referee gear will be supplied by region 45.

On-line course* is an on-line training followed by a Companion Course in the classroom. This is done at http://www.aysotraining.org.

http://ayso45.org/referees/new-referees/course-signup See the instruction near the end following "step 5". By "upgrade" they mean the on-line course (there is only one for Referees).

Classes are held in other regions as well as our own, and you can enroll in any of them.

The following classes are what are offered in our region at the beginning of the season:

U8 Official (Needed to work U7 or U8 games)

U8 Official to Regional Referee Upgrade

Basic Regional Referee (Needed to officiate at U10 through U12)

Regional Referee On-line Companion Class*

Intermediate Referee (Needed to officiate U14)

Instructions for On-line class

To find the On-line Referee Class, go to http://www.aysotraining.org. You will need your eAYSO ID number and your last name to sign in. After signing-in, click on "Referee Training". This course will take 4-5 hours and be done in several sessions (does not have to be done at one sitting). Make sure to take the brief test at the end of the on-line class, and **print out your certification of completion**. Bring the certification to the "in person class," along with the Safe Haven certificate.

AYSO's Safe Haven training must also be completed. Please do so on-line BEFORE coming to the first class.

Safe Haven only needs to be taken once, and does not need to be repeated every year.

The certification is not complete until you attend the Regional On-line Companion Class, and pass the written test.

Referee Refresher

A Referee Refresher is held every year the weekend before practice games of the Fall Season. This is a meeting that all returning referees, U7-U19, must attend. We will be updating you on changes in the Laws of the Game, field locations, and general information regarding this year's season.

You do not need to sign up for it. Just come.

Please register as a volunteer in eAYSO. The website is http://eAYSO.org and you can sign the "esignature" now so you don't have to print out the form and bring it to the meeting.

It is also necessary to login to your <u>WebYouthSoccer</u> account and go to your referee main page. Please register as a returning volunteer in eAYSO. The website is http://eAYSO.org, just sign the "e-signature," so **you don't have to print out the form** and bring it to the meeting.

It is also necessary to **login to your WebYouthSoccer** account https://r45.webyouthsoccer.com/login.php

Log in, click on "Referee->Main Page", then click on "Register".
(1) Clear all referee "Do not schedule against" settings from prior years.

This operation can be done anytime between December 1 and the start of the new fall season referee.

(2) Initialize referee "Do not schedule against" settings for the new season

This will allow you to register for the season.

If you took Safe Have before July 2011, everyone now has to retake it as they have updated it. You can do it on-line, and it takes about 40 minutes.