



## USSF Grade 8 certification v USSF Grade 9 certification



Entry level referee classes allow candidates to become certified with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and create a wide variety of refereeing opportunities. There are two distinct USSF entry level grades; USSF Grade 8 & USSF Grade 9. Both entry level grades have no connection to 'school grades' (a common misconception). Candidates must complete one of the two classes in order to become USSF certified.

### USSF Grade 8

Consisting of 18 hours of instruction, the USSF Grade 8 qualification is the entry level grade for referees intending to referee 'competitive' USSF affiliated soccer matches. Additionally, the USSF Grade 8 qualification allows for referees to also officiate at the 'Recreational' level where games often only involve one center official.

OYSA hosts approximately 13 USSF Grade 8 classes per year either over the course of a 2-day weekend or spread out over four evenings during the week (a two hour on-field referee training will follow usually on a Saturday). USSF Grade 8 classes often fill very quickly with class sizes ranging between 25 and 35.

**USSF Grade 8 Class Costs:** \$35.00 plus USSF registration fee (payable upon successful completion of class) of \$40.00

### USSF Grade 9

The USSF grade 9 course consists of 8 hours of instruction. USSF Grade 9 certified referee's may only referee youth 'Recreational' soccer games up to the U14 age group and as an Assistant Referee on other youth games (U14 & below). OYSA hosts 2 – 3 USSF Grade 9 classes per year usually during the summer months.

**USSF Grade 9 Class Costs:** \$20.00 plus USSF registration fee (payable upon successful completion of class) of \$40.00

## Renewing USSF registration

Each referee is required to renew his/her membership with USSF each year in order to continue to referee for OYSA. Renewal forms are sent by USSF (based in Chicago) to the referee's home address each year.

USSF Referee renewal fees are listed below for each USSF Grade: