



Becoming a Referee: Questions and Answers



Q. How do I become a Referee?

A. By completing either an entry level USSF Grade 8 referee course or an entry level USSF Grade 9 referee course (please see the document, 'USSF Grade 8 v USSF Grade 9' for differences between the two grades as well as other course details).

Q. Is there an age limit to referee?

A. USSF (United States Soccer Federation) outlines no specific age restriction for a Grade 8 or Grade 9 referee. The Oregon Child Labor Law exempts youth referees from wage and hour provisions (ORS 653.362). OYSA enforces the cut off age for a minor requesting enrollment into a USSF referee course at 12 years old (It is preferable that participants are at least 14 years of age). In addition, most Referee Assignor's require a youth center referee to be at least two years older than the age group he/she is officiating.

Q. Where to register for a course?

A. Upcoming classes are listed on the front page of www.oregonyouthsoccer.org as well as on the Oregon Referee Committee website: www.oregonreferee.com.

Registration can be done online at oregonyouthsoccer.org or by calling the organization hosting the class.

Q. How much does it cost?

A. USSF Grade 8 Class Costs: \$35.00 (payable online when registering for class or payable by check on the first day of class) plus USSF registration fee (payable upon successful completion of class) of \$40.00.

USSF Grade 9 Class Costs: \$20.00 (payable online when registering for class or payable by check on the first day of class) plus USSF registration fee (payable upon successful completion of class) of \$40.00.

Q. Once I am USSF certified do I have to renew my USSF certification on a yearly basis?

A. Yes. All USSF certified referees must renew their membership with USSF annually to continue to referee USSF affiliated games. This involves paying a \$40.00 annual fee (for USSF Grade 8 & 9 referees) as well as completing the renewal paperwork which USSF send out (typically to your home address) from their headquarters in Chicago IL. Paperwork and fees should be sent to the Oregon Referee Committee for processing: *10940 SW Barnes Rd #158, Portland, OR 97225.*



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Q. How do I receive games to referee for OYSA after I complete a course?

A. All OYSA referee assigning is done on the www.oregonsoccercentral.com website. To be assigned games, please create an account on this website and request registration with the appropriate organization (OYSA-Portland Metro, OYSA-Mid Valley etc). For further step-by-step instructions on how to register with oregonsoccercentral.com, see the document, 'Register with OYSA'.

Q. Where can I buy referee uniforms and equipment?

A. The FarPost soccer supply store (NW Portland) P: 503-295-6875
<http://www.farpostsoccersupply.com/>.

Tursis Soccer (Beaverton) P: 503-297-2241: <http://www.tursissoccer.com/>.

Q. How much do I get paid as a referee for OYSA games?

A. Rates vary per event and per USSF grade. Generally a USSF certified Grade 8 referee would be paid \$35.00 as the center referee for OYSA games aged U12 through U14 and \$20.00 as Assistant Referee (linesperson).

For OYSA games aged U15 through U19, a USSF certified Grade 8 referee would be paid \$40.00 as center referee and \$20.00 as Assistant Referee.

For further OYSA pay details please see the 'OYSA Pay Table'.

Q. With a USSF referee certification am I qualified to referee High School soccer matches?

A. No. High School games require officials who have completed a High School specific referee course under the National Federation of High Schools (NFHS) rules (the NFHS does not follow FIFA/USSF laws of the game).