

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Grade 9 Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Grade 9 – Referee

The purpose of the Grade 9 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the small sided and recreational youth game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Minimum Certification Requirements	
Age	None
Previous Game Experience	None
Previous Grade Experience	None
Training	Complete the Grade 9 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 9 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None
Minimum Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the Grade 9 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 9 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None

Notes

- All requirements listed are minimums provided by U.S. Soccer
- Any additional requirements mandated by the State Referee Association must be made public
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Grade 8 Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Grade 8 – Referee

The purpose of the Grade 8 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the competitive youth game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Minimum Certification Requirements	
Age	None
Previous Game Experience	None
Previous Grade Experience	None
Training	Complete the Grade 8 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None
Minimum Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the Grade 8 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None

Notes

- All requirements listed are minimums provided by U.S. Soccer
- Any additional requirements mandated by the State Referee Association must be made public
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Grade 7 Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Grade 7 – Referee

The purpose of the Grade 7 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the amateur adult game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Minimum Certification Requirements	
Age	None
Previous Game Experience	None
Previous Grade Experience	None
Training	Complete the Grade 7 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 7 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None
Minimum Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the Grade 7 Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 7 Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None

Notes

- All requirements listed are minimums provided by U.S. Soccer
- Any additional requirements mandated by the State Referee Association must be made public
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association



Grade 6 – State Referee

The purpose of the State Referee Course is to prepare officials for the most competitive matches within their state and region. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Certification Requirements	
Age	Minimum of 18 years old
Previous Game Experience	Minimum of 100 games
Previous Grade Experience	Minimum of 1 year as a Grade 7 Referee
Training	Complete the State Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the State Referee Test
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 1 completed by 1 State Assessor
Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the State Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the State Referee Test
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 1 completed by 1 State Assessor

Notes

- Game experience must come from affiliated competitive youth and amateur adult games
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- Minimum of 1 passing assessment that meets the sufficient test criteria (from an affiliated adult division game with a minimum of 40 minute halves) completed by a State Assessor
- Officials can complete additional assessments beyond the minimum 1 required



Administration

Sprint Test

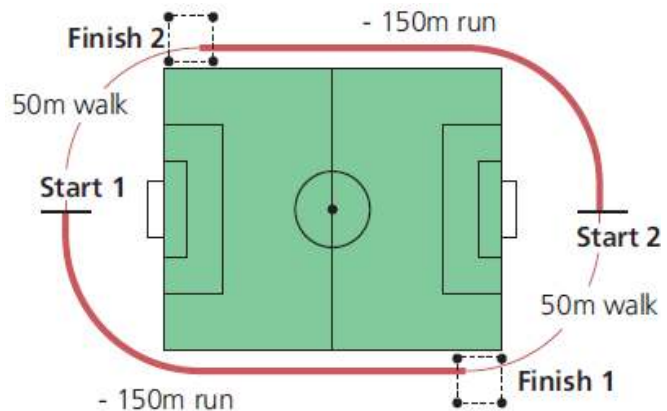
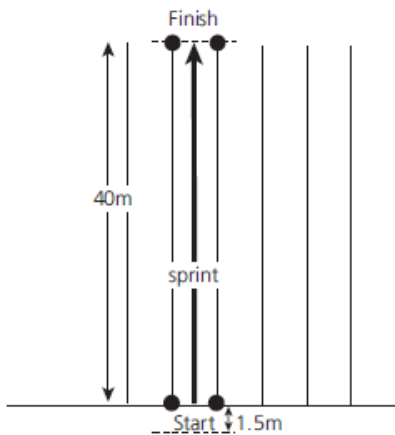
- Participants run six consecutive 40 meter sprints followed by a recovery period after each sprint (while walking back to the start line)
- Dynamic start with the front foot on a line that is 1.5 meters away from the electronic timing gates at the starting position
- If a participant falls or trips, they are allowed another attempt at that specific sprint
- If a participant fails one sprint out of the six, they are given one more attempt immediately after the sixth sprint
- If a participant fails two sprints, they fail the test

Interval Test

- Participants run a total of ten consecutive laps
- A lap consists of two 150 meter runs with two 50 meter recovery walks
 - Starts with running 150 meters in the prescribed time
 - Followed by walking 50 meters in the prescribed time
 - This process is repeated to complete one lap
- Walking area is marked by cones 3 meters on each side of the 150 meter marks
- If a participant fails to reach the walking area in the prescribed time, they are issued a warning
- If a participant fails to reach the walking area for a second time, they fail the test

Notes

- The time between the sprint test and interval test should be approximately 10 minutes



State Referee Standards

Sprint Test

- Maximum of 10 seconds per sprint

Interval Test

- Maximum of 45 seconds for the 150 meter run
- Maximum of 45 seconds for the 50 meter walk

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Grade 5 Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Grade 5 – State Referee

The purpose of the State Referee Course is to prepare officials for the most competitive matches within their state and region. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Certification Requirements	
Age	Minimum of 18 years old
Previous Game Experience	Minimum of 200 games
Previous Grade Experience	Minimum of 1 year as a Grade 6 Referee
Training	None
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the State Referee Test
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 2 completed by 2 State Assessors
Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the State Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the State Referee Test
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 2 completed by 2 State Assessors

Notes

- Game experience must come from affiliated competitive youth and amateur adult games
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- Minimum of 2 passing assessments that meet the sufficient test criteria (from affiliated games with a minimum of 40 minute halves) completed by two different State Assessors, and at least 1 of these assessments must be from an adult division game
- Officials can complete additional assessments beyond the minimum 2 required

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Emeritus Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Emeritus Referees

The purpose of the emeritus grades is to allow officials to retire from the game at the highest referee grade they attained. It may not be used to circumvent any registration, certification or recertification requirements mandated by U.S. Soccer or the State Referee Association.

To become an Emeritus Referee, the official must submit a personal letter of intent to the State Referee Administrator who will then initiate the appropriate paperwork. The official must have held the referee grade in question for a minimum of three years prior to the request. The three years do not have to be consecutive or immediately preceding the request for emeritus status.

For those Emeritus Referees looking to remain active, they must meet the established recertification requirements each year for the level they want to officiate at and adhere to all registration requirements for that grade.

An Emeritus Referee may become reinstated as a referee so long as they meet the established certification requirements and adhere to all registration requirements for that grade.

Referee Grade	Emeritus Referee Grade
6	16
5	15
4	14
3	13



Grade 8 – Futsal Referee

The purpose of the Grade 8 Futsal Referee Course is to prepare officials for amateur futsal competitions at the youth and adult levels. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

Minimum Certification Requirements	
Age	None
Previous Game Experience	None
Previous Grade Experience	None
Training	Complete the Grade 8 Futsal Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Futsal Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None
Minimum Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	Complete the Grade 8 Futsal Referee Course
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Futsal Referee Test
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None

Notes

- All requirements listed are minimums provided by U.S. Soccer
- Any additional requirements mandated by the State Referee Association must be made public
- All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- The minimum passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association

**U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program
Grade 8 Certification and Recertification Requirements
July 2013**



Grade 8 – Indoor Referee

Since there are no universal Laws of the Game for indoor soccer, there is no formal training provided by U.S. Soccer. Individuals looking to officiate affiliated indoor competition may register with the State Referee Association so long as they are currently registered and certified at any grade level as either a Referee or Futsal Referee. Based on this, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials adhere to the established local rules of competition to best service the game.

Certification Requirements	
Age	None
Previous Game Experience	None
Previous Grade Experience	None
Training	None
Laws of the Game Test	None
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None
Annual Recertification Requirements	
In-Service Training	None
Laws of the Game Test	None
Fitness Test	None
Practical Evaluation	None