



Referee Program Changes: Questions and Answers

Question: Will the recent changes require referees to jump through more hoops to get a badge?

Answer: The recent changes are all designed to simplify the process and encourage more referees to get additional training. Training can now be made available in smaller time commitments (modules). Referee training can now be done during evening, half day or full day training sessions at the choice of the local regions, areas and/or sections. Training can be completed all at once or over an extended period.

Question: Have the time commitments for training been increased?

Answer: The time commitment to complete training has been reduced through elimination of redundant material between courses and by consolidating some closely related material. The National 2 level has been merged with National 1 into a single National certification for our highest level referees.

Question: Does the change in names mean I will lose my current certification level?

Answer: Current certification levels are unaffected by the change in nomenclature. Referee = U-8 Official, Assistant Referee = Assistant Referee, Regional Referee = Regional Referee, Area Referee = Intermediate Referee, Section Referee = Advanced Referee, National 2 Referee is eliminated, National 1 Referee = National Referee.

Question: I am currently a Section Referee. Do I continue to work on my National 2 certification or should I work on the new National requirements?

Answer: Current Section Referees have until January 1, 2005 to complete the requirements for upgrade to N2 and then have until January 1, 2006 to complete the special transition requirements available to the current N2 referees for upgrade to National Referee or they may immediately begin working on the new requirements for upgrade to National Referee.

Question: I am currently a National 2 Referee. Do I continue to work on my National 1 certification or should I work on the new National requirements?

Answer: Current National 2 Referees have until January 1, 2005 to complete the special transition requirements for upgrade to National Referee. After January 1, 2005 you will need to complete all the new National Referee upgrade requirements.

Question: What are the "special transition requirements" for N2 referees to upgrade to the new National Level?

Answer: Basically the requirements are the same as they are currently except that one less assessment is required during this transition period. N2 referees need not repeat



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any requirements already fulfilled. The following are the special transition requirements for upgrade from N2 to National Referee:

- Complete the N1 course or the new National Course
- Pass the N1 exam or the new National Referee Exam
- Pass the N1 physical or the revised National Referee Physical
- Complete 100 total matches with at least 30 in U-16 and U-19 matches. At least 15 of these 30 matches must be in U-19 (If U-19 matches are not available, U-16 matches may be substituted). Game count may include non-AYSO matches.
- Complete 25 total matches as Assistant Referee with at least 10 in U-19 (If U-19 matches are not available, U-16 matches may be substituted). Game count may include non-AYSO matches.
- Pass an assessment as the Referee in **ONE** U-19 match (If U-19 matches are not available, a U-16 match may be substituted where the assessor will apply the standards currently used for a U-19 match).

Question: Will AYSO provide new badges for all referees and what will they look like and when will they be available?

Answer: AYSO will not be supplying new badges for all referees. Referees may continue to wear the badges they currently have and will be able to purchase the new badges from the AYSO Supply Center. We encourage regions to buy the new badges for all their referees. The new badges are being designed and will be available in 6 –8 weeks.

Question: When will the new lesson plans for the modular courses and new Application for Referee Certification (Upgrade Forms) be available?

Answer: The new modular lesson plans and a revised Application for Referee Certification are being formatted at this time. They will be available on the AYSOhelp.org web site as soon as this is completed.