

Observing the Section Referee Candidate

Recognize the candidate is being critiqued on their ability to successfully perform as referees and assistant referees in a TYPICAL U-14 **AYSO** game. The assessment should focus mainly on the candidate's basic understanding of the "technical" aspects of refereeing and general understanding of the Laws of the Game and the Diagonal System of Control.

Appearance

- The Section candidate should arrive at the game properly attired and have the required equipment.

Pre-game

Section referee candidates should:

- arrive at the game at least 20 minutes before it starts, be properly equipped, and be read to walk onto the field.
- administer the field, players and field equipment inspection, and require correction or markings of unsafe conditions before the game is allowed to begin.
- provide general, but acceptable pre-game instructions to their assistant referees that include positional and signaling on restarts, offside and goals.
- provide acceptable mechanics during the coin toss, leadership in acquiring game cards and game ball.
- properly position themselves for the kickoff, and verify proper position of players and assistant referees for kickoff.

Fitness

In general, the candidates are expected to:

- keep within 15 – 20 yards of play
- generally travel the diagonal, demonstrate their ability to penetrate the extremes of the field when required
- sprint as required
- demonstrate their ability to anticipate play by positioning themselves in advance of play

Attitude

Candidates:

- must practice the "**AYSO** Team" philosophy at all times
- should be friendly and accommodating to fellow referees, players and coaches including introducing assistant referees to team captains during the coin toss
- must demonstrate confidence and be perceived by players and coaches as being confident
- must control the game at all times

Courage, Character and Consistency

Candidates must:

- demonstrate their willingness to call fouls equally for both teams when they occur
- be capable of recognizing and dealing firmly with any challenges to their authority on or off the field, and interference from the sidelines

Positioning, Mechanics and Signals

Candidates must:

- demonstrate their knowledge of the operation of the diagonal system of control, and when it is appropriate, their ability to deviate from the diagonal to follow play
- position themselves correctly in advance of restarts
- consistently orient themselves in a manner that maximizes their eye contact with their assistant referees
- indicate their awareness of proper restart signals and show a measure of professionalism while executing them
- use the whistle in a manner that reflects the seriousness of the call

Accuracy of Decision

Candidates must:

- recognizes and whistles less obvious as obvious fouls
- has no difficulty distinguishing between penal and non-penal fouls
- distinguishes between offside position and offside participation
- applies the proper penalties and restarts
- demonstrates the use of advantage

Control

The candidate should demonstrate full control of the game at all times by:

- starting and stopping the game on time
- stopping and starting second half on time
- controlling substitutions
- handling injuries
- being aware of the readiness of players and the assistant referees
- provide sufficient whistle signal level so that players are aware the referee has made a call

Conclusion

To satisfy the field certification requirements at the section level while refereeing a TYPICAL **AYSO** U14 game, the candidate must be mostly successful in demonstrating their:

- knowledge of the Laws
- proper application of the Laws
- the mechanics of the diagonal system of control
- proper positioning for restarts