

Procedure 1.0 - GENERAL REGULATIONS

1.1 Referee's Uniform

- a) All Match Officials in Competitions under the jurisdiction of The Association and Provincial Associations must wear uniforms comprising plain black shirts and black shorts. Socks shall be black. Adidas grey is considered black. Referees may only wear an alternative colour uniform when there is a clash between the uniform shirts of the outfield players of one of the teams and the referee's first choice colour. The preferred alternative second choice colour is yellow, the third red. This may be reviewed by The Canadian Soccer Association from time to time. Yellow or red shirts should have a black collar where one is fitted.
- b) Match Officials are required to wear the current FIFA or the appropriate Canadian Soccer Association badge which must be worn on the left breast pocket. No other competition or association badge may be worn.
- c) No advertising of any nature, save as set out below, is permitted on Match Officials' clothing without the consent of The Ontario Soccer Association in accordance with the Canadian Soccer Association

The following advertising is permitted:

- The mark, logo or name of a clothing manufacturer or a combination of the same, may appear:
 - Once only on the shirt provided that it is an area no greater than 20 square centimeters
 - Once only on the shorts provided that in an area no greater than 20 square centimeters
 - Incorporated into the design of the socks, but must be limited to an area no greater than 12 square centimeters.
- d) The use of jacquards shall be allowed providing each is limited to 20 square centimeters, with unlimited repeats being acceptable. The design of such jacquards may be the manufacturers mark, logo or name. The jacquard shading shall be restricted to two shades differing from the base colour, using the standard Pantone reference manual.
 - e) Sponsor advertising in accordance with FIFA regulations is permitted only on the shirt sleeves and the total surface area of the advertising shall not exceed 200cm². Any sponsorship contract must be made between the sponsor and The Canadian Soccer Association. Individual Associations or Leagues are not permitted to enter into sponsorship contracts for referee uniforms.

1.2 OSA Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Referees

Before being appointed, an official should disclose any personal interests that could be linked with her/his prospective function. While fulfilling her/his task, an official shall avoid any situation that could lead to conflicts of interest. Conflicts of interest arise if an official has, or appears to have, private or personal interests that detract from her/his ability to carry out the obligations as an official with integrity in an independent and purposeful manner. Private or personal interests include gaining any possible advantage for her/himself, her/his family, relatives, friends and acquaintances.

The following is a guideline (but is not limited to) for which games you should not officiate due to a possible perceived conflict.

- If you are a player, coach or team official (including assistant coaches, managers, trainers, etc.) in a particular league and division - you should not officiate in that division of that league;
- If you have an immediate family member (spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, parent) who is mentioned in 1) above, you should not officiate in that division of that league or
- If you are a board member or on the executive of a particular club you should not referee in a game when a team from your club is playing a team from another club.

Procedure 3.0 - REFEREE CLASSIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS

Related Topics:

- 3.1 Referee Classifications are as follows:
 - FIFA Referee (Men); (Women)
 - Assistant Referee (Men); (Women)
 - CSA National Referee (Men); (Women)
 - National Nominated Referee (Men); (Women)
 - OSA Provincial Referees
 - Regional Referees
 - District Referees
 - Youth Referees (14 & 15 years old as of April 1 of the current registration year)
 - Mini Referees (12 & 13 years old as of April 1 of the current registration year)
- 3.2 A referee must be a minimum of 12 years of age as of April 1st of the current year in order to be eligible to register as a Mini Referee. A referee must be a minimum 14 years of age as of April 1st of the current year in order to register as a Youth referee or higher.
- 3.3 To maintain standing as a Mini Referee, a referee must:
 - a) be 12 or 13 years only as of April 1st of the current year
 - b) attend the Mini Referee Certification course annually (maximum 2 years)
- 3.4 To be eligible for consideration for promotion to a Youth Referee, the Mini referee must:
 - a) be 14 years old as of April 1st of the current year
 - b) attend the Entry Level Referee course when the appropriate age
 - c) be in good standing;
 - d) If the referee passes the Entry Level Examination at the course that referee will be eligible to referee as per the appointment chart see operational procedure 4.0. If the referee fails the Entry Level Examination, that referee will only be eligible to referee youth houseleague with the other age restrictions still in effect. A referee may re-take the examination a minimum 28 days after writing the original exam and only may re-write the exam once in a season. Failing to pass the referee may retake the course the following season.
- 3.5 To maintain standing as a Youth Referee, a Referee must:
 - a) actively officiate within The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - b) adhere to all Published Rules of The Ontario Soccer Association and be in good standing;
 - c) remain current by attending education programming, as determined by The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - d) maintain registration each year & pay the annual fees as published by The Ontario Soccer Association;
- 3.6 A Youth Referee will be promoted to a District Referee on the day of the Youth Referee's 16th Birthday
- 3.7 To maintain standing as a District Referee, a Referee must:
 - a) actively officiate within The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - b) adhere to all Published Rules of The Ontario Soccer Association and be in good standing;
 - c) remain current by attending education programming, as determined by The Ontario Soccer Association;

- d) maintain registration each year & pay the annual fees as published by The Ontario Soccer Association;
- 3.8 To be eligible for consideration for promotion to a Regional Referee, a District Referee must complete the criteria below in the order listed.
- a) Run and pass the Regional Referee Fitness standard in a supervised OSA Fitness Test
 - b) complete application form and submit application form and clinic fee to The Ontario Soccer Association by the established deadline, included in application is get DRC's recommendation to attend upgrading program
 - c) attend the Regional Referee upgrading course and pass the Regional Referee Examination;
 - d) A referee must be assessed on a minimum of 3 assessable games. These assessments must be done over a period of 20 qualifying games in one season. In addition the referee must act as an Assistant Referee in a minimum of 5 games. (Details on assessable games are outlined on the OSA website). Candidates may be required to complete additional assessments above the minimum to show proficiency of performance at the required level. An extension beyond the one year 20 qualifying games limit may be granted in writing by the Manager of Referee Development and each case will be reviewed on a case by case basis. (moved from "e")
 - e) At the end of the season upon the request of the Manager of Referee Development the referee must submit a game log of all games worked in the season
- 3.9 To maintain standing as a Regional Referee, a Referee must:
- a) actively officiate within The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - b) adhere to all Published Rules of the Ontario Soccer Association and be in good standing;
 - c) remain current by attending education programming as determined by The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - d) maintain registration each year & pay the annual fees as published by the Ontario Soccer Association;
 - f) complete a minimum of one formal maintenance assessment per year as per the assessable game chart
 - g) fulfill the fitness test requirement for Regional Referees as required in these Operational Procedures
- 3.10 To be eligible for consideration from promotion to a Provincial Referee, a Regional Referee must complete the criteria below in the order listed.
- a) Run and pass the Provincial Referee Fitness standard in a supervised OSA Fitness Test
 - b) complete application form and submit application form and clinic fee to The Ontario Soccer Association by the established deadline, included in application is get DRC's recommendation to attend upgrading program
 - c) attend the Provincial Referee upgrading course and pass the Provincial Examination;
 - d) A referee must be assessed on a minimum of 3 assessable games. These assessments must be done over a period of 20 qualifying games in one season. In addition the referee must act as an Assistant Referee in a minimum of 5 games. (Details on assessable games are outlined on the OSA website). Candidates may be required to complete additional assessments above the minimum to show proficiency of performance at the required level. An extension beyond the one year 20 qualifying games limit may be granted in writing by the Manager of Referee Development and each case will be reviewed on a case by case basis. (moved from "e")
 - e) At the end of the season upon the request of the Manager of Referee Development the referee must submit a game log of all games worked in the season
- 3.11 To maintain standing as a Provincial Referee, a Referee must:
- a) actively officiate within The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - b) adhere to all Published Rules of the Ontario Soccer Association and be in good standing;
 - c) remain current by attending education programming as determined by The Ontario Soccer Association;
 - d) maintain registration each year & pay the annual fees as published by the Ontario Soccer Association;
 - e) complete a minimum of one formal maintenance assessment per year as per the assessable game chart
 - f) fulfill the fitness test requirement for a Provincial Referees as required in these Operational Procedures
- 3.12 To be considered for to the CSA National List of Referees, a Provincial Referee must have:

- a) Registered as a Provincial Referee for 2 seasons
- b) Officiated, in the previous season, in a minimum of 20 qualification games as referee plus a minimum of 5 qualification games as an assistant referee in outdoor 11-a-side matches involving men's teams over the age of 16 years.
- c) A minimum of 5 assessments of which 2 must be as an assistant referee within the 12 months prior to nomination. Assessments must have been carried out by a CSA accredited Provincial Assessor or an Assessor on the National List (see below).
- d) Successfully completed the FIFA Men's fitness test to the National standard for referees by August 31 of the year of nomination.

Note: *Qualifying Games - A match that may be counted towards promotion for a registered referee. Irrespective of the number of games officiated on the same day in Tournaments or other Competitions, only one match per day may be recorded as a qualifying game.

The following information must be made available to the CSA on or before 1 July each year:

Details of the nominated referees;

- A resume of each Referee's career, to date of nomination, together with a supporting recommendation from the Provincial RDC Copies of the assessments as detailed in the criteria above
- Confirmation that the minimum number of qualifying games has been achieved and that the Referee has passed the FIFA fitness test to the Men's national standard during August the year of nomination from the Provincial RDC.
- Confirmation of the availability of the nominated official to attend the u18 Club National Championships the year of nomination if selected by the CSA Referees Committee

Upon receipt of the nominations the CSA Referees Committee will consider the recommendations of the Provincial Associations and those match officials selected to attend the Club National Championships will be advised, in writing, of their selection.

Match Officials not selected for the Club National championships will be advised of their non-selection and also that, in view of the non selection, they will not be considered for promotion to the National List of Officials for the following year.

Those officials invited to the Club National Championships will be assessed as both an assistant referee and a referee, and they will also be observed by members of the CSA Referees Committee.

Invitations to join the National List of Match Officials will be made to those officials deemed suitable and capable of officiating at the highest level. They will then have to meet the criteria for National List Match Officials, as detailed by the CSA Referees Committee, before being confirmed on the list for the following year.

3.13 Fitness Test Policies

3.13.1 FIFA & National referees & assistant referees, shall meet the requirements of The Canadian Soccer Association (CSA).

3.13.2 The Fitness Test for male referees is:

		Provincial	Regional
a)	50 metre sprint	7.5 seconds	8.5 seconds
b)	200 metre sprint	32.0 seconds	37.0 seconds
c)	50 metre sprint	7.5 seconds	8.5 seconds
d)	200 metre sprint	32.0 seconds	37.0 seconds
e)	12 minute run	2700 metres	2,200 metres

(The style of running is optional - walking is prohibited.)

The test is to be performed in the order listed above. Each participant should have an appropriate warm up period prior to starting the test. It is recommended that there be a rest period of 15 minutes before the twelve minute run. Time allowed for completion of the test is two hours.

3.13.3 The Fitness Test for female referees is:

		Provincial	Regional
a)	50 metre sprint	9.0 seconds	10.5 seconds
b)	200 metre sprint	40.0 seconds	46.0 seconds
c)	50 metre sprint	9.0 seconds	10.5 seconds
d)	200 metre sprint	40.0 seconds	46.0 seconds
e)	12 minute run	2400 metres	2100 metres

(The style of running is optional - walking is prohibited.)

The test is to be performed in the order listed above. Each participant should have an appropriate warm up period prior to starting the test. It is recommended that there be a rest period of 15 minutes before the twelve minute run. Time allowed for completion of the test is two hours.

3.13.4 A female referee wishing to pursue her career development via the Women's game, may do so by meeting fitness test criteria for female referees at the Provincial level. A female referee wishing to referee at the Senior Men's level (as specified in the Pyramid of Refereeing, is required to pass the Provincial fitness test for male referees. see Operation Procedures Section 7.0 Procedure 4.0

3.14 The organizing of fitness tests is the responsibility of The Ontario Soccer Association, but may be delegated to a designee of the District Association such as the District Referee Coordinator (DRC)

3.15 Any referee who is required by these published rules to complete a fitness test and fails to pass or does not attend the appropriate fitness test for their classification by May 31st each year shall be downgraded, effective immediately to a District referee. A Provincial referee who fails the Provincial referee standard, however passes the Regional Referee standard will be downgraded to Regional Referee not a District referee. Immediate reinstatement may also take place for referees who subsequently re-take their supervised fitness test by June 30th of that year. Only those referees who have received special permission from the Manager of Referee Development or have submitted a doctors note by May 31st, may run their fitness test in June. If special permission or a doctor's note is not received by May 31st, a referee will not be eligible to run the fitness test and will be downgraded accordingly. Referees who have received permission to run the fitness test in June and who have not passed their supervised fitness test by June 30th will remain downgraded as a District referee until such time that the referee passes a supervised fitness test. Additional tests may only be run after June 30th for those referees looking for reinstatement who have a valid reason for missing the original fitness test deadline. Each request for a test must be made by the referee to his/her DRC in writing and then the DRC is to make a request in writing to the Manager of Referee Development and each case will be reviewed on it's own merit. No one is guaranteed to be able to run a test after the June 30th deadline.

Note: This policy will also effect those referees who are injured and have submitted a doctors note and any referee who is serving a long term suspension from all soccer related activities and unable to run a fitness test due to the suspension.

3.16 A referee will have one year to be reinstated upon being downgraded. If the referee fails to successfully complete a fitness test to obtain reinstatement within one year the referee will remain downgraded. For special circumstances, a referee may request an extension to this policy in writing to the Manager of Referee Development and each case will be reviewed on it's own merit by the Referee Development Committee.

3.17 Medical Certificates

If a referee is unable to participate in the fitness test(s) by virtue of illness or injury, a medical certificate signed by the referee's physician shall be submitted to The Ontario Soccer Association in support of such a claim, prior to May 31st of the current year. Should a referee need to re-take a supervised fitness test prior to June 30th of the current year, and be further subject to illness or injury, said medical certificate shall likewise be submitted to The Association prior to June 30th. Referees suffering from prolonged injury or illness shall submit additional medical certificates in support of their medical condition. In such cases, the Referee Development Committee shall review each case on its own merits and make such recommendations as deemed appropriate.

Applications for reinstatement of classification which are related to medical conditions (i.e., inability to pass the required supervised fitness test by the deadline/s outlined in this policy) should be forwarded to the Manager of Referee Development for consideration, accompanied by a full explanation to substantiate any extenuating circumstances.

- 3.18 FIFA Referees and FIFA Assistant Referees, and National Referees shall have their fitness tests supervised by a National Instructor or a National Assessor. All other referees shall have their fitness test supervised by a designee appointed by the OSA Referee Development Committee.
- 3.19 From time to time, The Ontario Soccer Association may require a referee to attend and pass additional fitness tests for special competitions as deemed necessary.

Procedure 4.0 - APPOINTMENTS

4.1 Games to which a referee is eligible to be appointed by a league and what appointments a referee can accept

Division Level	League Name and Age Divisions	Minimum Referee Classification	Minimum A/R Classification	Minimum 4th Official Classification
Senior Provincial	Canadian S.L.	Provincial Referee (M)	Regional Referee	Regional Referee
	Premier Development League (USL)	Provincial Referee (M)	Regional Referee	Regional Referee
	W-League (USL)	Provincial Referee (W)	Regional Referee	Regional Referee
	Ontario S.L (Open Division)	Upgrading Regional Referee	Upgrading District Referee	N/A
	Ontario S.L (u21 Division)	Regional Referee	Upgrading District Referee	N/A
	Ontario Women's S.L (Open Division & u21 Division)	Regional Referee	Upgrading District Referee	N/A
	Super-20 League (USL)	Regional Referee	Upgrading District Referee	N/A
School Games	OUA & OCAA Men's Divisions	Provincial Referee (M)	Regional Referee	N/A
	OUA & OCAA Women's Divisions	Upgrading Regional Referee	Regional Referee	N/A
Senior Regional	Ontario S.L & Ontario Women's S.L (Open Divisions)	Regional Referee	District Association Designated District Referee	N/A
	Ontario S.L & Ontario Women's S.L (u21 Divisions)	Upgrading District Referee	District Association Designated District Referee	N/A
Youth Level 1 & 2	Super Y League (u16 to u18 divisions)	Upgrading District Referee	District Referee	N/A
	Super Y League (u13 to u15 divisions)	Upgrading District Referee	District Association Designated Youth Referee	N/A
	Ontario Youth S.L. (u16 to u18 divisions)	District Association Designated District Referee	District Referee	N/A
	Ontario Youth S.L. (u14 & u15 divisions)	District Association Designated District Referee	District Association Designated Youth Referee	N/A

Division Level	Age Level	Minimum Referee Classification	Minimum A/R Classification	Minimum 4th Official Classification
Senior MJ District & Senior District	Senior Open	District Association Designated District Referee	District Association Designated District Referee	N/A
Youth Level 3	Under-16, 17 & 18 Divisions	District Association Designated District	District Referee	N/A

		Referee		
	Under-12, 13, 14 & 15 Divisions	District Association Designated Youth Referee	Youth Referee	N/A
Youth Level 4	Under-16, 17 & 18 Divisions	District Association Designated District Referee	District Referee	N/A
	Under-11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 Divisions	District Association Designated Youth Referee	Youth Referee	N/A
Youth Level 5	Under-16, 17 & 18 Divisions	District Association Designated District Referee	District Referee	N/A
	Under-11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 Divisions	Youth Referee	Youth Referee	N/A
	Under-10, 11 & 12 Mini Soccer Divisions	Mini Soccer Referee	N/A	N/A
Senior Recreational	-	District Referee	District Referee	N/A
Youth Level 6 & 7	Under-16, 17 & 18 Divisions	District Referee	District Referee	N/A
	Under-11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 Divisions	Youth Referee	Youth Referee	N/A
	Under-4 to Under-12 Mini Soccer Divisions	Mini Soccer Referee	N/A	N/A

The definitions related to this policy are:

District Association Designated Youth Referee a referee identified by the District Association as a capable and fit Youth Referee who may receive appointments in selected higher level competitions each year and the number of game appointments which are available.

District Association Designated District Referee a referee identified by the District Association as a capable and fit District Referee who may receive appointments in selected higher level competitions each year and the number of game appointments which are available.

**Upgrading District Referee a referee who has completed all the specified requirements in Operational Policy 3.0 to be included in the Regional Upgrading Program toward becoming a Regional Referee.

***Upgrading Class 2 Referee a referee who has completed all the specified requirements in Operational Policy 3.0 to be included in the Provincial Upgrading Program toward becoming a Provincial Referee.

A league, with delegated referee appointment responsibilities, which fails to follow the referee appointments classification table shall be subject to discipline under OSA Misconduct Type 6.66

A Provincial Referee (M) is any Provincial Referee (male or female) that has successfully passed the Men's Provincial Referee Fitness Test Standards.

A Provincial Referee (F) is any Provincial Referee (female only) that has successfully passed the Women's Provincial Referee Fitness Test Standards.

4.2 A Mini, Youth and District Referee (under 18 years old) may only take part in games in which the team age classification of the teams involved in the game are a minimum 2 years younger than the official.
A first year Youth or District referee may not be appointed as a Referee to a game involving Competitive teams but may be appointed as an assistant referee.

4.3 In addition to the above chart, a District Association or League may impose additional requirements that a referee must meet in order to be able to referee in the league, on condition that these rules are published by the League and or District Association.

These additional requirements must be approved by the OSA Referee Development Committee by March 1st each season before a League and or District Association may impose these additional requirements. These additional requirements may only be imposed on District and/or Youth referees.

4.4 The Appointment Precedent Chart is as follows set by the Canadian Soccer Association:

- 1) International Appointments
- 2) International Representative matches appointed by The Association;
- 3) The MLS;
- 4) The USL;
- 5) National Championships;
- 6) PDL and W-League
- 7) Senior Provincial League Competitions or equivalent;
- 8) Provincial Association Cup Competitions
Note Semi-final and Final ties in all Provincial Competitions will take precedence over PDL, W League, and Senior Provincial League Competitions or equivalent.
- 9) University and College Soccer Leagues ;
- 10) All other Competitions of The Canadian Soccer Association.
- 11) Youth Provincial Soccer
- 12) Regional Soccer
- 13) District Soccer

Related Topics: