

The AYSO Referee Instructor Program

Referee Instructors play a crucial role in the development of referees and the overall success of AYSO. This is particularly true for instructors who teach basic entry level referee courses. This is where new volunteers first develop an understanding of the most important and fundamental aspects of refereeing AYSO soccer. Instructors must ensure that AYSO philosophy, policies, programs, plus child and volunteer protection issues are explained. AYSO instructors must instill in the minds of the referees they instruct the importance of understanding and applying the spirit of the Laws and the significant role they each play to ensure that, "In AYSO, it's about more than the game"!

Having qualified local instructors is important because they give the region the flexibility to train new volunteers at a time and place most convenient for the local referees. The AYSO Referee Instructor Program offers opportunities for volunteers to become trained and certified as instructors at four levels: Basic, Intermediate, Advanced and National. The AYSO Referee Instructor Program also provides standardized curriculum and teaching plans for all training courses which enables consistency across AYSO for referee training.

The AYSO Referee Instructor Program consists of three components:

1. Unified Instructor Program (UIP) component - Basic, Intermediate and Advanced instructor training courses in all disciplines which emphasizes common instructional skills and strategies that are applicable to all disciplines.
2. Referee Discipline Specific Training component – Basic, Intermediate and Advanced training courses which cover the referee specific knowledge needed to instruct at each level.
3. Student Teaching component – Practice teaching either during the instructor course or following the course in real course situations with evaluation and mentoring by experienced instructor evaluators.

Specifics:

- The UIP portion of the program involves adult learning principles which recognize the life experiences and real needs that adult learners bring to the classroom.
- AYSO basics are incorporated as a key element for instructors to better promote AYSO's philosophies and policies with consistency in their instruction.
- The referee discipline specific training emphasizes progressive specific discipline knowledge at each level and provides options for presenting the discipline specific material.
- Student teaching is done either during the instructor course or following the course in actual referee training courses. Trained evaluators will observe and give important feedback.

- Optional continuing education training opportunities are available to supplement core training.

AYSO Referee Instructor Criteria

Basic Referee Instructor

1. Completed AYSO Basic Unified Instructor Program (UIP) component (2 ½ hours)
2. Must be at least an Intermediate Referee
3. Completed Basic Referee Instructor Course (6 ½ hours)
4. Passed Basic Referee Instructor Examination
5. Passed Basic Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 1 through 7 with a qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 8 through 13 preferably with a different qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator

Intermediate Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Basic Referee Instructor
2. Should be at least an Advanced Referee
3. Completed Intermediate Unified Instructor Program (UIP) component (2 ½ hours)
4. Completed Intermediate Referee Instructor Course (5 hours)
5. Passed Intermediate Referee Instructor Examination
6. Passed Intermediate Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 8 through 19 with a qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 15 through 19 preferably with a different qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator
 - c. One of the above evaluations should be as lead instructor in the U8 or Basic Referee Course

Advanced Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Intermediate Referee Instructor
2. Must be at least an Advanced Referee
3. Completed AYSO Advanced Unified Instructor Program component (3 ¾ hours)
4. Completed Advanced Referee Instructor Course (4 ½ hours)
5. Passed Advanced Referee Instructor Examination
6. Passed Advanced Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 14 through 24 with a qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of different referee modules 20 through 24 with a different qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator
 - c. One of the above evaluations should be as lead instructor in the Intermediate Referee Course

National Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Advanced Referee Instructor
2. Fully qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator
3. Should be National Referee
4. Pass the National Referee Instructor exam with citations
5. Teach substantially all of the lessons in the National Referee Course
6. Be evaluated and recommended for approval by National Referee Lead Instructor(s)
7. Approved by the National Director of Referee Instruction or National Referee Administrator

AYSO
Referee Instructor Evaluator
Criteria

Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Must be at least an Intermediate Referee Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course (5 ½ hours)
3. Must be an AYSO registered volunteer and be recommended by Region or Area Referee Staff

Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Should be at least an Advanced Referee Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
3. Must have performed at least 3 Basic/Intermediate Referee instructor evaluations
4. Must be an AYSO registered volunteer and be recommended by Section or National Referee staff
5. Successfully completed Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator Course (3 hours)

National Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Must be a National Referee Lead Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
3. Successfully completed Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
4. Must be recommended by a National Referee Course lead instructor or Member of the National Referee staff
5. Must be approved for upgrade by National Director of Referee Instruction or National Referee Administrator

Unified Instructor Program (UIP) Enhancement Plan – Executive Summary

Goal:

Enhance the AYSO Unified Instructor Program (UIP) ensuring that the selection, training and certification of instructors efficiently and appropriately produces more quality instructors to address the training needs of AYSO volunteers.

Background:

For the past year the referee, coach, management and instructor disciplines have worked together to evaluate the current UIP. This evaluation identified enhancements that strengthen the program to better meet the needs of AYSO volunteers. A detailed plan is being finalized and will be available soon. The referee enhancements are virtually complete. The management, coach and UIP portions are being finalized and should be completed by January 2005.

Three Part Structure:

1. UIP Elements (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced) – Emphasize common instructional skills and strategies that are applicable to all disciplines. The level of sophistication of techniques will progress with each course.
2. Discipline Specific Training - Individual coach, referee and management instructor training courses which ensure thorough knowledge of discipline-specific content.
3. Student Teaching – Practice teaching in real course situations with evaluation and mentoring by experienced instructors to facilitate quality of instruction.

Specifics:

- The UIP portion of the program has been strengthened by adding adult learning principles which recognize the life experiences and real needs that adult learners bring to the classroom.
- AYSO basics have been incorporated as a key element for instructors to better promote AYSO's philosophies and policies with consistency in their instruction.
- The discipline specific training has been bolstered by emphasizing progressive specific discipline knowledge at each level and providing options for presenting the discipline specific material.
- Student "presentations" will now be Student Teaching, done in actual courses or in settings conducive to the discipline or the course subject matter. Trained evaluators will observe and give important feedback.
- The time commitment required for UIP instructor certification has been adjusted to focus on critical instruction elements. Optional continuing education training opportunities will be created to supplement core training.

- These enhancements are targeted to begin with courses commencing in January 2005. Current instructor certifications will be retained by current instructors with all teaching rights and privileges previously attained. All instructors will be encouraged to seek continuing education opportunities.



AYSO Referee Instructor Criteria

Basic Referee Instructor

1. Completed AYSO Basic Unified Instructor Program (UIP) component (2 ½ hours)
2. Must be at least an Intermediate Referee
3. Completed Basic Referee Instructor Course (6 ½ hours)
4. Passed Basic Referee Instructor Examination
5. Passed Basic Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 1 through 7 with a qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 8 through 13 preferably with a different qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator

Intermediate Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Basic Referee Instructor
2. Should be at least an Advanced Referee
3. Completed Intermediate Unified Instructor Program (UIP) component (2 ½ hours)
4. Completed Intermediate Referee Instructor Course (5 hours)
5. Passed Intermediate Referee Instructor Examination
6. Passed Intermediate Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 8 through 19 with a qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 15 through 19 preferably with a different qualified Referee Instructor Evaluator
 - c. One of the above evaluations should be as lead instructor in the U8 or Basic Referee Course

Advanced Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Intermediate Referee Instructor
2. Must be at least an Advanced Referee
3. Completed AYSO Advanced Unified Instructor Program component (3 ¾ hours)
4. Completed Advanced Referee Instructor Course (4 ½ hours)
5. Passed Advanced Referee Instructor Examination
6. Passed Advanced Referee Instructor evaluations
 - a. As instructor in at least one hour of referee modules 14 through 24 with a qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator, **and**
 - b. As instructor in at least one hour of different referee modules 20 through 24 with a different qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator
 - c. One of the above evaluations should be as lead instructor in the Intermediate Referee Course

National Referee Instructor

1. Fully qualified Advanced Referee Instructor
2. Fully qualified Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator
3. Should be National Referee
4. Pass the National Referee Instructor exam with citations
5. Teach substantially all of the lessons in the National Referee Course
6. Be evaluated and recommended for approval by National Referee Lead Instructor(s)
7. Approved by the National Director of Referee Instruction or National Referee Administrator



AYSO Referee Instructor Evaluator Criteria

Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Must be at least an Intermediate Referee Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course (5 ½ hours)
3. Must be an AYSO registered volunteer and be recommended by Region or Area Referee Staff

Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Should be at least an Advanced Referee Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
3. Must have performed at least 3 Basic/Intermediate Referee instructor evaluations
4. Must be an AYSO registered volunteer and be recommended by Section or National Referee staff
5. Successfully completed Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator Course (3 hours)

National Referee Instructor Evaluator

1. Must be a National Referee Lead Instructor
2. Successfully completed Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
3. Successfully completed Advanced Referee Instructor Evaluator Course
4. Must be recommended by a National Referee Course lead instructor or Member of the National Referee staff
5. Must be approved for upgrade by National Director of Referee Instruction or National Referee Administrator