

National Referee Candidate Assessment Criteria

The observation should focus mainly on the candidate's understanding of the professional aspects of refereeing, the application of the Laws of the Game and the intent of the Spirit of the Game and the intelligent use of the Diagonal System of Control

Appearance

National candidate shall arrive at the match properly attired and have the required equipment

Pre-game

Candidates should:

- Arrive at the match at least 30 minutes before its scheduled start time, be properly equipped and be ready to walk onto the field
- Administer the field, players and field equipment inspections, and require correction or marking of unsafe conditions before the match is allowed to begin
- Exhibit leadership in acquiring game cards and game ball
- Provide acceptable pre-game instructions to their assistant referees
- Show acceptable techniques during the coin toss
- Verify proper position of players and assistant referees for the kick-off
- Assume an acceptable position for the kick-off.

Fitness

Candidates are expected to:

- Be within 15 to 20 yards of play
- Generally travel the diagonal while demonstrating their ability to cover the extremes of the field when required
- Sprint and back-peddle as required
- Demonstrate 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 and be perceived by the players and coaches to be confident
- Must control the match at all time

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 Touch lines

Positioning, Mechanics and Signals

Candidates must:

- Demonstrate their knowledge of the operation of the Diagonal System of Control and when appropriate, deviate from the diagonal to follow active play
- Position themselves correctly in advance of restarts
- Direct assistant referees to preferred positions during restarts
- Consistently orient themselves in a manner that maximized their eye contact with their assistant referees
- Indicate the awareness of proper restart signals and show professionalism while executing them
- Use the whistle in a manner that reflects the seriousness of the offence.

Accuracy of Decisions

Candidates should:

- Recognize and sanction as required less obvious as well as obvious fouls
- Have no difficulty distinguishing between penal and non-penal fouls
- Be alert to, and deal with, subtle fouls
- Demonstrate the ability to distinguish between fouls and aggressive play
- Distinguish between offside position and offside participation
- Apply the proper penalties and restarts
- Demonstrate the proper use of advantage.

Match Control

Candidates should demonstrate they have full control of the match at all times by:

- Starting and stopping the match on time
- Controlling substitutions
- Handling injuries
- Being aware of the readiness of players and the assistant referees
- Providing sufficient whistle signal level so players are aware that the referee has made a call
- Using dialogue to warn players of pending infractions in lieu of constant whistling
- Being aware of and dealing with infractions away from active play
- Allowing the offended team to take a quick restart. Converting a free kick into a ceremonial free kick when required.
- Positioning players for restarts within the Penalty Area
- Providing protection for the Goalkeepers

- Not tolerating time wasting nor dissent

General

Candidates must be extremely successful in demonstrating:

- Knowledge of the Laws of the Game
- Proper application of the Laws
- The mechanics of the Diagonal System of Control
- Proper positioning for restarts