

YOUTH REFEREE ACADEMY

The Youth Academy is a program targeted toward referees that are 18 years old or younger and have only a few years of experience.

Academies are held annually at several different youth tournaments located in Ohio South. Attendees will be selected based upon formal application and available space.

While the main objective of this academy is to give referees a way to improve on the field, this academy is also used to identify candidates for Youth Referee of the Year. In addition, it gives candidates an opportunity to be considered for upper level referee assignments.

ENTRY LEVEL ACADEMY

This is open to all Grade 8 and 7 officials. It has no age requirement but targets referees with at least 1 year of experience on 11v11 matches. Performance in this academy will lead to a pass/fail recommendation for Grade 8 to Grade 7 upgrade.

These academies are held annually at several different youth tournaments in Ohio South. Attendees will be selected based upon formal applications and available space.

This academy program is used to identify Advanced Referee Academy candidates and to identify potential Referee of the Year candidates. Completion of this program is required to qualify Grade 8 referees to upgrade to Grade 7.

WOMEN'S REFEREE ACADEMY

The Women's Referee program is for female referees who are 16 years of age or older seeking advancement in the male dominated referee community. This academy is similar in format to the Entry Level Academy: Grades 8 and 7 referees looking to improve their refereeing skills with at least 1 year of experience on 11v11 matches. Females attending this academy have the opportunity to work with upper-level women referees, instructors and assessors.

Participants will have a platform to receive guidance on unique challenges and opportunities only female referees face from those who have lived these challenges.

REFEREE ACADEMY PROGRAM

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REFEREE ACADEMY PROGRAMS

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REFEREE ACADEMY PROGRAM

The Referee Academy Program consists of different and distinct levels: *Entry, Youth, Women's, Advanced, and Pro*. Each level is specifically designed to help referees improve their officiating skills and assist in progressing up the referee ladder. These academy programs will identify potential Referee of the Year candidates.

The format for the Youth, Entry and Women's academies is as follows. The participants referee a field at a tournament for the entire weekend (typically through preliminary rounds) with the academy team. After each game, the entire referee team is given brief constructive feedback from mentors who have watched the game. The mentors are assessors, instructors and experienced referees.

These academies are held annually at several different youth tournaments in Ohio South. Attendees will be selected based upon formal applications and available space.

The Format for the Advanced and Pro Academies include on field tournament events. These will be higher level tournament events with higher level feedback given to the referees. In addition to the on field there will be off field classroom and fitness training expected from these participants. The experience while more intense is designed to bring out the best in your officiating.

ADVANCED LEVEL ACADEMY

The Advanced Referee Academy program is specifically targeted at new State Referees and Grade 7 officials preparing to upgrade.

State level matches require higher-level fitness, deeper understanding of player and game management and understanding of the subtleties of the game required to be an effective State Referee.

The format for this academy program includes the traditional on-field instruction. The on-field instruction for the Advanced Referee Academy is held at several different tournaments, involving high intensity, upper-level matches.

The feedback, while more intense, is still intended to bring out the best in your officiating.

In addition to the on field tournaments the academy is supplemented with complementary classroom instruction.

Successful "graduation" from this academy may require participation in multiple events. Graduation from this academy is requirement for becoming a state referee Grade 6 in Ohio South.

PRO REFEREE ACADEMY

The Pro Referee Academy is managed by active Ohio South National Referees and is by invitation only. This is an on-going program similar to the Advanced Academy but even more intense.

This academy includes:

- Year round monthly classroom training
- Weekly Fitness
- Tournament Events

Importantly, the referees invited to this program have to be ready to receive this upper-level material. Therefore, the attendees are required to be State Referees who aspire to continue up the referee ladder.

The participants train in a manner similar to National Referees and are expected to work on their fitness outside the academy events as well.

This program also demands that the participants give back to the soccer community. Members of this academy often act as instructors and mentors at Entry and Advanced Referee Academies.



Getting Started

Academy event information and application link for the program are at:

www.ossrc.com.

- Log on with your OSSRC ID.
- Apply for the program on the main page Select: Academy Request.
- The various events are listed on the Events Calendar.

Feel free to contact any of the academy staff with questions you may have.