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## **State Referee Association Standards**

Where provided, U.S. Soccer expects State Referees Associations to establish requirements that best support the needs of the local competitions and the referees servicing them. This means that State Referee Associations are expected to work collaboratively with State Association(s) leaders and local competition authorities.

Specific to requirements associated with grade, this includes:

- Minimum age
- Previous game and grade experience
- Additional assessment requirements for Grade 6 State Referees

State Referee Associations are also empowered by U.S. Soccer to establish fitness, assessment and training standards outside the parameters of grade. Although independent of grade, these standards should be advanced when compared to the existing grade requirements. These advanced standards should be specific to the needs of local competitions or specific to participation in state level development programs.

If fitness standards are required for specific state level competitions, they should be conducted in accordance with the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests. U.S. Soccer recommends that State Referee Associations use the established State Referee standards but the required time intervals can be adjusted if needed.

If assessment standards are required, they should be conducted in accordance with the current guidelines specific to formal assessments. State Referee Associations are also able and encouraged to utilize the following:

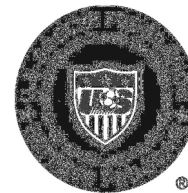
- Development and guidance evaluations
- Scouting and identification
- Mentoring

Additional training standards can include, but are not limited to attending:

- Clinics
- Workshops
- Tournaments or other competitions

For national competitions looking to establish requirements specific to assignment, U.S. Soccer can assist in the formation and communication of these standards.

Again, these additional standards can be instituted by State Referee Associations outside the scope of grade requirements and are intended to promote the development of referees and support the needs of local, regional and national competitions.



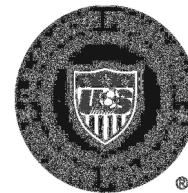
**Grade 9 – Referee**

The purpose of the Grade 9 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the small sided and recreational youth game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

<b>Certification Requirements</b>	
Age	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Game Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Grade Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Training	Complete the Grade 9 Referee Course**
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 9 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***
<b>Annual Recertification Requirements</b>	
Training	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 9 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***

**Notes**

- \*All State Referee Association requirements must be made public
- \*\*All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
  - At a minimum, U.S. Soccer recommends that training includes the completion of all online training materials for the Grade 9 Referee Course
- \*\*The passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- \*\*\*Please review the State Referee Association Standards document for more information



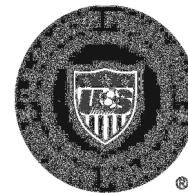
**Grade 8 – Referee**

The purpose of the Grade 8 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the competitive youth game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

<b>Certification Requirements</b>	
Age	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Game Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Grade Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Training	Complete the Grade 8 Referee Course**
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***
<b>Annual Recertification Requirements</b>	
Training	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 8 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***

**Notes**

- \*All State Referee Association requirements must be made public
- \*\*All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
  - At a minimum, U.S. Soccer recommends that training includes the completion of all online training materials for the Grade 8 Referee Course
- \*\*The passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- \*\*\*Please review the State Referee Association Standards document for more information



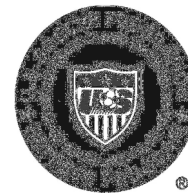
**Grade 7 – Referee**

The purpose of the Grade 7 Referee Course is to prepare officials for the amateur adult game. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

<b>Certification Requirements</b>	
Age	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Game Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Grade Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Training	Complete the Grade 7 Referee Course**
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 7 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***
<b>Annual Recertification Requirements</b>	
Training	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 7 Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Not Applicable***
Practical Evaluation	Not Applicable***

**Notes**

- \*All State Referee Association requirements must be made public
- \*\*All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
  - At a minimum, U.S. Soccer recommends that training includes the completion of all online training materials for the Grade 7 Referee Course
- \*\*The passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- \*\*\*Please review the State Referee Association Standards document for more information



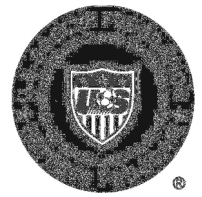
**Grade 6 – State Referee**

The purpose of the Grade 6 State Referee Course is to prepare officials for the most competitive matches within their state and region. Based on the level of training provided, U.S. Soccer recommends that these officials be assigned accordingly to best service the game.

<b>Certification Requirements</b>	
Age	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Game Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Previous Grade Experience	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Training	Complete the Grade 6 State Referee Course**
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 6 State Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 2 completed by 2 State Assessors***
<b>Annual Recertification Requirements</b>	
Training	Determined by the State Referee Association*
Laws of the Game Test	Pass the Grade 6 State Referee Test**
Fitness Test	Pass the FIFA Sprint and Interval Tests
Practical Evaluation	Minimum of 2 completed by 2 State Assessors***

**Notes**

- \*All State Referee Association requirements must be made public
- \*\*All training requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association and there are no minimum number of hours associated with either requirement
- \*\*The passing test score is 80% and all testing requirements can be completed online and/or in the classroom setting as determined by the State Referee Association
- \*\*\*Minimum of 2 passing assessments that meet the sufficient test criteria (from affiliated games with a minimum of 40 minute halves) completed by two different State Assessors, and at least 1 of these assessments must be from an adult game
  - State Referee Associations may establish additional assessment requirements



## Administration

### Sprint Test

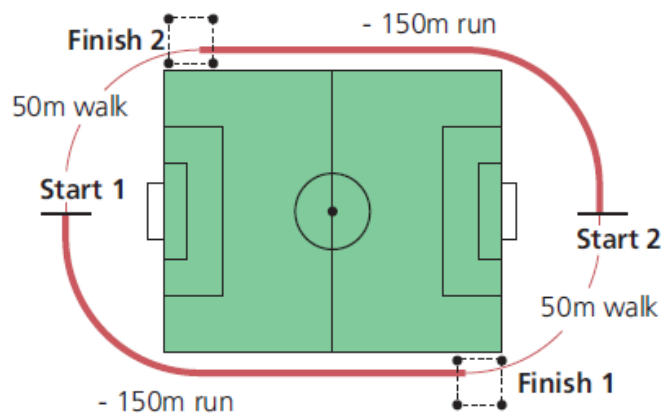
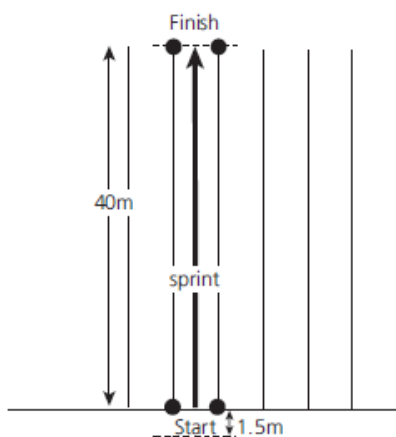
- Participants run six consecutive 40 meter sprints followed by a recovery period after each sprint (while walking back to the start line)
- Dynamic start with the front foot on a line that is 1.5 meters away from the electronic timing gates at the starting position
- If a participant falls or trips, they are allowed another attempt at that specific sprint
- If a participant fails one sprint out of the six, they are given one more attempt immediately after the sixth sprint
- If a participant fails two sprints, they fail the test

### Interval Test

- Participants run a total of ten consecutive laps
- A lap consists of two 150 meter runs with two 50 meter recovery walks
  - Starts with running 150 meters in the prescribed time
  - Followed by walking 50 meters in the prescribed time
  - This process is repeated to complete one lap
- Walking area is marked by cones 3 meters on each side of the 150 meter marks
- If a participant fails to reach the walking area in the prescribed time, they are issued a warning
- If a participant fails to reach the walking area for a second time, they fail the test

### Notes

- The time between the sprint test and interval test should be approximately 10 minutes



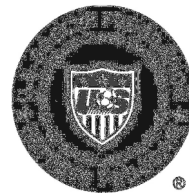
## Grade 6 State Referee Standards

### Sprint Test

- Maximum of 10 seconds per sprint

### Interval Test

- Maximum of 45 seconds for the 150 meter run
- Maximum of 45 seconds for the 50 meter walk



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### **Emeritus Referees**

The purpose of the emeritus grades is to allow officials to retire from the game at the highest referee grade they attained. It may not be used to circumvent any registration, certification or recertification requirements mandated by U.S. Soccer or the State Referee Association.

To become an Emeritus Referee, the official must submit a personal letter of intent to the State Referee Administrator who will then initiate the appropriate paperwork. The official must have held the referee grade in question for a minimum of three years prior to the request. The three years do not have to be consecutive or immediately preceding the request for emeritus status.

For those Emeritus Referees looking to remain active, they must meet the established recertification requirements each year for the level they want to officiate at and adhere to all registration requirements for that grade.

An Emeritus Referee may become reinstated as a referee so long as they meet the established certification requirements and adhere to all registration requirements for that grade.

<b>Referee Grade</b>	<b>Emeritus Referee Grade</b>
6	16
5	15
4	14
3	13