



AYSO Area 1C Guidance for Referees Upper Division – Fall 2025

Area Referee Team:

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1. This Guidance is intended to be a helpful summary for referees of the applicable Area 1C Combined Program Rules and Regulations, found on the Area 1C website.
2. Any individual acting as a Referee or Assistant Referee is required to have current AYSO Volunteer Registration (MY2025), Safe Haven (2012 or later), Concussion Awareness Training, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Training, LiveScan and SafeSport certifications on file with AYSO National. NO EXCEPTIONS.
3. Qualifying referees are expected to complete a minimum of six (6) assignments during pool play. Referees will self-assign through CGI (<https://cgisports.com/ref/6017/>), including Boys 19U matches. Your ranking in CGI (set by Area) determines what games will be available to you for self-assign. If you want to be assigned to higher-level matches, the entire schedule can be found on the Team Standings public page (<https://cgisports.com/ref/6017/stats/?user=public>), where you can select the division in which you are interested and “search.” Email Area Assignor Richard Chen to request these matches.

Pre-game Guidelines

4. The team listed first on the schedule is the home team which shall occupy the north or west side of the field, while the visiting team shall occupy the south or east side of the field. Referees may make exceptions to this rule but must report the exception in CGI along with the reason.
5. Spectators should occupy the same side of the field as the players, between the Penalty Areas and at least 10-feet behind the touchline. Certain fields do not have seating or space to accommodate this guideline, so Referees must use best judgment in enforcing this. If bleachers or grandstands are available, they must be used. No one shall be behind the goal line.
6. Home teams must have alternate jerseys or vests available in the event of a uniform conflict. Home team provides two balls, and visitors provide one.
7. Each team shall present a completed Lineup Card with every team member's full name and number, in numerical order. Make sure the Lineup cards are fully filled out.
8. Each team shall present ID cards for the coach, assistant coach, and every player and substitute. Acceptable Picture ID cards must be laminated with a current, age appropriate photograph attached. Any player, substitute, coach or assistant coach who does not submit a Picture ID card that complies with these rules shall not participate in that game. The sole exception is if you get word from either the Area Director (Rolando Morales, 323-823-4449) or the Area Coordinator (Peter Smock, 626-733-3014) that the person does not need an ID card for that game only---NO EXCEPTIONS.
9. Check-in with at least two referees: one checks ID cards (pictures, birthdates, etc.), and the other checks the lineup card. Both check for proper uniform, shoes, shin guards, socks over, no jewelry, etc.

10. The Referee team shall retain the Photo ID cards of all players and coaches until the end of the game.
11. A 10-minute grace period is permitted for getting the minimum number of players present. It is not meant to allow a team to achieve full strength prior to starting. Start the game as soon as the minimum numbers are on the field, ready to play.
12. If a game cannot be played due to insufficient players, lack of IDs, lack of authorized coach, etc., inform both coaches. In such a case, the entire Referee Team shall leave the field. Referees are not authorized to referee a “friendly/scrimmage” game. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Game Conduct

13. FIFA rules apply. 3-person Referee Team --- NO EXCEPTIONS.
14. Normal substitution is on the eighths, i.e. approximately every 11 minutes in 19U and every 10 minutes in 16U. Remind coaches to have substitutes going in ready before the whistle and to have players who are being substituted out to check in with you. Injury substitutions can occur at any time.
15. Every player should play at least one half of the game. No reduction of this requirement is allowed for players who arrive late. Report discrepancies on CGI and on the Lineup Card.
16. Only the Head and Assistant coaches with valid ID cards are permitted in the technical area.
17. If a Head Coach or Assistant Coach is sent off during the game, the game is terminated immediately - NO EXCEPTIONS. The Referee should report any coach sendoff or spectator ejection through the lineup card submission process within 24 hours.

Post-game Guidelines

18. Conduct a post-game handshake. If a coach asks to skip the handshake out of concern for potential incidents between the teams, the referee should honor that request.
19. Retain the ID card of any coach, assistant coach, player or substitute who was sent off. Return all others to the coach. Mail any retained ID cards to the Area Coordinator (Peter Smock, 393 Auburn Lane, Sierra Madre, CA 91024) within 24 hours.
20. Fill out the Lineup Cards completely, noting the final score, any misconduct, injuries, spectator misbehavior, ID card issues, and/or referee absences.
21. Within 24 hours, scan the QR code on the lineup card (<https://forms.gle/Er1oMAhD6srKcHx48>), provide the prompted information and submit photos (front and back) of each lineup card, as directed.
22. Please then log into CGI (<https://cgisports.com/ref/6017/>) where you will log in and submit the balance of your report. Provide the prompted information (score, coach, player, spectator or substitute misconduct [unless rises to the level of referee abuse, then use separate form discussed below] and any comments not provided elsewhere). When describing the misconduct, please include the time, player number, name, and nature of the misconduct (e.g., “60’, Pasadena #15, Mia Hamm, cautioned for USB, reckless tackle.”)
23. Referee Abuse: please download and complete the [AYSO Match Report form](https://www.ayso1ref.com/referee-report) (<https://www.ayso1ref.com/referee-report>), save and email to refabuse@ayso1c.org.
24. Serious Injuries, that is, any head injury or injury which prevents the player from returning to play: please download and complete the [AYSO Incident Report Form](https://www.ayso1ref.com/lib1/Incident_Report_Form_with_Instr_rev09102021.pdf) (https://www.ayso1ref.com/lib1/Incident_Report_Form_with_Instr_rev09102021.pdf), save and email to the [Area 1C CVPA](mailto:scott.nord@ayso1c.org) (scott.nord@ayso1c.org).
25. Retain the lineup cards for the duration of the season (plan on December 1) in case of questions.

THANK YOU FOR VOLUNTEERING, ENJOY YOUR TIME ON THE PITCH, AND HAVE A GREAT SEASON!