

Referee Committee Meeting Highlights
May 26, 2005

Minutes from the fall '04 meeting were approved and will be posted on the web.

Most changes have been incorporated into the updated Referee Administrative Handbook. One change that was not included was the definition of Intermediate Training that is to be used for upgrade from a grade 8 to a grade 7. The Referee Committee requested that the chart entry, page 20, be expanded upon so that it reads, "5 hours of USSF Intermediate Level Training above normal recertification clinics. For example, Regional Pro Clinics, USSF Intermediate or Advanced clinics."

Please note that the game experience for State Referee Grades is more clearly defined in the updated Referee Administrative Handbook.

Effective with National Candidate Declarations for 2007 National Camp, the game experience for upgrade to the National 4 grade was set as follows: Referee:175 (75 must be on Div.1 adult games or higher ...) Assistant Referee: 100. The same numbers of pro and/or approved other games as in previous years is required. Please see updated Referee Administrative Handbook for complete details.

Beginning with those National Candidates that declare for 2007 (declare in December 2005) one of the required assessments must be by a US Soccer appointed assessor. The logistics of how this is to be done will be sent to the declared candidates in early 2006.

National Referee Grade 3 will be those National Referees that meet the FIFA eligibility requirements for possible nomination to one of the FIFA International Panels. All other National Referees will be registered as grade 4.

Effective immediately, all National Referees must meet the following minimum fitness standards for the Cooper Test anytime it is officially administered, which includes when it is given at National Camp, in order to pass the requirements for National Referee:

- 12 minute run – 2600 meters
- 50 meter dash – 8.5 seconds
- 200 meter dash – 35 seconds

The Referee Committee made the decision to once again split Emeritus Grades 15 and 16 and return to the former use of these grades. Since referees who retired from grade 5 are allowed to vote in the election of the BOD rep and those retiring from grade 6 are not, the splitting of these two Emeritus grades makes pulling data for voting easier for the staff.

The following statement was added to the Standards of Dress and Appearance on page 34 of the Referee Administrative Handbook: "Logos, Emblems and Badges: Only

manufacturer's logos and U.S. Soccer approved badges and/or emblems may be visible on a referee uniform."

The Champions League (regional league), headquartered in NJ, was approved as "Additional Approved Games" for the purposes of maintenance assessments for National Referees. Assignment requests should be made to John Zangrilli at jzripi@yahoo.com with a cc to Pat Varsallona at njsa_info@yahoo.com. Assignment to this league is open to National Referees across the country. Requests must be made in writing several weeks in advance of the dates referees wish to be considered for assignment. All travel expenses and the assessment fee are the responsibility of the referee.

Please note that the Additional Approved Games list on the pro scheduling site as been updated. Topic number is O-36.

A request was made to add the games of the NPSL, a regional league affiliated through USASA, to the Additional Approved Game list. It was decided that before approval is given, US Soccer staff and/or national assessors would view the games for competitive level and report back to the Referee Committee in the fall.

The Referee Committee approved a policy that says National Assessors who miss 2 consecutive recertification seminars will be removed as National Assessors. Missing 2 consecutive seminars means that an assessor would not have stood for testing or national training for 4 – 6 years and this is not fair to the National Referees they assess who are required to keep abreast of rule and procedure changes continuously. It was determined by the committee that this policy be applied to those National Assessors who missed the 2005 recertification seminar in March, 2005, if it was the second consecutive seminar missed.

With regard to National Assessor's grade maintenance, a policy was adopted that stipulated a National Assessor must assess a minimum of five games at the appropriate level (national referees and national candidates) each calendar year to maintain their National Assessor standing.

The recommended make-up of the State Referee Committee and recommended job descriptions for the SRA, SYRA, SDA, SDI and the State Assignor Coordinator were approved by the Referee Committee and will soon be sent out separately.