



# Referee Points System

## SPRING 2023

AYSO Region 1258 has implemented a Referee Points System (RPS). The RPS is designed to attract more people to volunteer to get certified and referee games due to the shortage of volunteer referees in our Region. It is also designed to motivate volunteers to obtain higher levels of certification.

AYSO is an all-volunteer organization and therefore relies on volunteers for the successful implementation of its program. This point system is designed to encourage volunteer participation and ensure that games have sufficient referee coverage. Without referees there can be no games! And without games, there can be no program! We are all in this together. It is our hope that each team will provide, at a minimum, one Referee.

Referee Points are required to determine a team's eligibility to participate in the playoff games beyond the regular season (Regional, Area, and beyond) for the U10 through U18 divisions. Referee Points are not earned or needed for the U6 and U8 divisions.

### How the RPS Works

Referee Points are earned by volunteering to be the Center Referee or an Assistant Referee for U10 and older games scheduled and played in the Region. Ideally, each team will supply one Assistant Referee for each of their games.

Teams can earn a maximum of 2 Referee Points per week. The week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday.

Referees must designate to the Regional Referee Administrator the team or teams (a maximum of 2) that their points can be given to by the end of Week 2 of the regular season. More than one referee can designate his/her referee points to the same team. It is then dependent on each individual referee to designate to the Regional Referee Administrator which team(s) their weekly referee points go to. As an example, if an individual center refs three games that referee could allocate 2 points to Team A and 1 point to Team B.

Each game has a total points value of 2 Referee Points equal to:

- The center referee (in full uniform) earns one (1) Referee Point for the team they designate.
- Each assistant referee (in full uniform or the AR variation) earns one-half (1/2) Referee Point for the team they designate.

Referees officiating as center referees must have the appropriate referee badge certification to be an Eligible Referee. Assistant Referees must also have the appropriate referee badge certification or be approved by the Regional Referee Administrator to be an Eligible Referee. No Referee Points are earned unless the appointed Referee is an Eligible Referee as defined in this Policy.

## **Referee Requirements**

Training: All Referees must be trained and certified through AYSO. The minimum training required consists of taking the Regional Referee – Online Course found in AYSOU and the In-Person Companion Course. It is recognized that the In-Person Companion Course may not be available. Should an instructor not be available, an on field unofficial class may be held at the discretion of the Regional Referee Administrator. Please note that should the Regional Referee Administrator hold this class the referee applicant will not earn their full Regional Referee certification but will be permitted to earn Referee Points as an Assistant Referee.

*\*Club Linesmen (uncertified volunteers) are not eligible to earn Referee Points.*

Referee Kit: All Center Referees must wear the AYSO approved full uniform. Assistant Referees can wear the AYSO approved full uniform or the Referee Performance T-shirt with black shorts or leggings and athletic shoes. Referees that fail to comply with the uniform requirements will not earn Referee Points.

## **Team Referee Points Requirement**

Each team is required to earn a minimum of 4 total Referee Points by the end of the regular season to qualify for playoff games (Regional, Area, and beyond).

## **Team Referee Points Penalty**

If a team earns zero points for two *consecutive* weeks, a penalty of -1 point will be assessed to that team. This measure is to prevent teams from earning the required 4 point minimum in the beginning of the season and then failing to continue to participate under this policy.

## **Additional Ways to Earn Referee Points**

Additional Referee Points can be earned through referee certifications in the current season:

- A volunteer who upgrades their Referee certification (from Regional Referee to Intermediate Referee, Intermediate Referee to Advanced Referee or Advanced Referee to National Referee) between August 1 and before the last game of the Regular Season earns two (2) Referee Points for the team they designate.

Additional Referee Points will be limited as follows:

- (1) Additional Referee Points may only be earned *during* the regular season.
- (2) Additional Referee Points must be reported by the weekend before the last game of the season.

## **Reporting Referee Points**

All referees must volunteer for games through the Regional 1258 Referee Portal on the Band app. Should a referee volunteer for a game that they were not listed on the master referee schedule it is their responsibility to notify the Regional Referee Administrator in the Band app. At the conclusion of each week, the Regional Referee Administrator will produce a weekly summary of the Referee Points for each team designating which referees allocated their points to each team. Should any errors occur, the referee whose points are in question must contact the Regional Referee Administrator to correct such errors.

All Referee Points must be reported by the volunteer who was the referee or the assistant referee. Reports from individuals other than the volunteer on the referee scheduling system will not be accepted.

## **Disclaimers**

The Referee Point System may be revised at any time.

The Regional Referee Administrator may review and modify Referee Points at any time. The Referee Point System is administered by the Regional Referee Administrator and his/her decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

The Regional Commissioner, after consulting with the Regional Referee Administrator, and with the approval of the Regional Board, may extend the Referee Point System to other programs in the Region.