

Referee FAQs

Why Should I Become a Referee?

There are many reasons why people become referees:

- Money
- It can be fun and rewarding
- Camaraderie/friendships
- Fitness benefits (it's a great way to stay young and in shape both physically and mentally)
- Give back to soccer
- The challenge
- Referees have the 'best seat in the house'
- Mentoring young referees

Impact youth referees should also consider these reasons:

- Start earning money before the age of 16.
- We will work with current players around their games/practices so players can play ***and*** referee
- Become a better soccer player
- Build and learn good leadership, organizational, teaching, and business skills
- Work with and as a team. Receive and provide constructive feedback.
- Work with and interact with adults (coaches and other referees)
- High, in-demand job. Licensed referees can referee anywhere in the United States. The Bay Area has too many games and not enough referees.
- Learn from the best. Bob Sabella is a former MLS referee and is a current national assessor.
- Impact referees are recognized by NorCal as some of the best young referees in Northern California.
- Referee work ethic and social skills are highly sought after by employers and colleges.
- FYI: Female referees are in very high demand. The US Soccer Federation is looking for the next Mia Hamm and Alex Morgan of referees. When the Federation identifies young females that possess the personality and desired skillsets, many opportunities will be presented to this group.

What are some reasons you ref? Please share your reasons with Impact Ref administrators.

How Can I Become a Referee?

To referee at Impact, you must be a licensed USSF referee. To become licensed referee, you must attend a referee class and pass a written exam (at the end of class). Impact offers this class at least once a year. This and other classes can be found at the CRNA website (<http://www.cnra.net/register/new-referee/>). Registration instructions are can also be found there.

I Can't Attend the Impact Referee Class. Now What?

No problem. You can become a licensed referee by taking and completing a class anywhere in the U.S. This link shows classes that are being held throughout the Bay Area.

<https://cnra.gameofficials.net/public/class/classSearch.cfm>.

What Grade Referee Should I Get: Grade 8 or Grade 9?

Impact requires all its referees to have a Grade 8 license. The class Impact offers is for a Grade 8 license. CRNA has more information about licenses (<http://www.cnra.net/register/new-referee/>).

How Much does it Cost to Become a Referee?

The Grade 8 class is free. But the Grade 8 license costs \$55. The good news is that if you get licensed after June 30, your license will be good for this calendar year, **plus** the next year. Each year, Impact offers at least 1 class conveniently after June 30.

A referee uniform and started-kit is also required and runs \$60-\$75.

Are there Any Minimum Age Requirements to Become a Referee?

No. But you don't want to be too young. 13 is a good age to start. We will make exceptions under the right circumstances.

What is the Difference Between Referee Class vs. Monthly Training Session?

A referee class is what new referees must complete in order to get licensed. The monthly training sessions are put on by Impact so referees can stay in shape, hone their refereeing skills, and stay abreast of current referee laws. It is strongly recommended that all licensed referees make every effort to attend these monthly training sessions.

The monthly training sessions are also open to non-licensed referees and other members of the Impact community. These sessions are great opportunities for coaches, parents, and would-be interested referees to learn more about the Impact referee program and have your referee questions answered.

What is RefScheduler?

RefScheduler is the web application tool that the Impact referee administrators use to communicate to its referees and assign games. RefScheduler is also used by licensed Impact referees to submit their availability and to their track upcoming games.

Licensed Impact referees should familiar themselves with you Impact expects its referees to interface with RefScheduler.

I am a Licensed Referee. How do I Join Impact Referee Team?

Great! We can never have enough referees. Request a RefScheduler account here (<http://www.impactsoccer.org/home.php?layout=854775>): Check out the Referee Expectations page.

How Can I Get the Latest Impact Referee News?

A lot of information appears on the Impact website. But nearly all communication is done through RefScheduler. Non-licensed referees are encouraged to register for a RefScheduler account. Follow these instructions to request an account (<http://www.impactsoccer.org/home.php?layout=854775>).

I'm getting Too Many RefScheduler Emails!

Unfortunately, there is no way to regulate who gets which emails. It's either all or nothing. If you don't want to receive any more RefScheduler emails, we won't be offended. Just send us an email and we will delete your account.

How Much Do I Get Paid?

It all depends on the position (Center or Assistant Referee), the age groups (younger age groups have shorter games), and the caliber of play (Comp games pay more than House games). Check out the pay schedule page for specifics.

FYI: Grade 6 referees get an extra \$5/game for Comp/NPL games and Grade 5 referees get an extra \$10/game for Comp/NPL games.

How Do I Get Paid?

House, Comp, Adult, and Middle School game fees are paid by check on a monthly basis. Checks are typically available on the 1st or 2nd weekend of the month. The ref administrators like to hand out checks during the first weekend (after the checks are available) or at the monthly training sessions. If we don't have the opportunity to hand-deliver your check, it will be mailed to your home address. In order for the check to be mailed to your home address, you will need to submit a W9 form to Impact. Here is a link to the W9 form (<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>). Please mail your W9 form to the Impact office (<http://www.impactsoccer.org/>) or hand-deliver to an Impact referee administrator.

Impact tournaments are different. Referees get paid 'on-the-field' at the conclusion of each game.

Why Do I Need to Complete an IRS W9 Form?

Licensed Impact referees are independent contractors. Impact is required by law to submit a 1099 form to the IRS if a referee makes more than \$600 in a calendar year. Impact will withhold your check that puts you over the \$600 threshold if you have not submitted a W9.

Additionally, if we need to mail your check and Impact does not have your W9, it can't be mailed.

Impact strongly recommends that you submit your W9 once you become licensed and/or intend to referee games for Impact.

Do I Need to Renew my Referee License?

In order to referee for Impact, you must be licensed for the current year. It is highly recommended that you always renew your license at the end of each year for the following year. However, if you have not yet renewed your license, it is not too late. Start the renewal process here: <http://www.cnra.net/register/renew-referee/>.

If you were last licensed 2 or more years ago (i.e., if the year is 2017 and you were last registered in 2015 or earlier), you are considered to have a 'lapse in registration'. The first step is to contact the State registrar for further instructions. Start here: ww.cnra.net/register/lapse-registration-renewal/.

Heat Index

If temperatures are above 90F at start of game, there must be a water break approximately halfway through each half. Keep a running clock. If **both** coaches agree to a water break in lower temperatures, have a water break.

Rainouts

- If your game is cancelled due to rain, the game will get marked as 'Postponed' in RefScheduler which should then send you an email. You can check the status of city-owned fields at the following sites: Brentwood: <http://norcalpremier.com/resources/head-injury-prevention-protocol/>
- Oakley: <http://www.ci.oakley.ca.us/recreation/parks-facility-rentals/sports-field-status-open-or-closed/>

As always, when in doubt, log in to RefScheduler to see the status of your game(s).

Head Injuries

If you suspect a head injury, you **must** stop the game immediately, regardless where the ball is. In accordance with the US Soccer return-to-play guidelines (<http://norcalpremier.com/resources/head-injury-prevention-protocol/>), any player removed from the field for a suspected head injury will not be allowed to return to the field of play unless cleared by a health care professional*.

*A health care professional is defined as "a licensed health care professional such as an athletic trainer certified (ATC), or a physician (MD/DO), with a skill set in emergency care and sports medicine injuries and with knowledge and experience related to concussion evaluation and management." It will be up to each club to decide whether they will provide a health care professional at their matches, and to ensure that their health care professional has the correct certification to be evaluating players for head trauma. If a club plans to use a health care professional to evaluate suspected head injuries during a NorCal match, the health care professional must be presented to the referee prior to the start of the match. Referees will not allow the re-entry of players removed from the field of play for suspected head injuries unless they are informed of the presence of, and meet with a health care professional prior to the start of the match.