



Sponsored by AYSO Region 14 Torrance, California

## 2025 AYSO Christmas Classic Tournament Referee Plan



The following are guidelines that the AYSO Christmas Classic will apply for referees in our 2025 tournament:

Commitment Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Each team participating in the 2025 Christmas Classic Tournament must provide at least 1 crew consisting of 3 qualified referees.</li><li>B. The Christmas Classic Referee Information Form must be completed, approved by the Region Referee Administrator and returned with the Team Application.</li><li>C. Each referee team will be asked to officiate a minimum of 3 matches during the tournament. These may be game assignments or standby assignments, which will be consider equal in terms of earning the referee deposit refund.</li><li>D. If all assignments are completed, the entire referee deposit of \$200 for 8U divisions and \$400 for all other divisions will be refunded within 14 days of the completion of the tournament. If only partial assignments are completed, then a partial refund will be provided equal to the proportion of assignments completed.</li><li>E. The deposit refund check will be returned to the address shown on the Team Application form.</li><li>F. Remember: the quality of officiating is largely dependent upon the experience and abilities of the referees you provide.</li><li>G. If a team submits less than a full 3-person referee crew, these referees will be assigned to games. However, only a proportion of the referee deposit, equal to the number of assignments these referees complete, will be refunded to the team.</li></ul>
Qualification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Each referee must be an AYSO registered volunteer and Safe Haven certified.</li><li>B. Each referee must be versed in the Laws of the Game, including current law changes and capable of applying the laws according to the spirit of the game.</li><li>C. Each referee may only represent one team in the tournament.</li><li>D. Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate.</li><li>E. Coaches in this tournament are strongly discouraged from officiating so that scheduling of referees with the best experience and without conflicts can be accomplished. Coaches that decide to also participate as a referee will not be assigned games, but will be allowed to self assign games through the tournament's CGI. Coaches are not allowed to officiate games within their team's bracket/group.</li><li>F. Youth referees will only be allowed if they are not a player in the tournament. Care must be taken when considering whether to allow a youth referee to officiate in the heated environment of a competitive tournament. These referees must have their Youth Referee Letter with them at all times and present it to any Tournament official upon request.</li><li>G. Youth referees must be approved by their Regional Referee Administrator, by completing the Christmas Classic Youth Referee Letter.</li><li>H. Youth referees will only be assigned to games they are qualified for and are at least 2 years older than the age group they are officiating.</li></ul>
Uniform Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. All referees must be in full Uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF, including the AYSO Badge.</li><li>B. The Gold uniform will be considered the primary color of referee uniform for this tournament. The referee crew will be expected to change to an alternate color in case of conflict with either of the teams' uniforms.</li><li>C. Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to forfeiture.</li><li>D. In inclement weather, black rain pants or black warm-up pants will be permitted in addition to the official uniform.</li><li>E. If a particular game involves two non-AYSO teams, it is acceptable for the referees to wear their USSF badges.</li></ul>

Competency Requirements	<p>A. Referees will be assigned to games as follows:  8U/10U: Regional Badge or higher  12U: Intermediate Badge or higher  14U: Advanced Badge or higher  Any exceptions must have the prior written approval of the Christmas Classic Referee Administrator.</p> <p>B. Every effort will be made to assign referees to neutral games at their level of competency or below. In rare cases, referee crews may be asked to split up in order to meet these goals.</p>
Tournament Rules	<p>A. Referees will be expected to familiarize themselves with and uphold the tournament rules, AYSO guidelines and FIFA laws. Any failure of the referee to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament, and will place a team's referee deposit refund in jeopardy.</p> <p>B. Only the diagonal system of control will be used.</p> <p>C. Referees will be expected to fill out the game cards and to keep track of substitutions.</p> <p>D. Referees will be expected to note on the back of the game cards and to fill out misconduct reports immediately after the game in which a misconduct (caution and/or send-off) was issued to a player or coach, or if there were spectator interference problems, or any other action that merits a report.</p> <p>E. Referees will be expected to turn in all completed game cards and misconduct reports to the Referee Station immediately after each game.</p>
Referee Schedules	<p>A. Referee schedules will be made available on the tournament website within 1 week of the tournament. Each team will be expected to ensure that the referee schedule and check-in instructions have been provided to their referee crew.</p>
Use of Local Referees	<p>A. Additional referees will be provided by the host region, including from the surrounding regions and Areas to ensure all games are covered by qualified referees. These referees will be provided assignments on a stand-by or fill-in basis. Priority will be given to referee crews to ensure an opportunity to earn their deposit refund.</p>
Referee Check-In	<p>A. All referees will be expected to check in at the Referee Station upon their arrival at the tournament, to register and to collect their referee cards and game cards, as needed.</p> <p>B. At check-in, each referee team will be provided with a summarized set of tournament rules that they will be expected to administer.</p> <p>C. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Station at least 30 minutes prior to their assigned game. Failure to appear on time may result in a replacement referee crew being assigned to the field. Once a replacement crew has been assigned, they will have priority and the original crew must report to the Referee station for alternative assignment.</p> <p>D. Upon completing each game assignment (or standby assignment), each referee will have their referee card signed off at the Referee station to validate the assignment was completed. When all game assignments are completed, the referee crew must turn in their complete referee card at the Referee Station. These completed cards will be the basis for determining the referee deposit refund to the tournament team.</p>
Referee Mementos	<p>A. Referees will have food and water available to them at the Referee Station.</p> <p>B. Participating referees will earn tournament swag as a memento.</p> <p>C. Referees participating in two semifinals or finals matches will receive a thank you gift determined by the tournament director.</p>
Address:	<p>Referee forms must be emailed with the Team Application to:</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:Region14TD@gmail.com">Region14TD@gmail.com</a></p>
Contact Information:	<p>Questions regarding referee requirements should be directed to:</p> <p>Brian Hornbeck  E-mail: <a href="mailto:Region14TD@gmail.com">Region14TD@gmail.com</a>  Web site: <a href="http://www.ayso14.org">www.ayso14.org</a></p>