

AYSO Region 58
Referee Points Policy
Effective 2018

AYSO is an all-volunteer community organization with the mission to develop and deliver a quality youth soccer program in a family environment that is “fun, fair, and safe”. Referees are a critical and essential part of that “fun, fair, and safe” experience.

One of AYSO’s philosophies is “Everyone Plays” – that’s a philosophy targeting players. A parallel philosophy, but unwritten, is “Everyone Volunteers.” Referees that help bring about the “fun, fair, and safe” soccer are volunteers.

The challenge is, how do we get enough individuals to volunteer to provide 3 referees (one referee (center), two assistant referees) for every game. Looking at the 10U, 12U, and 14U player divisions, we anticipate having approximately 80 teams and 40 games each Saturday during the 2018 AYSO Fall League season. With 3 referees needed per game (one referee (center) center, two assistant referees), that’s 120 referee slots that need to be filled each Saturday. And if we expect each team to contribute an equal share of the needed referee slots, the numbers work out to:

<u>Referee Slots Needed</u>	<u>Weeks in Season</u>	<u>Total Referee Slots Needed</u>	<u>Number of Teams</u>	<u>Referee Points Per Team/Season</u>	<u>Referee Points Per Team/Week</u>
120	10	1200	80	15.0	1.5
120	11	1320	80	16.5	1.5
120	12	1440	80	18.0	1.5

Essentially, no matter how many teams, Saturdays, or weeks in the season, it works out that each team needs to provide, on average, 1.5 referees per Saturday of games. It’s that simple.

Being a referee not only offers you the opportunity to help with the “fun, fair, and safe” part, but also allows you to be role model for your own children and part of community in which you and your children will develop long lasting and rewarding friendships with other families.

So how do we meet this challenge? How do we encourage you to overcome all of those reasons that get in the way of becoming a referee and supporting your child’s team? We have a Referee Points Policy.

Here are the details of the Referee Points Policy

Target Number of Referee Points per Team

Teams in the 10U, 12U, and 14U player divisions have a target of 1.5 referee points per week of games played. A ten week season has a target of 15 referee points; an eleven week season has a target of 16.5 referee points; etc. The eligibility of a team to participation in the AYSO Fall Program League Playoffs will be determined, in part, by the number of referee points earned by a team.

Earning Referee Points:

1. By becoming a Certified Referee – If you are a “new” AYSO referee (that is, you attend the Referee Basic Certification Course for the first time and become a Certified Referee) you will earn two (2) extra referee points once you have earned four (4) referee points by refereeing AYSO Region 58 games.
2. Field Practical Instruction Training – Earn one (1) point for attending on field practical instruction training after taking the initial referee class. This involves interactive instruction and observing a referee team officiate an actual game. Sessions are held the first few weeks of the season. Limited to one (1) point per season.
3. Additional (or Repeat) Referee Training – Earn two (2) points for repeating the Regional Referee Class or three (3) points for attending an Intermediate, Advanced or National referee upgrade course. Must referee four games to get the points and can only get points for one class per season. Classes are offered and should be attended during the off season.
4. By being an Assistant Referee – You earn one (1) referee point for each game you work as an Assistant Referee in AYSO Region 58 games.
5. By being a Referee (Center) – You earn one (1) referee point for each game you work as the game Referee (Center) in AYSO Region 58 games.
6. By being a Standby Referee – You can earn one (1) referee point for signing up on the weekly schedule in a “Standby Slot”. The “Standby Slots” will not be available if all regular referee game slots have not been filled.
 - a. On game day, if it is necessary to ensure that there are three referees for a scheduled game, then you, as the Standby Referee, will be assigned to a game.
 - b. On game day, if it is not necessary to assign you to a game, you will be assigned to a game with a full referee crew and either assigned as an Assistant Referee on the game or asked to mentor or shadow another referee, at the direction of the Referee (Center).
 - c. You will not earn a referee point if you do not work a game.
7. By being a MENTOR Referee – If you are a returning referee, that is, you have refereed in prior years within AYSO Region 58, you may volunteer to be a MENTOR Referee. If you are interested in being a MENTOR Referee please contact the Regional Referee Administrator to discuss this option. MENTOR Referees are designated at the discretion of the Regional Referee Administrator. MENTOR Referees can earn one (1) referee point for acting in the capacity of a MENTOR Referee.
 - a. “MENTOR Referee Assignments” will not be available if all regular referee game slots and all “Standby Slots” have not been filled.
 - b. On game day, if it is necessary to ensure that there are three referees for a scheduled game, then you, as a MENTOR Referee, will be assigned to a game.
 - c. On game day, if it is not necessary to assign you to a game, you will (i) either be asked to mentor or shadow a “new” referee, that is, a referee who did not referee in prior years within AYSO Region 58, or (ii) be asked to support a referee crew in some other way.
 - d. You will not earn a referee point if you do not work a game.
8. BONUS referee points – You earn one (1) “bonus” referee point as the Referee (center) for each “bonus” game you sign up for prior to game day and complete the assignment as the Referee (center). The “bonus” referee point is in addition to the (1) referee point you would normally earn, thus earning two (2) referee points for being the Referee (center) on a “bonus” game. “Bonus” games will be identified by the Referee Staff. Typically “bonus” games will be afternoon games, usually after 1:00 PM.

9. Working with the Regional Referee Administrator to ensure accuracy of earned referee points – Please verify the accuracy of the referee points you earn. If you have earned “extra” or “bonus” referee points that are not reflected in your team’s referee point totals, contact the Regional Referee Administrator to review referee points earned and assigned.

Losing Referee Points:

1. Lose one (1) point for not showing up for a game you signed up to referee. – Because some individuals are ambitious when signing up to referee games (on the referee game schedule) but not so ambitious in actually showing up to fulfill the referee duties that they signed up for, referees (and their home team) will lose (1) referee point for each “no show” – that is, for not showing up for a game that they volunteer to referee. Timely notification that you will not be able to referee a game for which you signed up, at the discretion of the Referee Administrator, will prevent the loss of a point.
2. If you do not perform the duties of a referee, in whatever manner, you will not earn a referee point. – If you report to the Referee Tent to fulfill the referee slot you signed up for, but for whatever reason it has been necessary to assign another referee to replace you on that game, e.g., you are late reporting to the Referee Tent, you will not earn a referee point. At the discretion of the Regional Referee Administrator you may be assigned to a game in some other capacity and earn a referee point by performing the assigned task. Normally, if you make a good faith effort to be available for the games you sign up to referee you will not lose a referee point.

Other guidelines regarding earning referee points:

1. You must be a trained, certified referee to earn referee points. Being certified requires:
 - a. Referee Training, only needed once, but refresh and advanced training recommended
 - b. Safe Haven, renew/refresh training every two years
 - c. Concussion Awareness, renew/refresh training every two years, and
 - d. Registering as an AYSO volunteer, required every year.
2. If all referee slots for the 10U, 12U, and 14U division games are filled by volunteers, then you can earn one (1) referee point for refereeing an 8U game, at the Referee Administrator’s discretion.
3. Although not required, we encourage members of the 8U community to take the Basic Referee training and become a certified referee. Getting a “head start” refereeing 8U games will make the transition to refereeing 10U games the next year easier.
4. Referee points earned by a “non-affiliated” referee may be assigned to a team only if the receiving team is identified on the game card on the day the game is played. A “non-affiliated” referee is a referee that is not “related” to a player on the team to which the referee point is to be assigned. “Non-affiliated” referee points not assigned to a team on the game card on the day the game is played will not be eligible to be assigned to any team.
5. In general, teams will be discouraged from earning more than the targeted number of referee points. It is not our intent to prevent a referee from supporting Region 58’s goal of a qualified referee crew for every game. Indeed, we would encourage experienced referees to shadow and mentor less experienced referees. However, in the spirit of good sportsmanship, if a referee earns points beyond the targeted number, that referee might consider making those additional “excess” referee points available to other teams. See (4) above for “non-affiliated” point guideline.

Rewards for Referee Points:

1. The joys of being part of the AYSO Region 58 community, a family friendly environment that gives you this opportunity to be a role model for your children, make lifelong friends, and, yes, wear that fashionable referee uniform.
2. All teams with the targeted number of referee points for the AYSO Fall Season Program, for example, 16 referee points, will be eligible to participate in the League Playoffs for their division.
3. The primary brackets for League Playoffs in each of the 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions will be set based on the 8 teams with the highest standings determined by “game points.”
4. If there are more than 8 teams within a division with the targeted number of referee points, playoff brackets for the division will be determined by the number of teams qualifying, the number of earned “game points”, and the number of field game slots available. Because the number of League Playoff game slots may be less than the number of teams that are “eligible to participate,” all teams with the targeted number of referee points may not be guaranteed participation in League Playoffs. The actual number of League Playoff game slots in a division’s playoff bracket will be determined by the Regional Commission, at his/her discretion.