



Sponsored by AYSO Region 397 Bullhead City, AZ

28th Annual Colorado River Open Invitational Tournament

Referee Plan



Tournament Logo Here

The following are guidelines that the AYSO Colorado River Open Invitational Tournament will apply for referees in our **2026** tournament:

1. Commitment Requirements	A. Each team participating in the 2026 Colorado River Open Invitational Tournament must provide at least 1 crew consisting of at least 3 qualified referees. B. The Colorado River Referee Information Form must be completed, approved by the Region or Org. Referee Administrator (AYSO Area Referee Administrator in the case of AYSO referees for U-16/U-19 teams), and returned with the Team Application. C. Each referee team will be required to officiate at least 4 matches during the tournament. These may be game assignments or standby assignments, which will be considered equal in terms of earning the referee deposit refund. D. If all assignments are completed, the entire referee deposit of \$350 will be refunded within 14 days of the completion of the tournament. E. The deposit refund check will be returned to the Region/Organization Treasurer info shown on the Team Application form. F. A partial refund may be refunded to a region provided the referee team listed has satisfied some of the assignments and informed us ahead of time of assignments they cannot complete. G. The tournament reserves the right to reject any referee listed and revoke future scheduled assignments based on the qualification of the referee team. H. Remember: the quality of officiating is largely dependent upon the experience and abilities of the referees you provide.
2. Qualification Requirements	A. Each AYSO referee must have a current season volunteer form on file with the NSTC, provide their AYSO ID# and be trained and have Safe Haven, Cardiac Arrest, SafeSport and CDC Concussion Certification. 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. C. Each referee may only represent one team in the tournament. D. Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate without the written approval of the tournament referee administrator. E. Coaches in this tournament are discouraged but not forbidden from officiating so that scheduling of referees with the best experience and without conflicts is easier accomplished. F. Youth referees will only be allowed if they are not a player in the tournament. ARA/RRA must take great care when considering whether to allow a youth referee to officiate in the heated environment of a competitive tournament. These referees must always have their Youth Volunteer Application form with them and present it to any Tournament official upon request.
3. Uniform Requirement	A. All referees must be in full Uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF, including appropriate Badge. 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. C. Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to forfeiture.
4. Competency Requirements	A. Referees will be assigned to games as follows: 10-U: AYSO Regional Badge or higher / USSF Grade 9 or higher 12-U: AYSO Intermediate Badge or higher / USSF Grade 8 or higher 14-U: AYSO Advanced Badge or higher / USSF Grade 8 or higher 16-U/19-U: AYSO National Badge / USSF Grade 7 or higher Any exceptions must have the prior written approval of the Colorado River Referee Administrator. B. In addition, referees for the 16-U and 19-U levels must have written authorization from their Area Referee Administrator or Organizations Referee Administrator certifying that the referee is qualified

	and capable for this level of games. C. Every effort will be made to assign referees to neutral games at their level of competency or below. Referee crews may be asked to split up in order to meet these goals. D. Teams shall provide referees that can officiate at the age level of the team they represent or higher.
5. Tournament Rules	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. B. Only the diagonal system of control will be used. C. Referees shall fill out the game cards and to keep track of substitutions. (Additionally, coaches will keep time monitoring cards in 16-U/19- where monitored subs are allowed). D. Referees shall 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. E. Referees shall turn in all completed game cards and misconduct reports to the Referee Tent or Field Monitor immediately after each game.
6. Referee Schedules	A. <u>Referee schedules will be made available on the tournament website within 1 week of the tournament for all referees that have completed referee form by February 1. If no referee form is received by that time no assignments will be made and referee deposit will not be refunded.</u> Each team will be expected to ensure that the referee schedule and check-in instructions have been provided to their referee crew.
7. Use of Local Referees	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.
8. Referee Check-In	A. One referee per crew will be expected to check in at the Referee Station upon their arrival at the tournament, to register and to collect their Referee Mementos. B. At check-in, each referee team will be provided with a summarized set of tournament rules that they will be expected to administer. C. All three 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.
9. Referee Mementos	A. Referees will be provided with meals and drinks at the referee tent for each day that they officiate. Chilled water and snacks will also be available at the Referee Station. A wrist band will be provided to each referee, and they can make unlimited use of the referee tent and the meals provided while they display their wrist band. B. Participating referees will receive appropriate mementos to thank them for their contribution. C. Volunteers for medal round games will be requested and provided gifts.
10. Address:	Referee forms must be mailed with the Team Application to: AYSO 397 CRIT 2440 HWY 95 Ste B #397 Bullhead City, AZ, 86442
11. Contact Information:	Questions regarding referee requirements should be directed to: Text October Larsen 928-201-2987 E-mail bullheadsoccer@yahoo.com Web site www.ayso397.org