



The 9th Annual AYSO Region 85 Lake Forest Cup Referee Plan



The following are guidelines that will apply for referees in the 2026 AYSO Region 85 Lake Forest Cup Tournament.

Commitment Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Each team participating in the 2026 AYSO Region 85 Lake Forest Cup Tournament must provide at least one crew consisting of three qualified referees. B. The Lake Forest Cup Referee Information Form must be completed, approved by the Regional Referee Administrator and submitted with the Team Application. C. Each referee team will be asked to officiate a minimum of three matches during the tournament (nine games total). 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 \$300 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. E. The deposit refund check will be returned to the Region at the address shown on the Team Application form. F. Remember: the quality of officiating is largely dependent upon the experience and abilities of the referees you provide. 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. H. Should a team's referees fail to appear for their assigned game and no replacement referees can be found, then the entire team's referee deposit may be forfeited regardless of how many other assignments the referee crew may have completed.
Qualification Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Each AYSO trained referee must have a current season volunteer form on file with the AYSO National Office, provide their AYSO ID# and have all required certifications. 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. <u>Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate.</u> 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. If an exception is warranted due to lack of other referee volunteers, this must be approved in advance by the Lake Forest Cup Referee Administrator. 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. G. Youth referees must be approved by their Regional Referee Administrator, by completing the Lake Forest Cup Youth Referee Authorization Letter. These referees must have their Youth Volunteer Letter and Youth Volunteer Application form with them at all times and present it to any Tournament official upon request. H. Youth referees will only be assigned to games where they are qualified and they must be at least 2 years older than the age group they are officiating.
Uniform Requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. All referees must be in full Uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF, including appropriate AYSO 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.

Competency Requirements	<p>A. Referees will be assigned to games as follows: 10U: Regional Badge or higher 12U: Intermediate Badge or higher 14U: Advanced Badge or higher</p> <p>Any exceptions must have the prior written approval of the Lake Forest Cup 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> <p>C. Each team will provide at least one referee that is qualified to Referee (center) a game at the same level (e.g. 12U, 14U) as their participating team.</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 Field Monitor or to the Referee table immediately after each game.</p>
Referee Schedules	<p>A. Referee schedules will be available on the tournament website within one week prior to 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 representing participating teams 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.</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. The Lake Forest Cup Referee Administrator will track the game assignment completions. That will be the basis for determining the referee deposit refund amount for the tournament team.</p>
Referee Mementos	<p>A. Referees will be provided chilled water and snacks that will be available at the Referee Station.</p> <p>B. Participating referees will receive a gift and a flipping coin as a memento to thank them for their contribution.</p>
Submit Referee Form:	<p>Referee forms are available on the tournament website.</p>
Contact Information:	<p>Questions regarding referee requirements should be directed to: Jim Hansen (949) 735-4142 td@ayso85.org www.lakeforestcup.org www.ayso85.org</p>