

Greetings Future and/or Current Referees,

Thank you for taking the time and making the commitment to become a certified SAY referee. The need for referees in the entire soccer community is great and I hope this is just the beginning of a promising career for you. Much of what needs to be done on your part is online now and can be completed in your home at your own pace. I caution though not to wait till the last minute to complete things.

The required items are listed below along with the website.

CONCUSSION CERTIFICATE: <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/concussion-in-sports-2> You will need to create an account first. The concussion course is free. It is good for 3 years. Make sure to print a copy of your certificate and save it.

SAFE SPORT CERTIFICATE: <https://bit.ly/2HzhMsb> Safe Sport covers the topics of abuse and bullying in sports. It is required for those 18 years and older. Plan for 90 minutes to complete this course. The access code is YC3E-6P5G-YYIL-CS2M

SAFE SPORT YOUTH TRAINING: <https://www.athletesafety.org/training/index> This training series focus on youth under 17-years-old. A parent must first create an account and consent for their child to access the training as well as select the appropriate module. They are divided up by age groups and you only have to watch the one in your age bracket.

SAY SOCCER REFEREE TRAINING: <https://www.saysoccer.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1029600> This link will take you to SAY's website page on becoming a referee. Here you will find separate links for the [training](#) and [test](#). You must the pass the test with a 70%. Results need to be sent to sidell_915@msn.com. If an in-person class is scheduled for the current season, the test results will be reviewed at that time. You will also cover other basic laws of the game and discuss some other game type situations and how to handle them. Prepare to spend 2 hours at this in-person class.

- **[Entry Level Referee Test:](#)** The Entry Level referee (EL7) is a 50-question test can be used for a new or entry-level referee. (recommended for first time referees who want to officiate at the 8U division)
- **[Intermediate Level Referee Test:](#)** The Intermediate Level Test (IL1) is a 60-question test that is more challenging and covers topics such as offsides and difficult restarts. (recommended for referees who want to officiate at the 10U division and above)

U.S. SOCCER FEDERATION REFEREE PROGRAM:

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLsAXIYtop5OuWuRbZmHjRVBsDfvZlzkhC&fbclid=IwAR1or4o1ZEYw7S4DFI7E8qtgw3trUNigL_yyMWFzdCP_aj15v_ZNrzVwMU This link is to the YouTube channel of US Soccer's referee program. It covers many of the different Laws of the Game but should be used as a resource only. Test questions and answers are based on the SAY Soccer videos.

SUPPLIES: There are some basic supplies that every referee needs to have on them for every game. These include but not limited to time keeping piece, whistle, red/yellow cards and small pocket notebook with pencil/pen.

UNIFORM: A referee's uniform is also essential to doing a good job. The basics are plain black or yellow t-shirt, black shorts, dark shoes and socks. While you can pick up almost all of the above at any sporting goods store, below are some links to stores that partner with US Soccer.

<https://www.saysoccerstore.com/Soccer-Referee/departments/211/>

<https://officialsports.com>

If you have any questions, please send me an email at [Sidell_915@msn.com](mailto:sidell_915@msn.com) I look forward to working with you and helping you get started on the path to officiating the wonderful game of soccer.

Jason Sidell
ESSL Referee Coordinator