



NORTHERN MONMOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION FAIR HAVEN REFEREE QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES



These guidelines define qualifications for referees employed by Fair Haven Recreational Soccer league matches. There are three referee levels: Apprentice, Junior and Senior. Qualifications for each of the levels are described below. Level of qualification takes into account the referee's: age, experience, ability and performance. The assigned level will remain in effect for the entire soccer season unless a compelling reason justifies otherwise (positively or negatively). At the conclusion of each season, it is the referee coordinator's action to evaluate the performance of all referees to be used for the subsequent season's rating. The Referee Coordinator makes the final determination of appropriate level for referees prior to each soccer season based on past performance (taking into consideration any unsolicited input from coaches and FH Recreation Soccer officials). If a referee digresses in their performance, it is the referee coordinator's responsibility to inform them as to their deficiency and outline what improvement is needed. If improvement is not immediately evident, it is the referee coordinator's responsibility to demote the referee to the next lower level or to reassign the balance of their scheduled games to more skilled referees.

Level	Qualifications/Experience							
	AGE	COMMAND OF THE GAME	CLARITY OF CALLS	EXPERIENCE	FIELD COVERAGE	PROMPTNESS & FIELD SAFETY	RULES IMPLEMENTATION	WHISTLE USEAGE
Apprentice	Minimum age of 14 years.	Must exhibit an increasing ability to command the intensity of play on the field as the season progresses.	Must make clear, concise and forceful calls with some assistance from Jr & Sr referees.	USSF Grade 8	Must exhibit full field zone coverage as directed prior to kick off by the Senior referee. ¹	Must be at the field of play thirty (30) minutes prior to kick off for field safety inspection and player equipment check.	Must clearly apply the rules of the game with some assistance from Junior and/or Senior referees.	Must apply a: loud, crisp, commanding whistle that can clearly stop play immediately.
Junior	Minimum high school Freshman	Project a nearly full command of players, coaches and fans and increased ability as the season progresses.	Must make clear, concise and forceful calls with minimal assistance from Sr referees.	USSF Grade 8 & a minimum of twelve (12) games refereed.			Must clearly apply the rules of the game with minimal assistance from Senior referees.	
Senior	Minimum high school Sophomore	Full command of intensity of play, and coach's and fan's interference with play.	Must make clear, concise and forceful calls without hesitation.	USSF Grade 8 & a minimum of twenty-four (24) games refereed.	Is responsible for full field coverage by all referees. No circle officiating is allowed. ¹		Must clearly apply the rules of the game without hesitation.	

¹ If a referee is injured and/or ill and officiates a game while not being capable of proper field coverage, that is reason for immediate demotion to a lower level. Each referee must officiate a game in the same manner that they would prefer to see a game of their own officiated. Players deserve proper officiating regardless of age or gender.