

TIPP CITY YOUTH SOCCER

OFFICIATING NEWS!

www.tippsoccer.org

May 2012

Fellow Referees:

I hope you are looking forward to returning for the **2012** Fall SAY soccer season as a TCYS referee. TCYS enjoyed a very successful **2011** season, in which the referees played a huge part. I have posted the **2011 Referee Report**, on the TCYS website, which summarizes all the data from last season. (Go to the **Referee** page.)

TCYS will continue to participate in the Miami Valley East Area of SAY, comprised of Graham, Miami East, Northwestern, and Bethel school districts. Opening Day is Saturday, **August 18**. The regular season ends Saturday, **October 6**, followed by tournament play.

Please inform me as soon as you know your intent to referee this year. You may provide an explanation as well. I am always updating my database and would like you to send me any corrections to your information, especially your preferred e-mail address. Please update me on any home address or phone number change. I will call you if I do not hear from you. This will help me know how much 'recruiting' I will need to do.

The payment schedule for the Fall Season will be:

U8 Passers – \$10	U12 Strikers & U14 Kickers – \$20
U10 Wings – \$18	U18 Minors/Seniors – \$22

Referees who have attained the rank of 'Certified Referee' will now receive an additional \$1 per game, payable at the end of the season. As I hope you already understand, Refereeing is not just about money, but also about providing a very valuable service to the kids playing the game. As a referee you will gain a perspective of the game that you will get nowhere else.

- **Refresher Clinics (Returning Referees must attend one)**
 1. Tuesday, **August 7** from 7 to 9 pm in the basement of the Tipp-Monroe Twp. Bldg.
 2. Wednesday, **August 8** (same)

➤ The Refresher Clinics are intended for returning SAY-ONLY referees. If you are a veteran USSF Licensed Referee, you do not have to attend due to your other annual trainings. However, it would be helpful for you to come to review the TCYS referee 2-man system and procedures and hear any SAY rules changes or new points of emphasis for this year. Less-experienced youth (under 18 yrs) USSF AR's/referees should attend regardless for added reinforcement of the Laws and TCYS procedures.
- **Introductory Clinic on the Laws of the Game (Less experienced Returning Referees are welcome, but not required, to attend either or both of these sessions as another option)**
 1. Indoor Class on Saturday, **August 4**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Zion Lutheran Church at the NW corner of Third and Main Streets. Park and enter in rear on W. Walnut St. Free pizza and pop will be provided at lunch. Instruction/videos will continue through lunch.
 2. Outdoor Session on Sunday, **August 5**, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at Kyle Park shelter/restroom facility near the Passers fields at the east end of the main parking lot.

Please email me your intent to attend any of these clinics. If you cannot attend and still want to referee, call or write me to discuss your situation.

You will receive a *SAY Rulebook* at the Clinic. **If you want to try for SAY Certification and a 'Certified Referee' patch (a score of ≥ 90),** you will be given the ***SAY Referee Test*** to take home and return to me. You will be permitted to use your *SAY Rulebook* and any other resource to take the test. This is the best way to build your knowledge of the *Laws of the Game (LOTG)*. We will go over a shorter test at the clinic.

You will be using www.thegameschedule.com to select the games you want to work. You will use the same Referee # and Password that I assigned you last year to access the game schedule. I will review the game selection and approval process at the Refresher Clinics.

Each referee has been assigned a 'Referee Rating' based on his/her age, experience, and knowledge of the game as demonstrated by test scores and observed performance (if a veteran). Also, each Player Age Division has a minimum 'Referee Rating' required to work that group, for both the Ref 1 (higher rating) and Ref 2 positions. As last year, only those games that you qualify for will be available for you to request on the game schedule website. You may request a higher rating at any time by contacting me.

As I suggest every year, you may prepare for the season by reviewing the *LOTG* and their many nuances using the following resources. US Soccer particularly has great publications from which to draw the latest interpretations and guidelines for referees on the *LOTG*. I have found them to be extremely helpful.

- ***Advice to Referees on the Laws of the Game*** – <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Resource-Center/Instruction.aspx> - This book in pdf is a must-read for all referees. It very thoroughly elaborates on each law. When reading it, keep in mind that the National SAY organization has modified only a couple of the laws for the betterment of recreational play, mostly regarding substitutions and play by the Goalkeeper in the *Passers* and *Wings* divisions. That's why you receive a SAY Rulebook instead of the USSF Laws of the Game. As you read '*Advice*', keep your SAY rulebook handy for comparison. This is a great way to improve your knowledge and understanding of the game.
- ***The Laws of the Game – section on Interpretations of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees*** – <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx> - Click *Laws of the Game*; the *Interpretations* section is towards the back. Special considerations for each Law are covered.
- ***Position Papers*** – <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Resource-Center/Instruction.aspx> - Click *Training* - Here are more explanations and clarifications of certain aspects of the *LOTG* and other related topics.
- ***Ask A Referee*** – You have to type in "*Ask A Referee*" in the "Search" window – Here is an archive of many questions that Referees and coaches have submitted concerning situations they have encountered. An expert at USSF answers them clearly and succinctly. As always, the answer often comes down to the judgment of the referee. But at least 'he' explains the "why" behind the law in each situation.
- ***USASAY Online Training*** – You may also wish to review the *LOTG* by going to www.saysoccer.org and taking the '*Online Training*' offered by USASAY, as you may have done as a new referee. Click the '*Referee*' link in the left margin, then click '*Online Training*'. There you will find the online SAY *Referee Training Program* that will take you through the *LOTG* at your own pace. You will be asked to answer questions following each section and given immediate feedback as to how you did. You will be able to review the material just covered for clarification. It is a good way to refresh.

I do hope your personal schedule allows you to return and that you desire to continue to improve your understanding of the game and your skills as a referee. TCYS needs you. We were very fortunate to have a lot of referees willing to give their time to our SAY program last fall. It is my intent to help develop anyone who wants to referee. So, please, tell any friends about the Introductory Clinic who might be interested in starting out like you did and have them apply online or call or write me.

As always, I am open to feedback anytime. Please feel free to contact me with suggestions or comments about things that concern you or ways to improve the training, scheduling, training, etc., or even things you thought were great. I will send a reminder about the clinics as the dates get closer.

Thanks for your help.

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