

# TIPP CITY YOUTH SOCCER

## IT'S OFFICIAL!

[www.tippsoccer.org](http://www.tippsoccer.org) / [tcysreferees@gmail.com](mailto:tcysreferees@gmail.com)



July 2020

Dear Referee Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in learning how to become a referee in the upcoming **2020** soccer season. As of June, we plan on having a Fall season. We will be following Covid-19 guidelines as outlined by our new governing soccer organization, the USYS, which we joined a few months ago. We will exercise “social distancing” precautions during the indoor training. New Candidates must wear a mask during the Introductory Clinic.

In order to become a referee, you must do the following:

1. Go to [www.tippsoccer.org/Referees](http://www.tippsoccer.org/Referees)
  - a. Find and read the *Referee Requirements*.
  - b. Find and read the *Referee Code of Conduct*.
  - c. Find and complete the *Referee Application*. There are no requirements to apply other than meeting the age criteria shown on the application of 14 yrs by Dec. 21 of this year.
  - d. Find and read *The IFAB Laws of the Game*.
  - e. Find and read the *OSYSA Small-Sided Rules for 7v7*. (The MVE League has slightly modified a couple of these rules.)
2. Attend the Introductory Clinic on the Laws of the Game – by Todd Niswonger, USSF Referee
  - a. Indoor Class on Saturday, **August 8**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the **TIPP CITY GOVT CENTER** at 260 S. Garber Dr. Free pizza and pop will be provided at lunch. Instruction/videos will continue through lunch.
  - b. Outdoor Session on Sunday, **August 9**, 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. Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the Outdoor Session, but let us know us if you cannot.
  - c. There is no charge to attend either session.
3. Even if you do apply, you must still **CONFIRM** that you will actually attend the clinic on **August 8** so we can plan for food and teaching materials. Please **CONFIRM** by **WEDNESDAY, August 6** by emailing me at [tcysreferees@gmail.com](mailto:tcysreferees@gmail.com), or by calling or texting me at 937-499-4378.
4. **You are under no obligation to attend the clinic once you apply, but we will assume you are not coming if you do not CONFIRM by the above date. If you forget to CONFIRM, by the above date, you may still attend; but please call Todd to let him know you are coming.**
5. Take home the Referee Test:
  - a. Use any online or written source to find the answers.
  - b. Return it within 1 week.
  - c. Score at least '70'.

Opening Day is Saturday, **August 29**. The regular season ends Thursday, **October 15**, followed by tournament play. I have posted the [2019 TCYS Officiating Report](#) on the TCYS website, [www.tippsoccer.org](http://www.tippsoccer.org). This will give you an idea of the scope of the referee program.

A single referee is assigned to 8U Passers matches. Two referees are assigned to each match in the older groups. The referee pay scale for games played at Kyle Park in Tipp City is currently;

- 8U Passers – \$20 (7v7, 1 ref)
- 10U Wings – \$25 (7v7, 2 refs)
- 12U Strikers – \$30 (9v9, 2 refs)
- 14U Kickers – \$35 (11v11, 2 refs)
- 19U Minors/Seniors Co-ed – \$40 (11v11, 2 refs)

As mentioned above, TCYS is no longer a member of SAY Soccer. We joined USYS in February. However, we will still play the Districts we have played for many years...Bethel, Graham, Miami East, and Northwestern....they also made the switch. If you choose to referee any matches there, the pay may be different.

As I hope you already understand, refereeing is not just about the money you will make; it is also about your 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 in no other way.

It is my intent to help develop anyone who wants to referee and to assist any referee who wants to improve. I and other experienced referees will take every opportunity I can to assess each referee's level of interest and apparent knowledge of the game. I will also assist any referee who wants to improve. However, if you decide after completing the training that refereeing is not for you, or you encounter too many scheduling conflicts, that's fine....just let me know.

Before you take the field I must be reasonably confident that you are interested in and capable of becoming a referee. One way I do this is via a **Referee Test**, which you will be given to take home and return to me. **You will be permitted to use your Rulebook and any other online resource to take the test.** This is the best way to build your knowledge of the *LOTG*. You must return the answer sheet and test booklet to me before you can request matches. A minimum score of **70** qualifies a candidate to referee; those scoring **below 70** may be permitted to continue on **Probationary Status** at the discretion of the TCYS Referee Coordinator. After the clinic and prior to your first match, you will observe part of a match from the perspective of a referee. I or another experienced referee will go over some of the finer points with you.

Referees select their own matches on a referee scheduling website, which will be described to you at the clinic. Prior to Opening Day you will be given online access to all the games being played during the season within the entire Miami Valley East League. You will find matches to request based upon your own availability. I will approve your request unless I feel the game may be too challenging for your level of experience. Generally, if you are new, your partner will be a more experienced referee that you can learn from. You will receive a confirmation email of your match selection at the email address you provide us. So, it is essential that you have access to a computer and a reliable email address for consistent communication.

During your first year you may referee any age group you feel comfortable with upon my final approval. If you choose a match in one of the older age groups (9-19 yrs), you must have demonstrated to me through prior experience, your test score, maturity, and commitment that you have the capability to apply the laws of the game effectively (especially Law X11 – Offside).

Many referees also play Select and High School soccer. There is no doubt that refereeing has enhanced their understanding and appreciation of the game when they play. We hope you too decide to become a **Soccer Referee!** Of course, contact us if you have any questions before then. Try to prepare some for the clinic by visiting the websites mentioned above and reading the materials on the Laws of the Game.

Thank you,

Mike Mahan, Director of Officiating - TCYS, INC.

950 Hunters Ridge Dr., Tipp City

937-499-4378

[tcyreferees@gmail.com](mailto:tcyreferees@gmail.com)

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