

TIPP CITY YOUTH SOCCER

OFFICIATING NEWS!

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Fellow Referees:

I hope you are looking forward to returning for the **2011** Fall SAY soccer season as a TCYS referee. TCYS enjoyed a very successful **2010** season, in which the referees played a large part. I have posted the **2010 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 20**. The regular season ends Saturday, **October 1**, 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

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.

You will be using www.thegameschedule.com again 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.

- **Refresher Clinics (Returning Referees must attend one)**
 1. Tuesday, **August 9** from 7 to 9 pm in the basement of the Tipp-Monroe Twp. Bldg.
 2. Wednesday, **August 10** (same)
 - The Refresher Clinics are intended primarily for returning SAY-ONLY referees. Experienced USSF Licensed Referees do not have to attend, since they receive other frequent trainings. If you are USSF licensed, it would still be very helpful if you did attend in order to hear of the TCYS referee procedures, any SAY rules changes, and 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 to attend either or both of these sessions as another option)**
 1. Indoor Class on Saturday, **August 6**, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Tipp-Monroe Twp. Building basement at the corner of Third and Main Streets (4 E. Main St.). Enter the Third St. entrance. Free pizza and pop will be provided at lunch. Instruction/videos will continue through lunch.
 2. Outdoor Session on Sunday, **August 7**, 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 register with 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. You will also 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)*. You must return the answer sheet and test booklet to me before they can request games at Kyle Park. You should try to get a score of **70** or better, which is the minimum to meet the **Qualified** referee level, according to *USASAY*. *USASAY* permits anyone scoring <70 to referee on **Probationary Status** at the discretion of the District Referee Administrator; *TCYS* does this. You must get a score of **at least 90** in order to get a 'Certified' Referee patch.

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. I think the system worked pretty well last Fall, being it was the first year of employment.

As I suggest every year, you may prepare for the season by reviewing the *LOTG* and their many nuances on your own 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, by the United States Soccer Federation \(USSF\)](http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Resource-Center/Zone-1.aspx)** – <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Resource-Center/Zone-1.aspx> - This document clearly explains and elaborates the laws of the game as the 'world' plays it. 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 involving substitutions and the Goalkeeper for the 6-9 year old age groups. That's why you receive a SAY Rulebook instead of the USSF Laws of the Game. As you read this 'Advice', keep your SAY rulebook handy for comparison. This is a great way to improve your knowledge and understanding of the game. These resources have helped me tremendously, and I know they will help you, too.
- **[Interpretations of the Laws of the Game and Guidelines for Referees](http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx)** – <http://www.ussoccer.com/Referees/Laws-of-the-Game.aspx> - Click on **2010-11** Laws of the Game - FIFA Version / page 55. Special considerations for each Law are covered.
- **[Ask a Referee](#)** – also under '*Laws of the Game*' - Referees and coaches alike send in questions on the laws of the game and 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. I refer to both of these documents all the time.
- **[Position Papers](#)** – detailed explanations and clarifications on specifics of the *LOTG* and other topics
- **[USASAY Online Training](http://www.saysoccer.org)** – 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 on 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 go back to review the material just covered for clarification. I think you will find it a very helpful 'refresher'. As always, you will receive a new SAY Rulebook at the clinic. You may also read the SAY Rulebook online. Last year's *SAY Rulebook* will still probably be current, as changes to the Laws are rare.

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 (**new email address below**).

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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