TCSRA REFEREE ASSIGNING POLICY

The TriCities Soccer Referee Association (TCSRA) is dedicated to the development of soccer referees in the TriCities Tennessee/Virginia regional area. As such, it strives to communicate and facilitate assigning of referees for the various leagues in the area, including Middle School, High School, College, Youth, Adult, and Amateur. In the case of High School and Middle School leagues in the State of Tennessee sanctioned under the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), TCSRA officers include the Assigning Officer certified by the Tennessee Secondary Schools Athletics Association (TSSAA). TCSRA also provides the ongoing Continuing Education required by TSSAA for its officials. As a result, for purposes of assigning officials to NFHS matches, referee assignment is intertwined with TCSRA membership.

The following policies and guidelines are adopted to ensure all referees assigned to TSSAA matches in the area are properly trained and certified, and reflect the high standards of the Association. The TSSAA Assigning officer is tasked with the implementation of these policies. It is recognized that the Assigning Officer is responsible to provide referees for all scheduled games out of an often limited pool of TCSRA referees. As a result, the Assigning Officer may exercise judgment in the application of these policies as necessary.

1. All referees assigned to **TSSAA sanctioned matches and scrimmages** shall be certified by TSSAA for the current school year. **NO EXCEPTIONS ARE ALLOWED.**
2. Previously certified or non-certified officials may be assigned to non-sanctioned matches at the discretion of the Assigning Officer. Priority should be given to TCSRA members in good standing for such assignments.
3. All referees assigned to TSSAA sanctioned matches and scrimmages must have passed the current NFHS soccer rules examination. (This is a TCSRA requirement over and above TSSAA certification.)
4. All referees assigned to TSSAA post season matches must have completed the required continuing education requirements specified by TSSAA (currently this is attendance at the annual TSSAA Rules Meeting as well as THREE TCSRA meetings during the past 12 months.) The Rules Meeting may be online, depending upon TSSAA directives.
5. Attendance at TVSRA (Tennessee Valley Soccer Referee Association in the Greater Knoxville Area) meetings during the past 12 months can be substituted one for one for attendance at TCSRA meetings for purposes of meeting the TSSAA Continuing Education Requirements.
6. Referees who have not attended the annual TSSAA Rules Meeting and/or three TCSRA meetings in the past 12 months may still be assigned to TSSAA matches, but are given lowest priority for assignments. It should be noted that TSSAA places such officials on probation for one year. Referees who have been on probation for more than one year may only be assigned matches on an exception basis.
7. Referees who are not current in TCSRA dues are given low priority for TSSAA assignments.

8. Referees who are under review by the TCSRA Referee Review Committee shall be assigned with caution by the Assigning Officer, who shall take into careful account the bases for the review. The chairman of the Referee Review Committee shall communicate directly with the Assigning Officer on such issues. Depending upon the findings of the Committee, such referees may or may not be assigned future games.

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