

## OYAA Soccer - Referee FAQ - *updated March 20, 2024*

**Referee Coordinator:** Michael Lentz 614-570-2605 [MLentz@OYAA.ORG](mailto:MLentz@OYAA.ORG)

**Referee Instructor:** Matt Nichols 614-353-1587 [matthew.s.nichols.74@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.s.nichols.74@gmail.com)

### ArbiterSports

OYAA uses the referee management system called [ArbiterSports](#)

#### I'm a NEW Referee

- 1) After training, OYAA will create a profile for each referee (First, Last, Email Address)
- 2) Referees receive a **Welcome Email\*** from ArbiterSports with instructions on how to use the website.
- 3) Referees REQUIRED to update profile: First/Last Name; Email Address; Cell Phone; Mailing Address
- 4) OYAA updates referee status (rank + concussion certif.)

**I'm a RETURNING Referee** - Go to ArbiterSports & confirm Email, Cell Phone, Mailing Address.

### Signing Up for Games

Game Assignment Questions	Answer
When does the OYAA Soccer season begin?	Games Begin Saturday, April 12, 2025
When can I sign up for games?	Sign-ups begin Saturday, April 5 @8:30 AM.
How will I know it's time to sign-up for games?	OYAA will send you an email notification
Where do I sign-up for games?	<a href="#">ArbiterSports</a>
How many games can I sign-up for?	You can sign-up for <b>6</b> games every 24 hours
What do I need when selecting games?	Know your availability - sports, family, school, other
How do I know if there are open games?	You must login and check the game schedule
How often should I check Arbiter for games?	Check often; you can sign up for games every 24hrs
How many games can I referee in a day?	You can officiate a max of <b>4</b> games in a single day. <b>See #1</b>
What if I cannot work a game I signed up for?	Email Referee Coordinator; ONLY way to drop a game. <b>#2</b>
What happens if I don't show up for a game?	We know things happen, but communicate. <b>See #3</b>

#### NOTES

**#1:** at 5:00 PM, on the Thursday before a Saturday Game Day, if games are still open for the next day, referees may schedule additional games, up to a total of **6** for the day. If at any time any of the OYAA coaches see that the extra games are causing a quality problem, this policy can be revoked on a case by case basis.

**#2:** If you find you are within 2 days and cannot ref a game, when you email me to request removal, you **MUST** include the reason for your absence and why you need to be removed from the game.

**#3:** No shows and cancellations too close to a game day/time without a valid reason will be monitored. Multiple occurrences of this nature can result in being removed from future games.

## Game Day - Be Ready!

Game Assignment Questions	Answer
How early should I arrive at my game?	Report to game field at least 10-15 min before the kick-off
What should I bring with me to the game?	Be prepared. <b>See #5</b>
What do I do before games?	Check Field! Meet Coach and Players! <b>See #6</b>
What do I do after the game?	Go through the post-game routine! <b>See #7</b>
What do I do with the game cards?	Save them. You'll send them to OYAA..
What if I lose my game card?	Email the Referee Coordinator
What if a coach won't sign the game card?	Email Referee Coordinator with concerns, Team #/Color.
How many referees are at each game?	We try to schedule 2 referees
What if only 1 referee shows up to the game?	You will have to referee the game on your own.
Where do I find the game cards?	OYAA Website – Referee page
How do I report issues to OYAA?	Call/ Email Referee Coordinator with information.

## Severe Weather Updates & Cancellation Policy

Game Assignment Questions	Answer
Where is the Game Day Field Status posted?	OYAA Website - details will be shared with you via email
When Should I check the field status?	2 hours before your scheduled game time. <b>See #8</b>
I'm at the field and see lightning, hear thunder?	Stop the Game! <b>See #9</b>

### NOTES

**#5:** Referees should be prepared for the game. They should have

- |                      |  |         |                                 |
|----------------------|--|---------|---------------------------------|
| * OYAA referee shirt | * Whistle                                | * Watch | * OYAA Game Card/ pen or pencil |
| * Water bottle/Snack | * Your Schedule (all games for that day) |         |                                 |

**#6:** Pre-game routine is **VERY** important. If two referees are at the game, each referee should handle 1 team. If there is only 1 referee at the game, manage time so you can check-in both teams per the duties described below. It shows coaches and parents you are ready and prepared. Introducing yourself to the coach and players builds trust and respect! Engaging them in a brief "Hello! How Are You?" builds a relationship.

**Check the field** – make sure the field is safe for the players. Check the goals – make sure they are secure and no holes in the net. If there are, try to fix them. Report any equipment issues to Michelle Davies by email/ phone. **Meet the Coaches and Players** – introduce yourself to the coach. Let them know how you will manage the game (when subs can come in, length of the quarters, important rules to remember). Then, Greet the players, tell them your name, check their equipment, remind them of the important rules, ask them if they have any questions.

**#7:** Post Game Routine is **VERY** Important. Thank the players and coaches. Watching them shake hands to ensure all players and coaches conduct themselves with good sportsmanship. After the players & coaches shake hands, ask 1 coach, from **EACH TEAM**, to **SIGN** the **GAME CARD**.

**#8:** Referees are encouraged to check the [www.OYAA.org](http://www.OYAA.org) website **BEFORE** you leave home for a game. Even if the weather is perfect, the soccer fields could have been impacted by poor weather and be closed, OR the games may have been moved to a new location. OYAA will notify referees as soon as possible by email and text message if there are changes to field assignments.

**#9:** OYAA Severe Weather Policy is non-negotiable. Policy + Delay Procedures - Click [HERE](#) to review.

## Referee Pay Scale and Payment Information

Game Assignment Questions	Answer
How much do I earn per game?	See the pay scale below
How do I get paid?	Submit game cards; OYAA mails a paycheck to referee
When do I get paid?	End of Season
Do I get paid if the game is canceled by weather?	Possibly. OYAA will communicate as necessary

### Rec games:

1st/2nd grade = \$12 per game, solo \$18

3rd/4th grade = \$15 per game, solo \$23

6th grade = \$20 per game, solo \$30.

USSF certified Grassroots Referees will be paid \$5 more per game.

Generally, payments will not be made for games canceled by OYAA.

Referees will have 1st right of refusal to pick up the rescheduled games.

Yes, If a coach cancels a game and you, as the referee, are not notified. You need to email the Referee Coordinator when this happens.

### **Game Card - [HERE](#)**

We cannot pay you for a game unless you turn in a legible "OYAA Referee Game Card". You should always keep extra cards in your ref bag. You can also find game cards on the OYAA site under referee.

### **Getting Paid:**

OYAA collects game cards by email.

After the game (ideally Saturday or Sunday) take a picture of the game cards and email to [MLentz@oyaa.org](mailto:MLentz@oyaa.org).

Paychecks are mailed to the referees at the end of the season. OYAA will send an email reminder before the season is over with specific information.