

Referee Instructor Roundtable Notes

27 March 2022

- Conducting Zoom Roundtables more frequently than annually would be welcome
- How to get people to the Regional Referee class?
 - Enlist the coaches to recruit from their parents as volunteer
 - ◆ Have the coaches explain in their parent meetings how much time coaching commits and solicit support from parents to referee
 - ◆ Explain that you cannot have a team without a coach and you cannot have a game without referees. Without referees, the scheduled match reverts to scrimmage and does not contribute to standings.
 - Conduct a meet you team day where coaches, parents & players meet and submit their volunteer list
 - Have new experienced referees, including women, present at registration to solicit volunteers
 - Implement a point system for participation in playoffs
 - ◆ Report weekly opportunity for training to coaches & parents
 - ◆ Report weekly standings for referee points to coaches & parents
 - ◆ Use management, Coach and Referee Administrators to propagate the communicate the points
 - ◆ Secure Board commitment to support the program in the face of appeals for end of season exceptions to the points program
- Where is the balance between scaring new referees and preparing them how to handle abuse?
 - Have a meeting early in the season with new coaches and new referees to address questions that they have after officiating a few games
 - Primary responsibility for instructors is to lower the fear level for new Referees
 - Explain sources for available support and reinforce the availability of help

- Educate coaches and parents on the zero-tolerance for abuse of referees
- Have a scrimmage weekend prior to the start of the season:
 - ◆ Goal is socialization and familiarization with conduct of the game
 - ◆ Use your most experience referees
 - ◆ Take time to review procedures and stop to address questions
- How to lower the anxiety for new officials?
 - Stress the truism that we're all human and make mistakes. It's OK.
 - Provide mentoring to new Referees for the few games
 - Assign mentors to 9U & 10U fields as a resource to new officials
 - Have a new referee gathering early (1-2 weeks) in the season to give new them the opportunity to ask questions about their first experiences
 - As instructors, avoid the war stories and scary stories
 - Use the class time to offer attendees the chance to introduce themselves, their experience with the game, motivation for taking the time to certify as a Referee
 - Pair new referees with experienced referees for match assignments
- How to provide coaches exposure to the LOTG?
 - Have experienced referees attend team practices and answer questions from coaches and players on the application of LOTG, changes to the LOTG
 - Require coaches to be Regional Referees and do a few games each season
- In-Person Training vs Online Regional Referee + Online Companion Course?
 - In-Person has the advantage bring in new instructors; disadvantage is the course is 8 hours
 - Online has the advantage of less in-person time; disadvantage is that it's confirmation of learning and less instruction. Requires more experienced instructors
- How to encourage development of new Instructors?
 - Sponsor them to attend Ken Aston Camp <https://www.kenastoncamps.org>

- ETrainU:
 - Access through your Regional Portal, with a current Risk Status, click the "AYSOU" button.
 - Switch to your instructor account, accept the waiver then use the PDF instructions link below to create courses in eTrainU
 - Missing your instructor account? Contact the AYSO support at support@ayso.zendesk.com to have your Instructor certification updated
 - Demo by Joey Catuara: joey.catuara@gmail.com
- Sources for help and support:
 - Regional Board, Referee and Coach Staff
 - Neighboring Regions
 - Your Area

Thank you for attending. Please contact us with any follow-up questions or ideas.

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Resources:

- eTrainU Instructor Notes: https://www.ayso1ref.com/expo/ayso_instructor_etrainu