



OKLAHOMA REFEREE PROGRAM

A Message From The SRA

Dear Referees/Assigners/Mentors,

Welcome to the start of the 2025 season. What a year we had in 2024 and I want to thank each and everyone of you that dedicated so many weekends and time to help grow the referee program in Oklahoma and make our game that much better. Your hard work is being recognized by players, coaches and administrators across the state and across the nation.

As we look to 2025, Oklahoma is developing great referees at all levels of the game. I just returned from a trip to Atlanta, GA where we attended the U.S. Soccer General Membership meeting. For the first time, referees had a seat at the table with coaches, players, administrators and others. It's a huge step for the growth of referees and we will see huge steps taken going forward. U.S. Soccer is committed to enhancing, growing and protecting referees at all levels.

You may have seen the new Referee Abuse Prevention penalty overview released by U.S. Soccer within the last couple months. It is now in affect. It is hoped that by creating penalty factors for certain types of abuse, it will help eliminate the growing problem in our sport. That's why I encourage anyone that is confronted by coaches, players, parents, etc. to immediately take action. File reports and/or call law enforcement to make sure abuse is accounted for and dealt with. As you see by the chart, penalties will be severe for certain offenses.

OFFENSE	PTS	TIME
NON-PHYSICAL OFFENSES		
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Coaches, Parents, or Others	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Players or Parents	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Fans or Others	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Media or Others	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Officials	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Spectators	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Staff or Others	2	
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Anyone	2	
PHYSICAL OFFENSES		
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Anyone	10	15 Minutes
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Anyone	10	15 Minutes
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Anyone	10	15 Minutes
Abuse of Authority or Intimidation by Anyone	10	15 Minutes
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In 2025, you will see many changes implemented by the U.S. Soccer Referee Department. The changes are exciting and will help at all levels of the game. It is my goal to continue to grow the referee pool in the state of Oklahoma. But we can't do that without your help. I encourage each of you as a goal for this year to bring in one new person to become a referee. That person could be a family member, friend or teammate. Refereeing is fun, exciting and most of all, you can make money.

You'll see new training initiatives started by the Oklahoma Referee Committee throughout the year and we are encouraged and excited to grow our Advanced Referee Program for those who aspire to referee at higher levels. I encourage everyone to apply to this new program and receive advanced training, field evaluations and possible invites to regional and national tournaments. Oklahoma is known for the development of high-quality referees. Currently, we have 10 referees on the national level and many more at the Regional level who have now been invited to referee upper-level games. That could be you!

You'll see new marketing initiatives at clubs throughout the state to invite players, parents and others to become referees. We continue to work with Official Sports International to supply discounted referee kits to new referees. We will have new initiatives to increase our female and minority referees in the state. These are just a few things that the State Referee Committee will be working on. We are here for you and we are working to really grow the referee program in the state. Again, we cannot do all this without you.

Finally, if you know someone who has not re-registered for 2025, please encourage them to go the U.S. Soccer Learning Center and get registered for 2025. The link is here: <https://learning.ussoccer.com/>

Thank you for all you do for the game and Oklahoma Soccer. Have a great season.

Jack Durvill

Oklahoma State Referee Administrator
National Referee Emeritus

