

Preparing for Advanced and/or National Referee Assessments

Advanced Upgrade

The assessment process for upgrade to the Advanced level is performed at the Regional and Area levels. The preparation phase is primarily the responsibility of the Regional Referee Staff, most likely coordinated by the Regional Director of Assessment (RDA). The actual assessment will be coordinated by the Area Referee Director of Assessment (ARDA), Jimmy Stewart. In order to prepare the candidate for a successful upgrade, the following steps should be followed:

1. The candidate should be observed and mentored as both a Referee and an Assistant Referee. This may occur over a number of games depending upon the candidate's progress.
2. Once the candidate has adequately prepared for assessment, the RDA will notify the ARDA that the candidate has been mentored and is ready for assessment.
3. The candidate and the RDA should schedule a game for assessment and allow at least two weeks such that an assessor can be scheduled. The RDA will then coordinate with the ARDA to facilitate getting an assessor assigned to the game.
4. Do not schedule another game immediately after the assessment, rather plan on spending time with the assessor for a debriefing. **Remember** to bring the upgrade form so that the assessor can sign off at the field.

Note: It is preferred that coordination take place via e-mail. It makes coordination and scheduling of an assessor a lot easier for me. When sending the date, time, and location of the game for assessment, the candidate should also provide a phone number. It just makes it easier in some cases.

National Upgrade

The assessment process for upgrade to National Referee is primarily performed at the Area and Section level. The preparation or mentoring phase is the responsibility of the ARDA. A mentor from within the Area will be coordinated to work with the candidate to help him/her prepare for the assessments. The actual assessment will be scheduled by the Section Director of Referee Assessment, Bill Deviny (SDA). Depending upon the current badge level of the candidate, one of two paths should be followed.

For referees who are currently National 2 level referees:

1. Contact the ARDA for a mentor and concentrate on preparing on Boys U19 games.
2. Once the candidate is ready, and the mentor agrees, the SDA will be notified by the ARDA of an impending assessment.

3. The candidate and RDA should schedule a game for assessment and notify the ARDA. It is preferable to keep the RDA in the communications loop to keep everyone informed and hopefully avoid any problems. Allow at least two weeks for the SDA to schedule an assessor.
4. Do not schedule anything immediately following the assessment as adequate time for debriefing should be planned. Take upgrade forms to the field for the assessor to sign.

For referees who are currently Advanced level referees:

The process will take a little longer for these referees. This is a jump of two levels, U16 and U19. In order to help the candidate be successful, it is recommended to first focus on success at the U16 level, and then work on the U19 level. As such, this will probably make the assessment process cover a span of three years in order to be mentored and progress through the two age groups.

1. Contact the ARDA for a mentor and concentrate on preparing on Boys U16 games.
2. Work with the mentor and become successful at the U16 level.
3. Once the candidate is ready, the mentor will notify the ARDA that the candidate is ready to start working at the U19 level.
4. A mentor will work with the candidate at the U19 level.
5. Once the candidate is ready, and the mentor agrees, the SDA will be notified by the ARDA of an impending assessment.
6. The candidate and RDA should schedule a game for assessment and notify the ARDA. It is preferable to keep the RDA in the communications loop to keep everyone informed and hopefully avoid any problems. Allow at least two weeks for the SDA to schedule an assessor.
7. Do not schedule anything immediately following the assessment as adequate time for debriefing should be planned. Take upgrade forms to the field for the assessor to sign.

Note: It is preferred that coordination take place via e-mail. It makes coordination and scheduling of an assessor a lot easier for me. When sending the date, time, and location of the game for assessment, the candidate should also provide a phone number. It just makes it easier in some cases.