

## National/Professional Referee Annual Assessment Requirements

<b>Referee Game Category Matrix</b>		<b>Referee Grade 1, 3 and Professional</b>	<b>Referee Grade 4 Renewal</b>	<b>National Referee Candidate for Upgrade to 4</b>
<b>Category 1</b>	1.1 Division 1 professional league matches: MLS and WPS 1.2 Open Cup matches involving only professional teams (MLS, USL-1, USL-2) 1.3 Professional foreign club matches at senior level 1.3.1 Against MLS teams 1.3.2 Includes foreign club vs. foreign club 1.4 Senior National Team matches - Men and Women 1.4.1 Against each other 1.4.2 Against Division 1 professional league teams	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Category 2</b>	2.1 Division 2 and 3 professional league matches: like USL-1 and USL-2 2.1.1 Includes matches involving MLS teams (excludes pre-season matches) 2.1.2 Includes matches involving foreign professional club teams or Senior National Teams 2.1.3 Includes official tournaments/competitions (admission charged) 2.2 National Team matches U-17 and older (not including Senior National Team) - Men and Women 2.2.1 International matches (does not include intrasquad games) 2.3 Open Cup matches (U.S. Soccer national competition) 2.3.1 Involving professional team versus amateur team (PDL or otherwise) 2.4 USASA National Cup Finals matches (at National Finals Weekend) - Men 2.4.1 Open: semi-final and final 2.4.2 Amateur semi-final and final 2.4.3 Over 30: semi-final and final 2.4.4 U-23: semi-final and final 2.5 USL PDL matches (regular season and playoffs) 2.6 U.S. Soccer Development Academy matches (U-18) 2.6.1 Playoffs and finals	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>



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<b>Category 3</b>	3.1 United States Amateur Adult Soccer (USASA) matches	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
	3.1.1 State Cup championship match - Men			
	3.1.2 Open Cup matches - Men			
	3.1.2.1 Interstate matches			
	3.1.2.2 State final			
	3.1.3 State Cup championship match - Men			
	3.1.3.1 Open and amateur			
	3.1.4 Regional Cup Finals Week matches - Men			
	3.1.4.1 Open, amateur, Over 30, U-20, U-23			
	3.1.5 Interstate matches - Men			
	3.1.6 National Cup Finals matches (at National Finals Weekend) - Women			
	3.1.6.1 Open: final			
	3.1.6.2 Amateur: final			
	3.1.6.3 U-23: final			
	3.2 U.S. Soccer Development Academy matches (U-18)			
3.2.1 Non-playoffs and finals				
3.3 US Youth Soccer National Finals and regional matches				
3.3.1 U-19 National Championship Finals tournament matches (Finals Week matches only) - Men				
3.3.2 U-19 Regional Championship match - Men				
3.3.3 U-18 National Championship match - Men				

**EFFECTIVE 12/01/2009**

**Assistant Referee Assessment Requirements  
(in addition to Referee Assessment Requirements)**

<b>Referee Grade</b>	<b>Assessment Requirement</b>
Grade 2	5 passing assessments at Category 1
Grade 3	2 passing assessments at either Category 1 or Category 2
Grade 4	2 passing assessments at any Category
Grade 5 National Candidate	2 passing assessments at any Category



**Notes:**

1. For questions regarding whether a game not listed above qualifies, the State Director of Assessment must contact U.S. Soccer prior to the game for an official ruling.
2. Failed Assessments:
  - 2.1 Current National and Professional Referees (Grades 1, 2, 3, 4)
    - 2.1.1 A first failed assessment (as a referee or assistant referee) must be made up by a single passing assessment in the same Category level or higher.
    - 2.1.2 A second failed assessment (as a referee or assistant referee) must be made up by 2 passing assessments in the same Category level or higher.
    - 2.1.3 A third failed assessment in a certification period (in any combination of referee or assistant referee) requires restarting the National Candidate application procedure in the next registration cycle.
  - 2.2 National Referee Candidate
    - 2.2.1 A first failed assessment (as a referee or assistant referee) must be made up by 2 passing assessments in the same Category level or higher.
    - 2.2.2 A second failed assessment in a certification period (in any combination of referee or assistant referee) requires restarting the National Candidate application procedure in the next registration cycle.
3. Referee Inspector Assessment Requirement
  - 3.1 One passing assessment for all referee and assistant referee grades must be done by a Referee Inspector.
4. All assessments must be done by a current National Assessor or U.S. Soccer Referee Inspector.
5. Additional assessments completed at a higher Category may be used to fulfill requirements at lower Categories.
6. Former FIFA Referees/Assistant Referees and Professional Referees/Assistant Referees working a minimum of 5 matches in Category 1 as either Referee or Assistant Referee must pass all assessments in Category 1 at the position in which they have done their 5 Category 1 games.

***ALL OTHER CURRENT NOTES REGARDING ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS  
REMAIN UNCHANGED IN THE EXISTING REFEREE ADMINISTRATIVE HANDBOOK.***

