

Sponsored by AYSO Region 9 Thousand Oaks, California

AYSO Pot O'Gold Tournament 2025 Referee Plan



The following are guidelines that the AYSO Pot O'Gold Tournament will apply for referees in our tournament:

Commitment	A.	Each team participating in the 2025 Pot O'Gold Tournament must provide at least 1 crew
Requirements		consisting of 3 qualified referees.
	B.	The Pot O'Gold Referee Information Form must be completed online, approved by the Region Referee Administrator (and Area Referee Administrator in the case of referees for 16U/18U games), and returned with the Team Application.
	C.	Each referee team will be asked to officiate a minimum of 6 assignments during the tournament. These may be game assignments or standby assignments, which will be consider equal in terms of earning the referee deposit refund.
	D.	If all assignments are completed, the entire referee deposit will be refunded within 14 days of the completion of the tournament. If only partial assignments are completed, then a partial refund will be provided equal to the proportion of assignments completed.
	E.	The deposit refund check will be returned to the address shown on the Team Application form.
	F.	Remember: the quality of officiating is largely dependent upon the experience and abilities of the referees you provide.
	G.	Referees are asked to schedule themselves for assignments.
	H.	Should a team's referees fail to appear for their assigned game and no replacement referees can be found, then the entire team's referee deposit may be forfeited regardless of how many other assignments the referee crew may have completed.
Qualification	A.	Each referee must be an AYSO registered volunteer and Safe Haven certified.
Requirements	B.	Each referee must be versed in the Laws of the Game, including current law changes and capable of applying the laws according to the spirit of the game.
	C.	Each referee may only represent one team in the tournament.
		Players in the tournament will not be allowed to officiate.
	E.	Coaches in this tournament are strongly discouraged from officiating so that scheduling of referees with the best experience and without conflicts can be accomplished. If an exception is warranted due to lack of other referee volunteers, this must be approved in advance by the Pot O'Gold Referee Administrator.
	F.	Youth referees will only be allowed if they are not a player in the tournament. Care must be taken when considering whether to allow a youth referee to officiate in the heated environment of a competitive tournament. These referees must have their Youth Volunteer Application form with them at all times and present it to any Tournament official upon request.
	G.	Youth referees should only self-schedule for games where they are qualified and at least 2 years older than the age group they are officiating.
Uniform		All referees must be in full Uniform as defined by AYSO and USSF, including the AYSO Badge.
Requirement	B.	The Gold uniform will be considered the primary color of referee uniform for this tournament. The referee crew will be expected to change to an alternate color in case of conflict with either of the teams' uniforms.
	C.	Referees not in uniform will not be permitted to referee games, and their team's referee deposit may be subject to forfeiture.
		In inclement weather, black rain pants or black warm-up pants will be permitted in addition to the official uniform.
Competency Requirements		Referees should self-assign for games based on their level of training and experience, as stated in the Referee Information Form and attested to by the Regional or Area Referee Administrator.
	B.	In addition, referees for the 16U and 19U levels <u>must</u> have the written authorization from their Area Referee Administrator certifying that the referee is qualified and capable for this level of games.

	C. Referees should self-schedule for games for which they are qualified by training and experience. They should not self-schedule themselves for games in their team's Division or involving teams from their Region.		
Tournament Rules	A. Referees will be expected to familiarize themselves with and uphold the tournament rules, AYSO guidelines and FIFA laws. Any failure of the referee to uphold these rules may be cause for dismissal from the tournament, and will place a team's referee deposit refund in jeopardy.		
	B. Only the diagonal system of control will be used.		
	C. Referees will be expected to fill out the game cards and to keep track of substitutions.		
	D. Referees will be expected to note on the back of the game cards and to fill out misconduct reports immediately after the game in which a misconduct (caution and/or send-off) was issued to a player or coach, or if there were spectator interference problems, or any other action that merits a report.		
	 Referees will be expected to turn in all completed game cards and misconduct reports at the Referee Tent immediately after each game. 		
Referee Schedules	A. Referee schedules will be available on the tournament website within 2 weeks of the tournament. Each team will be expected to ensure that the referee schedule and check-in instructions have been provided to their referee crew.		
Use of Local Referees	A. Additional referees will be provided by the host region, including from the surrounding regions and Areas to ensure all games are covered by qualified referees. These referees will be provided assignments on a stand-by or fill-in basis. Priority will be given to team referee crews to ensure an opportunity to earn their deposit refund.		
Referee Check-In	A. All referees will be expected to check in at the Referee Tent upon their arrival at the tournament, to register.		
	B. Referees are expected to check in at the Referee Tent at least 30 minutes prior to their assigned game. Failure to appear on time may result in a replacement referee crew being assigned to the field. Once a replacement crew has been assigned, they will have priority and the original crew must report to the Referee Tent for alternative assignment.		
Referee Mementos	A. Referees will be provided with a meal ticket for food and drink at the concession stand for each day that they officiate. Chilled water and snacks will also be available at the Referee Tent.		
	 Participating referees will receive a tournament t-shirt, flipping coin as mementos to thank them for their contribution. 		
Assessments	A. The Pot O'Gold Tournament will provide referees for opportunities to be assessed for upgrades. Referee Assessors will be arranged through the local Area or Section staff. To take advantage of this opportunity, referees must register in advance with the Pot O'Gold Tournament Referee Administrator (see contact section).		
Address:	Referee forms must be mailed with the Team Application to:		
	Tournament Director		
	Thousand Oaks Pot O'Gold 41 Canfield Ct.		
	Thousand Oaks, California, 91360		
Contact	Questions regarding referee requirements should be directed to:		
Information:	POGRefAdmin@ayso9.org		
	Web site www.AYSO9.org		