

Goal and Objective:

To provide intermediate and advanced referee training for the purpose of increasing referee effectiveness and education while also providing upgrade incentives and opportunities

Components

Tournaments
Area clinics
PDL game, game referee discussion
Academy participants email list
Mentor program
Email blasts with new updates and memos

Requirements to stay enrolled:

Annual point accumulation of 7 points.
Points are accrued for each event participation attended in full. Points are not awarded for partial program attendance:

Tournament 6
Area clinic 1
PDL Game review 3
Mentor program (mentors and mentees) 4
Assessor shadow 2 (per full day) – for referees who are also assessors trying to advance their referee career. Assessor shadows may not earn points while attending as a referee.

Incentives:

Shirts – polo shirts distinctive to the academy shall be given to participants when they achieve a minimum of 10 points
Coins – 5 flipping coins awarded for a minimum of 10 points
Pins – LSA pin to every participant at the participant's first academy event
Patch – patch made for every type event (one for Academy Tournaments, one for Area clinic, etc). This is given to each participant at the conclusion of the event
Equipment for points accrued – the top 5 participants over the LSA playing season shall be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Official Sports for the purchase of referee equipment.

Entry to:

All who choose to participate shall be welcomed into the Academy. Entry shall be completed upon filling out and sending an application to the Academy Staff. Participants must be pre-enrolled to receive credit for any academy event

Academy Staff:

Coordinator of Referee Development – Academy Director

Assistant Directors: SDI, SDA, SRC Chair

Instructors, Assessors and Mentors

Instructors, assessors, mentors assigned with agreement from Director and input from Asst Directors

Area/event Coordinators may be assigned as needed and assigned by the Director with input from Asst Directors

Assessors used in the Academy-prefer state or national assessors. Grade 7 assessors may be used at the discretion of the Director and with the permission of the SDA. Grade 7 assessors may be used to shadow state or national assessors

Instructors used in the Academy- prefer grade 7 or higher instructors. Associate instructors may be used at the discretion of the Director and with the permission of the SDI.

Instructional materials shall be approved by the SDI prior to any presentation to academy participants.

Mentors shall be state referees or higher and preferably of an age appropriate to the mentees. All mentors shall be assigned with the concurrence of the Academy Director and Asst Directors

Tournament Academy:

Format: Classroom instruction Friday evening reviewing tournament rules and materials from SDI, games all day Sat with mentoring/assessment (informal), classroom session Sat evening reviewing events of the day and situations of the day, games on Sun until noon with mentoring/assessment (informal). Academy participants will receive feedback on a personal development plan. Participants will provide feedback to Director on the Academy event at the conclusion.

Based on the academy participant's grades and levels, the instructional material shall be at a level appropriate to their stage for development.

Staffing: One mentor for every 6 referees. One assessor for every 9 referees. Instructor or assessor or guest speaker for the Friday classroom session. Saturday review session shall be conducted by the assessor, instructor and mentors. These ratios are preferred and can be waived by the Director.

Number of tournaments will be decided by the Director based on available resources, tournament locations, etc. It is desirable to spread the Academies across the state to hit a large group of participants. It is desirable to host 4 academy tournament events every year.

Assigning at Academy: Referees in the academy shall be assigned as teams, preferably with all participants on adjacent fields. During game slots, some participants can be rested and they shall utilize that time watching other games and discussing situations with mentors, assessors and instructors. All participants shall be allowed to complete their day's games no later than 5:30 pm to allow participants opportunities to get cleaned up, eat prior to the evening session.

At half time breaks, referees can receive feedback from the academy staff on issues that should be addressed in the second half or subsequent games.

At any time, anyone can attend or participate in any academy event at the tournament. Those not entered in the academy shall not be awarded any points at that event if not enrolled.

All participants shall notify the assignor and Academy director of their intent to participate at least two weeks prior to the event.

Mentors shall preferably not referee games but this is flexible with discussion amongst the Academy Director, assignor, and tournament academy staff.

Hotel rooms for participants shall be arranged by the local tournament committee.

Where allowed and conditions permit, video taping events on Saturday's games should be reviewed Sat night.

Area clinics

The academy director and staff shall conduct local instructional clinics of a topic as directed by the Academy staff and the SDI. Area clinics shall be coordinated with the local association where possible. Clinics should be a minimum of 1 hour and no longer than 3 hours.

PDL Game review and post game referee discussion

Academy participants shall be offered discounted tickets to selected games. Games selected shall be coordinated with the PDL USSF liaison. Participants shall sit as a group with an assessor, potentially the game assessor. Afterwards, the participants shall sit with the referee crew (after post game feedback from the USSF assessor in private) and discuss game situations. Participants shall pay for their own food, ticket and transportation to these events.

The director shall coordinate and request group tickets for academy participants. Participants shall notify the event coordinator at least one week in advance of the event.

Participant email list

Participants will be provided a means to post game situations to the academy participants for discussion. Participants will also receive email blasts with updates on memorandums, law changes, "week in review", recert clinics, referee events and news.

Mentor program

Outside of the events listed, participants shall be encouraged to participant in the mentor program.

Those referees who desire to act as mentors shall apply to the Director and the academy staff for approval. Mentees who desire a mentor shall notify the director of their desire for a mentor. The director shall furnish a list of candidates to the mentee candidate for selection. Mentors must also concur that they are capable of taking on the requested mentee based on time, distance, etc. At any time, the mentee or mentor can request reassignment to a different mentor or mentee.

The mentor and mentee shall make arrangements to work at least four games together during the playing season. In lieu of working games together, the mentor may observe the mentee in games. After every game observed or worked together, the mentor shall send a report to the Director noting the mentee's progress and areas that were discussed after or during the game. This input will assist the staff in identifying instructional material and charting the mentee's progress.