

SOCCER REFEREE FAQs - CENTEX STORM SOCCER

How do I become ref?

If you are 13 or older you are eligible to become a grassroots referee. The First-time course for our South Texas State Referee Committee is a hybrid with on-line modules, and a 2-hour in person field session. You can find a course at this link with all requirements listed.

<https://learning.usoccer.com/referee/courses/available/10000006/list>

How much does it cost?

The initial course registration is \$65 and covers the on-line course and the field session. Renewing your license is an annual on-line course that also is \$65 per year. If you chose to ref for CENTEX Storm recreational games, the club will reimburse your FIRST TIME fee once you have done a minimum of 3 recreational games for the club. To get reimbursed contact Kirk Eggleston, or Ron Davis (information below). We don't reimburse renewal fees, because you can be making enough money to cover those plus some once you are doing games regularly.

What about uniforms?

You can order "official" gear at USSOCCER. <https://officialsports.com/off-field-apparel/starter-kits/> that start around \$55.

Best prices for ref jerseys are on epic sports, but these are not "official" and some tournaments require refs to wear official branded uniforms

<https://soccer.epicsports.com/cat/18/referee.html>

Amazon.com also has many options for reasonably priced shirts and referee equipment.

CENTEX Soccer club has several ref **shirts** in various sizes and colors that kids can borrow for rec games, so they do not need to have all the various colors to start. These can be picked up at the concession stand and dropped off when done so

they get washed for the next week. For select games refs will need her own kit with a couple of color options. Always have a traditional yellow, and then at least one other color; red, green or blue are most common. **Black shorts, black knee length socks, black or mostly black shoes.** I have **whistles, card holders,** and that I give to our new refs. We also have some stop watches that refs can borrow, but I recommend getting a reasonably priced **digital watch with a stopwatch function** to keep time for the games. Most starter kits also have assistant referee **flags.** We have some extras in the concession stand.

How do I get assigned to games?

Assigning for CENTEX Recreational League only: This is done via the GroupMe app. The schedule is sent out as it becomes available, and Refs/parents let us know what they can do or want to do. The games are then assigned taking your requests into mind as well as the age group, competition level, ref experience and age. As a rule, the center ref should be 2 years older than the teams they are officiating. The schedule is usually out at least 2-3 weeks in advance, but there are last minute needs and changes that come up with short notice.

For Select games and for other area youth clubs there are several referee associations that assign games:

Greater Fort Hood Soccer Referee Association (GFHSRA) 254-291-6689

South Texas Youth Soccer Association (STYSA) 512-272-4553

South Texas Referee Associations (STRA) 210-948-0289

These assignors use Arbiter Sports or ASSIGNR which are on-line programs for assigning game. You need to contact the assignor to be added to their group, then you can go to the site, and in many cases self-assign for games that you want. These games are also paid through the Arbiter or ASSIGNR

ASSIGNR <https://acyso.assignr.com/welcome>

Arbiter Sports <https://www.arbitersports.com/sign-in>

How do I get paid?

For CENTEX Storm Recreational games referees are paid in cash, usually the same day. Contact Ron Davis or another club officer at the Concession stand once

you've completed your day to be paid. Referees are independent contractors, so you are responsible for reporting your income for tax purposes. For games assigned through the above sites, the pay is on-line and goes to a designated bank account usually a few weeks after the game.

How much do I get paid?

The current pay table for CENTEX Recreational refs is:

Age Group	Certified Center	AR
4u/5u/6u	\$22	n/a
7u/8u	\$26	n/a
9u/10u	\$35	n/a
11u/12u	\$40	\$25
13u/14u/15u	\$45	\$30

AR = assistant referee or "line judge" – there are two for the older age group games.

The pay for other club recreational games and select games will be listed in on the website system (Assignr or Arbiter) when you sign up for games.

How long are the games?

Actual playing time listed, but Refs need to check in the players prior, and manage the quarter/half-time breaks, and complete game cards after.

U5/U6 games are 4, 8-minute quarters.

U7/U8 games are 4, 10-minute quarters.

U9/U10 games are 2 25-minute halves.

U11/U12 games are 2 30-minute halves.

U13/U14 games are 2 35 -minute halves

U15 games are 2 40-minute halves.

What if I'm not certified yet, or too young, but want to ref?

If we cannot get enough certified referee, we sometimes use uncertified refs for younger age group, recreational games in CENTEX. I assign these directly in coordination with the parents. It is a good way for kids to get experience and decide if they enjoy it or not. Our requirements are that they be at least 12 and have significant soccer playing experience. I usually meet them first and then get them to do some 5u/6u games. This gives me a chance to see how knowledgeable they are about the game, as well as assessing their confidence, demeanor, etc.



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