

2024 CFA Sydney Season – Referee Handbook

2024 CFA Sydney Season – Referee Handbook	1
Introduction	2
Points of Contact.....	2
Match Availability	2
Post Match Duties.....	2
Recording Match Result.....	2
Recording Yellow Cards.....	3
First Referee Meeting	4
Whatsapp Group.....	4
Match Fees.....	5
Referee Meetings.....	5
Attendance.....	5
Purpose	6
Format of meetings.....	6
Location.....	6
Significant Season Dates	6
IFAB Laws of the Game	7
Junior, Women’s and Over 35 Football – Game Specific Laws.....	7
Technical Director	8
Associate Referees	8
State Cup (Mid-Week Knock Out Competition).....	9
Uniform	9
Christian Football Federation Australia National Titles 2024.....	9

Introduction

This referee handbook will be a guide to your roles and responsibilities as a referee within The CFA Sydney competition.

This Referee Handbook document sets out relevant information for the 2024 season.

Points of Contact

Luke Paton – Technical Director of Referees	0409 819 658	luke.dvpaton@hotmail.com
Phil Dippert – Senior Referees Convenor	0447 477 707	pd6026@hotmail.com
James May – Junior Referees Convenor	0418 436 777	james.may.cfasydney@gmail.com

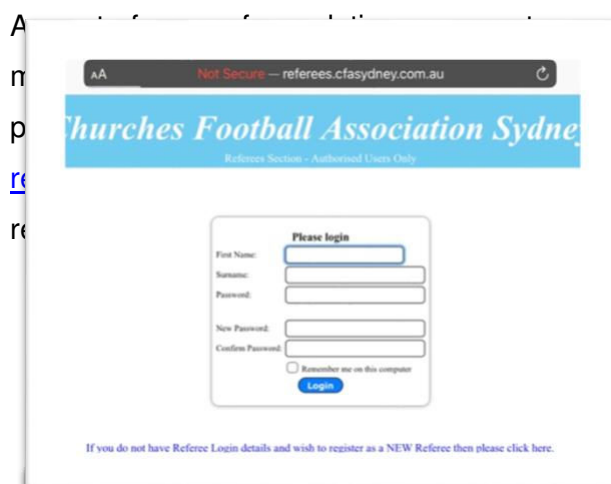
We are here to assist you in your refereeing. If you are having problems on the pitch, have questions on interpretations or applications of the law you can give us a call to discuss them.

The Referee Convenor does all match appointments including Semi Finals and Grand Finals. The Technical Director of Referees takes no part in appointing referees unless asked by the Referee Convenor.

Match Availability

Login into the myclubmate system (address: referee.cfasydney.com.au) where you will find the area to input your availability with preferences on location, time and a comments section for each week.

Post Match Duties



Complete several administration duties related to the match. These duties are your official duties and are part of your match responsibilities. Login into the myclubmate system (address: referee.cfasydney.com.au) where you will find the areas to lodge match result, yellow cards,

It is of utmost importance that you input all relevant information as soon as possible after the match (when you return home after the game). Please ensure that any red card reports are completed by Sunday night at

Monday.

Go to the menu screen (picture two). Click the match result option. Please check if the results are correct before

Recording Yellow Cards

After logging in (picture 1), follow step one to use the menu (picture 2) to navigate to “Yellow Card” page. Select the team and player, where you will enter the type of caution and minute sanction received. There is no need to provide a description or reason for the yellow card. If the player is not listed in the team or correct game, send an email to Kim Sydenham (secretary@nswcfa.com.au) providing the player number, time of sanction and sanction code.

Red Cards and Report

- After logging in (picture one), use the menu (picture two) to navigate to “Red Card” page. Select the team and player, where you will enter the type of red card and minute sanction received.
- For all red cards, it is necessary to write a small report to describe the incident leading to the red card. If sufficient information is not provided, the player will not be further sanctioned by the judiciary. In your report include:
 - **Who** were the players involved and sanctions from both teams in the incident (sometimes two or more)?
 - **When** did the incident occur?
 - **Where** were you in relation to the incident and where did the incident occur?
 - **What** happened in the lead up to the incident?
 - **Why** was the red card issued? (Use relevant language from the LOTG relating to the sanctions e.g. serious foul play, violent conduct, excessive force, criteria for meeting a DOGSO etc.)
 - **What** happened after the red card was issued?
 - **How** was play restarted?
 - For two yellow cards in a match, be sure to provide a description of the two separate yellow cards that led to the red card.
- If the player is not listed in the team or correct game, send an email to Kim Sydenham (secretary@nswcfa.com.au) providing the information listed above.

Incident Report

During the match, incidents may occur during which a report may need to be submitted.

These situations include:

- Issues with spectators abusing the referee.
- Issues with grounds or safety concerns.
- Teams not providing ground officials.
- Teams not providing two official match balls.
- A serious injury to a player.

- A game abandoned due to injury or interference or weather issues.
- No associate referees were provided.

If these issues are not reported on the system, it makes it difficult for the Management Committee to properly support referees during the season (especially spectator or team behavior issues). These reports allow them to act on issues as they arise and ensure games run smoothly for all involved (us referees too!)

First Referee Meeting

Our first meeting is designed to focus on:

- i) Review the law changes made to the most current version of the LOTG (2023/2024).
- ii) Clarification around misinterpretation of the Laws of the Game over the past few years and ensure that these laws are being consistently applied across the CFA Sydney Referee Group.
- iii) Setting the standards and defining the expectations around the core requirements of refereeing including:
 - a. Referee Meetings Attendance
 - b. Expected Arrival Time at Matches
 - c. Arriving Late at Matches
 - d. Teamwork with your AR and refereeing team
 - e. Inputting Cards into the System (referees.cfasydney.com.au)
 - f. Correctly Recording Sanctions
 - g. Send off Reports

Please refer to the copy of the first presentation distributed to referees in which the changes have been summarised for your convenience. If you did not attend the meeting and require further clarification, please contact the technical director for more information.

Whatsapp Group

In the 2024 season, we will be introducing a group chat for referees where:

- Information will be distributed to referees.
- Reminders about events and meetings will be posted.
- A forum to raise issues or questions from matches or LOTG.
- To create a sense of camaraderie and togetherness amongst the referee group.
- Some lighthearted humor and off topic discussion.

Please be aware that the group will be monitored and moderated. Please be mindful of your communication or comments made in relation to other referees, clubs, players or CFA Sydney officials.

The group is for active referees only and please contact the referees convenor if you need access.

Match Fees

The following table refers to qualified referee pay rates for the 2024 winter season and was set as of the 11th of February 2024.

<u>Division/Match Description</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Associate Referee - Club Linesman	\$20.00
Associate Referee Junior Referee (per game)	\$7.00
Associate Referee Senior Referee (per game)	\$30.00
Referee - Under 14 (per game)	\$25.00
Referee - Six a side (Junior)	\$60.00
Referee - Six a side (Senior)	\$100.00
Referee – Girls (per game)	\$20.00
Referee – Knockout (per night)	\$60.00
Referee - O35 (per game)	\$30.00
Referee – Senior (per game)	\$60.00
Referee - Under 6 (per game)	\$15.00
Referee - Under 7 (per game)	\$15.00
Referee - Under 8 (per game)	\$20.00
Referee - Under 9 (per game)	\$20.00
Referee - Under 10 (per game)	\$20.00
Referee - Under 11 (per game)	\$25.00
Referee - Under 12 (per game)	\$25.00
Referee - Under 13 (per game)	\$25.00
Referee - Women (per game)	\$30.00
Referee - Junior Zone Reps (per night)	\$60.00

Referee Meetings

For the 2024 Season we have reduced the burden of monthly referee meetings, reducing it to 3 per season however, it is of utmost important that you attend these meetings. We cover information on law changes, interpretation of game laws, issues during the season and administrative duties critical to your role as referee.

We have highlighted several issues at our first meeting that occurred due to low attendance at our referee meetings. It is important that you make every effort to attend. If you are unable to attend, please contact your relevant junior and senior referee convenor as a courtesy.

The referee meetings are catered, please make sure you tell your referee convenor any special dietary requirements so we can properly cater for your needs and numbers.

Attendance

Attendance is not compulsory but is strongly recommended. Not attending referee meetings will impact

games awarded during the season and finals series, with other considerations including the consistent application of LOTG, turning up late to matches or not at all, unexplained unavailability during the season and completing the duties associated with being a referee.

Purpose

The purpose of the meetings is:

- Develop a sense of team amongst the referees.
- Develop referees' understanding of the Laws of the Game and how to apply them.
- Provide a forum for referees to talk about the game and seek guidance and encouragement from other referees.

Format of meetings

- The meetings are not lectures or a one-sided monologue, but a forum style and interactive. As much as possible, we will look to use video content to provide examples of subject material. Each meeting will be broken into 3 general areas:
- General business: information from the Referee Convenor and comments from the Association Management Committee to the referees.
- Problems on the pitch: a chance for each referee to ask questions or seek guidance about issues they have on the pitch without the fear of being criticised.
- Special topic: We will select a topical discussion point and explore what it means for our refereeing.

Location

Meetings are held at Berala Community Center
Address: 98-104 Woodburn Rd, Berala NSW 2141

Significant Season Dates

29 March 2024	Opening Referees Meeting	1830 start
6 April 2024	Season starts	
17 April 2024	Women's and O35 competition start	Wednesday Night
7 May 2024	Mid-week Knockout competition start	Tuesday/Thursday
6 June 2024	Mid-Season Referees Meeting	1830 start
10 June 2024	Long Weekend Six a side competition	0830 start
8 August 2024	Final Series Referees Meeting (TBC)	1830 start
10 August 2024	Last Round of Regular Season	
17 August 2024	Finals Series Commence	

31 August 2024	Grand Final Day	
21 September 2024	Referees Annual Dinner	
4-7 October 2024	National Titles – Bundoora Victoria	

IFAB Laws of the Game

All referees are encouraged to download and read the Laws of the Game which can be found on the following website: <http://www.theifab.com/laws>

Please note, IFAB have created a smartphone app where you can have the LOTG preloaded on your phone and is a fantastic way to have an easily accessible copy on match days.

Junior, Women's and Over 35 Football – Game Specific Laws

If you are refereeing junior, women and O35 games, please refer to the document named "Junior Referee Workshop Handout" referring to games played on small sided or mini fields. This will contain all relevant rules including line marking, number of players, ball sizes, player equipment, match duration and more specific information around goal kicks, offside, DFK and IDFK for each age group. To find this document, go to www.cfasydney.com.au then "Referees" then "Downloads" where you will find the document.

The Over 35 and Women's competition begins on 17th of April. It will be held on a Wednesday night and will be played on Jones 1, 2 and 3 fields.

Below is a summary of the game specific laws (quick reference guide).

<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Ball Size</i>	<i>Game Time</i>	<i>Minimum players to play</i>	<i>Maximum player on field</i>	<i>Subs on card</i>	<i>Maximum Number of players on card</i>	<i>Field Size</i>
Under 6	3	15 minutes each way	4	6	4	10	MINI
Under 7	3	20 minutes each way	4	6	4	10	MINI
Under 8	3	20 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Under 9	4	20 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Under 10	4	20 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Under 11	4	20 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 12	4	25 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 13	4	25 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 14	5	25 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 15	5	30 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 16	5	30 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 17	5	35 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 18	5	40 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Under 9 girls (9 aside)	4	20 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Under 11 girls (9 aside)	4	20 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Under 14 girls (9 aside)	5	25 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
Senior Mens	5	45 minutes each way	7	11	5	16	FULL
Womens (9 aside)	5	25 minutes each way	● 6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED
O35 (9 aside)	5	25 minutes each way	6	9	5	14	SMALL SIDED

New Referees & Referees Exam

If you know anyone who would be interested in refereeing this year, please contact the junior or senior

referees convenor. For new referees, please provide any referee qualifications you have completed in the past. If you have not completed any FA referee courses, we will provide you with an online test to complete in which you must pass to demonstrate sufficient knowledge and application of the LOTG.

There are three components:

- i) A section testing your application of the offside law with diagrams
- ii) A multiple-choice section testing your LOTG with a focus on changes in recent years
- iii) A short answer section which looks to test your familiarity with key areas of the LOTG

The exam is also available for current referees who want to keep their knowledge up to date and is a good way to prepare for the season. There is no time limit, progress can be saved (via signing in to google forms) and there is no need to pass. Please contact the referee convenor if you would like access to the exam.

Technical Director

In 2024, we have a new technical director of refereeing, with Luke Paton taking over from Matt Duggan who did a fantastic job, provided many years of service and provided fantastic leadership in this role. We will now be looking to build on these fantastic foundations by offering further opportunities for our referees to grow and develop. These include:

- Bringing FA referee courses to CFA Sydney
- Getting all our referees officially accredited
- Offering mentoring to younger referees
- Coaching and Assessments for referees
- Junior Referees to take AR3 role helping cover Senior games with two other senior referees

If any of this is of interest to you, please contact your referees convenor.

Associate Referees

At CFA Sydney when official Assistant Referees are not provided to games, each team is requested to provide an Associate Referee who will take over the role as AR1 and/or AR2.

Please note:

- Associate Referees come with differing abilities and skill levels, their main role is to help the Referee make decisions when it comes to balls in and out of play & offside. Some Associates Referees may be able to provide more assistance than others.
- Ensure that the Associate Referee provided is raising the flag correctly, not distracted (playing or talking on phone) and wearing clothing distinguishing them from the on-field players.
- If teams don't provide an Associate Referee, be sure to communicate with captains to be clear

that you will need to judge the ball in and out of play plus offsides from your position as referee on the field.

State Cup (Mid-Week Knock Out Competition)

The senior knockout competition starts on 5 May 2024. They will be held on Tuesday or Thursday nights. Before the competition begins, the referee coordinator will contact you about your availability and specific rules for the competition.

June Long Weekend Six a side Competition

Every year on the Monday of the June Long Weekend (this year, 10th June 2024) the CFA Sydney holds an annual one day Six a side competition for both junior and senior teams. It is an enjoyable day and provides a different sort of fun from the regular season. Many referees are required (especially for the junior competition) and the days success depends on getting as many referees participating as possible. You are paid for your participation for the day and meals/drinks are provided to referees participating.

Uniform

We retain the same uniform as for the 2024 season. Any referee with new uniform requirements should contact the Junior or Senior Referee Convenor.

Referees are reminded that the players, coaches and managers impressions of referees start from the moment you arrive at the ground. You should be appropriately dressed at all times, this includes black comfortable shoes/boots, socks up straight and shirt tucked in a tidy appearance.

The jewelry policy that applies to players also applies to referees.

Christian Football Federation Australia National Titles 2024

The CFFA 2020 National Titles are held at the Victorian State Football Center in Bundoora, Victoria from Sunday 27 September to Friday 2 October.

Any referee with an interest in being considered for the tournament should contact the Referees Convenor.