

STATE REFEREE COMMITTEE REFEREE TRAINING STRATEGY FOR 2021

In recent years referee registration training for certification and recertification was completed by conducting 12 or more classes each year to address LOTG changes, Point of Emphasis for the upcoming years, other topics deemed appropriate and beneficial by the instructor based on their experience and recommendations from the SDI. There were two classes specifically dedicated to the more experienced referees, including Regional referee Grade 6s, that would be assigned VASL games and the most competitive youth games. While these classes were productive and helpful, some SRC members raised the comment that there was a need for more mentoring and on-field observation / feedback to support and improve our referee retention numbers.

For 2021 our registration certification and recertification training will serve to be a portion of our overall approach to training and support. Certification / recertification on-line training and on-line quizzes will be completed in the Learning Center. We will have 4-5 in person "clinics" to complete the training where referee will receive their badges and their LOTG Books.

Referee coaching, mentoring, and "advising" will become an integral part of the total referee training strategy. In addition to clinics style training that includes hands-on referee field experience in the form of actual games, it is our objective to coach, assess, mentor and/or "advise" every registered referee at minimum once every other year. It should be understood that this objective may not be fully achieved the first year, but a successful roll-out of this program will be to observe and provide real time feedback to 120 (different) registered referees during the first fiscal year of the new training strategy.

Specifics about the coaching, mentoring, advising portion of our strategy are detailed in another memo. The cost of that portion of this training strategy is budgeted at \$3,950- \$5,620.00. This leaves approximately \$3,000 - \$4,000.00 for classroom / clinic style training; similar to the VASL training we have conducted in the past. We will simply offer fewer classes with larger numbers of attendees to make these clinics more cost-effective.

The overall general content and presentation of these classes / clinics will remain the responsibility of the SDI. The SDI will assign referee coaches / mentors (old titles were referee instructor) to specific portions of the clinic training. We will look to limit the number of classes to 4 or 5 and conduct them at locations that are best supported. This could mean that referees may have to travel and / or adjust their schedules to attend the required registration certification / recertification training. It will be a change.

