

Reimbursement Policy for Arlington Soccer Club Referees

Rev. 6/12/2024 by Chris Carlsmith, Referee Director

In March 2017, the Arlington Soccer Club established a policy that it would reimburse referees for the cost of registration and training related to their officiating responsibilities. This is separate from the fees paid to referees for games that they might officiate weekly. The intent of this reimbursement policy is to encourage referees to become, and remain, referees for the ASC, and to reduce financial disincentives for doing so.

Please note that the reimbursement policy only applies to Grassroots/BAYS referees, because there is no charge for the training of In-Town referees. (The \$10 fee for in-town referees covers the cost of their referee jersey; all training is free.)

At the conclusion of each fall and spring season, the Referee Director summarizes the number of games worked by each Grassroots official, based upon data in US Officials. Referees must work a minimum of fifteen (15) games for the ASC across two consecutive seasons to be eligible for reimbursement of annual registration and training expenses. (Games for high school or club teams are not counted.) The 15-game/2-season requirement was implemented by the ASC Board to ensure a commitment by referees to the ASC. A list of reimbursement-eligible referees is sent by the Referee Director to the ASC Treasurer, who in turn sends a check to each referee, typically by July or December.

The most typical reimbursements are these:

- \$115 for New Referee course and training;
- \$50 for Recertification of returning referees.

The ASC does not reimburse referees for the cost of a national background check (required every 3 years for those who are 18+ years old; that fee has been \$30 and is anticipated to drop to \$24 in 2025.) SafeSport training, required for referees 18+ years of age, is free. US Soccer Supplemental courses are free. The required learning modules offered through MassRef are also free. Referees who incur additional training expenses should contact the ASC Referee Director.

The ASC asks Grassroots referees to supply their own referee equipment, including colored referee jerseys, black shorts/socks, whistle, watch, flags, and cards. The Referee Director has extra equipment to be loaned or given to referees who

cannot obtain their own equipment. Referees in financial hardship who need assistance with purchase of additional equipment should contact the Referee Director and/or the Registrar.