

ASC Pre-Season Referee Meeting for In-Town Referees

Wednesday, September 2, 2026

Robbins Library, Community Room

Chris Carlsmith, ASC Referee Director

6:00-7:15 p.m. In-Town Referees



- Agenda -
ASC Pre-Season In-Town Referee Meeting for Fall 2026
Wednesday, 2 September 2022
Robbins Library Community Room (downstairs)
700 Mass. Ave, Arlington

6:00 -7:15 p.m. for In-Town referees;

Introductions & Welcome

Fall 2026 Updates

- In-Town Season begins Sat/Sun, Sept. 12-13; Season ends Nov. 14-15.
- In-Town Field Session #2 on Sun, Sept. 13 from 6:00-7:15 pm at Thorndike
- We follow 2025-26 rules for the IFAB
 - Goalkeeper 8-second possession rule will be active.
- Dual referee system for Grades 3-4; Single referee for Grade 2

Keywords for all ASC referees: SAFE – FAIR – FUN

Game Day Reminders

- 5 Pre-Game steps, Coach Credentials, Spectator location

Quiz Questions

Game Assignments/Scheduling in US Officials.

Game Reports (and Payment) in US Officials

Game Cancellations via ASC website and/or via BAYS

Referee Gear

Game Rules

IFAB Laws of the Game, BAYS rulebook, ASC Local Rules (Gr. 2 In-town League
Gr. 3/4 In-town League)

Questions?

- ASC Referee Director, Chris Carlsmith, ccarlsmith@arlingtonsoccerclub.org.
- ASC Referee Assignor/US Officials, Paul Athanasiadis, Paul2319@gmail.com.

More Information: see ASC Website: <https://www.arlingtonsoccerclub.org/referees/>

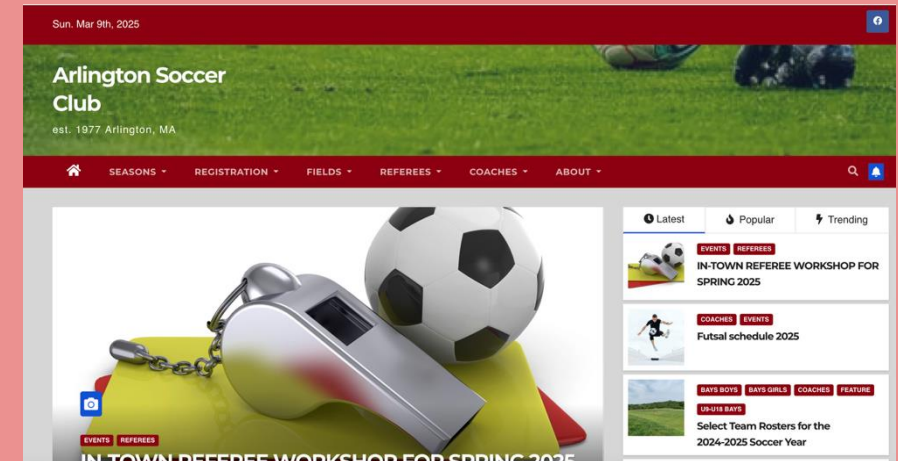
Agenda
for tonight's
meeting

Fall 2026 dates

- BAYS/In-Town Season begins Sat/Sun, Sept. 12-13; HS season begins Sun, Sept. 27; Season ends Nov 14-15.
- Key Dates for BAYS are here: <https://bays.org/content/fall-2026-key-dates-planning>
- New [IFAB rules](#) of 2025-26 apply in Fall 2026
 - 8-second Goalkeeper Rule is the most significant update
- 2-referee pilot for In-Town referees will continue for all Grade 3-4 In-Town games (In-Town only)
- In-Town Field Sessions (optional):
 - Sun, Aug. 30 from 6:00-7:15 pm @ Thorndike Field (already happened)
 - Sun, Sept. 13 from 6:00-7:15 pm @ Thorndike Field (identical)
 - No registration required
 - Come dressed to play AND to referee

ASC Referee Website:

<https://www.arlingtonsoccerclub.org/referees/>



Fall 2026 reminders

- Laws of the Game (LOTG)
 - We will follow 2025-26
- Pre-Game Team Handshakes and Sportsmanship announcement
 - Introduced Spring 2025
 - Statement is just 3 sentences
- Genesis Referee Program (In-Town only)
 - Register at <https://leagues.bluesombrero.com/Default.aspx?tabid=1557947>
- Dual-Referee program (In-Town only)
 - all Grade 3-4 In-Town games

Sportsmanship Statement

All participants deserve the right to play in an environment free from negative and distracting behavior.

Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated, the game may be stopped and sanctions applied for violations of policy or codes of conduct.

Please enjoy the game and do your part to create a positive soccer experience for all.

Dual-Referee System for In-Town Grades 3-4

- Introduced Spring 2025, Expanded Fall 2025, Continued Fall 2026
- 2 referees assigned to each Grade 3-4 game (numbers permitting).
- Each referee officiates one half.
- Referees share pre-game duties equally.
- Referees are paid equally (\$25 each per game).
- Alternate referee stands at midfield on player sideline.
 - Monitor substitutions
 - Answer questions from coach
 - Observe/support center referee
 - No whistle, no calls

Your Responsibilities as a Referee

- PRE-GAME
 - Check own equipment; field; coaches; players; ball (5x)
 - Coin Toss & Pre-Game Sportsmanship Statement
 - Check GK jersey/pinnie color
- DURING GAME
 - Call fouls
 - Manage substitutions
 - Record goals
 - Educate the players
- POST-GAME
 - Supervise handshakes/fist bumps
 - Submit Game Report online

*Take a photo of
this slide!*

Game Day Reminders

- 5 Pre-game steps:
 1. Check your own equipment
 2. Check the field
 3. Check the coaches
 4. Check the players
 5. Check the ball
- Minimum # of players to start
 - 7 (for 11v11)
 - 6 (for 9v9)
 - 5 (for 7v7)
- Arrive 30 min early
- Review rules for that level
- Start on time
- 15-minute grace period for late arrivals
- Coaches must have ID
- Players must have shinguards

Pre-Game Sportsmanship Statement

Procedure

After all pre-game activities are complete, both teams and the referee crew will line up at the Half Way Line of the Coaches Sideline.

Led by officials, all players and coaches will walk across the field and line up facing spectators, 5 yard from the sideline.

The Sportsmanship Statement will be read by a **representative of the Home team** to all coaches, players and spectators.

Referees
are not
reading
the
statement

Following the reading of the script, players will perform a pre-game handshake.
(Home team to walk down the line of Away Team).

After the pre-game handshake, all players and coaches will return to benches and starting players will assume positions on the field of play.

Center Referees will check a
box in their game report that
Sportsmanship Stmt was read
or not.

Club will receive reports based
on this



Referee Pre-Season Quiz

1. Referees must submit availability for the following weekend by
 - a. Saturday morning
 - b. Sunday night
 - c. Monday afternoon
 - d. Tuesday night
2. Game Reports are submitted
 - a. Via email to the ASC Referee Director
 - b. On a paper copy at the ASC office
 - c. Online at USOfficials.com (in-town)
 - d. Online at ArlingtonSoccerClub.org
3. Weather-related cancellations
 - a. Are announced on the ASC website by 7:00 am / 10:30 a.m for weekends
 - b. Are announced at the field by the coaches
 - c. Must be declared at least 24 hours prior to kickoff
 - d. Will not happen in Fall 2026

Game Assignments / Scheduling

- at <https://usofficial.com>,
 - **Sunday** – Referees input availability
 - **Monday** – Games are assigned
 - **Tuesday** – Referees accept/reject games
 - **Wednesday** – Open games are announced via email
 - **Wed-Fri** – Referees respond to Paul A. directly via email, and schedule is finalized.

Availability Status — [Help](#)

AUGUST 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

Select your availability

Date	Time	Notes
09/07/2024	From 01:00 PM To 04:30 PM	

☐ Unavailable ☒ Available ☐ Reported
☐ Pending ☐ Accepted ☐ Rejected

[Copy calendar link](#) - to sync your calendar with other devices

<https://usofficials.com/calendar/39876/4fdf5f32addcbd70a>

Submitting Game Availability in US Officials

usofficials.com/official/39876

ScheduleOfficialsReportsManagementEmailAdministratorsNews

USOFFICIALS TEAM SHOPcapelli SPORT876 | Log Out

Edit Officials

User InfoPayment SetupPayment HistoryUser AffiliationsLeague Invites

User Status

Official Type * ☒ Official ☐ Non Official

Contact Information

First Name * Christopher

Last Name * Carlsmith

Username * ccarlsmith

Email-1 * chris.carlsmith@gmail.com

Email-2

Date Of Birth * 06 / 22 / 1964

Cell Phone * United States 617-605-6116

In case of emergency Country

Name

Shirt Size (Adult) M

Address

Country * United States

Zip/Postal Code * 02474

State/Province Massachusetts

City ARLINGTON

Address * 219 Crosby St

eMail and Text Notifications

☒ Email-1 ☐ Email-2

☒ Cell Phone * Verizon - @vtext.com

Direct Payment Status Completed

Read the "Direct Payment FAQ" listed under the News section above for additional detailed information.

Notes

ADD NOTE

Alerts

ADD ALERT

Availability Status — Help

SEPTEMBER 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Edit your availability

Select Dates	Select Time	Notes
From 09/03/2026	From 03:00 PM	
To 09/03/2026	To 04:30 PM	

Game Type AVAILABILITY

NO	YES
	Adult
	Charity
	CoEd
	College
	High School
	Tournament Adult
	Tournament Youth
	Unaffiliated
	Youth

In-Town Game times for Fall 2026

- Saturday @ 9:00 and 10:30 (Grades 3-4, Girls) @ Hurd Field
 - Saturday @ 12:00 (Grade 3, Boys) @ Thorndike and Robbins
 - Saturday @ 12:00 and 1:30 (Grade 4, Boys) @ Hurd
-
- Sunday @ 12:30 and 2:00 (Grade 2 , Boys) @ Thorndike
 - Sunday @ 3:30 (Grade 2, Girls) @ Thorndike
 - Sunday @ 1:30 (Grade 3, Boys) @ Robbins
 - Sunday @ 3:30 (Grade 4, Boys) @ Robbins

Viewing Game Availability in US Officials

Per Page: 50		Bulk Assign		Export to CSV			
Game ID ▾	Date & Time ▾	League ▾	Venue ▾	Team Type & Period ▾	Home / Away	Officials	Status
790920 (163308)	09/13/2026 08:00 AM	OTHSL	Arlington Catholic Turf Fld. 01 ARLINGTON, MA Directions	O40 Men D2 Halves 2x45m	@ ARLINGTON FOSSILS KENDALL WANDERERS	REFEREE (\$100.00): Christopher Carlsmith (MA)	Accepted
						ASSIGNOR / Alternate: None	Omitted
						ASSIGNOR / Backup: None	Omitted
						ASSIGNOR / Area: Dusan Basta (MA/C/H)	Reported
						ASSIGNOR / Principal: Paul Athanasiadis (MA)	Reported
791044 (164344)	09/13/2026 10:15 AM	OTHSL	Arlington Catholic Turf Fld. 01 ARLINGTON, MA Directions	O62 Men D2 Halves 2x45m	@ ARLINGTON PONDDAWGZ 62 WARTHOG WONDERS	REFEREE (\$100.00): Christopher Carlsmith (MA)	Accepted
						ASSIGNOR / Alternate: None	Omitted
						ASSIGNOR / Backup: None	Omitted
						ASSIGNOR / Area: Dusan Basta (MA/C/H)	Reported
						ASSIGNOR / Principal: Paul Athanasiadis (MA)	Reported

Game Reports

- Everyone accepts game initially at US Officials.
- In-Town referees report games at <https://usofficials.com>.

[illegible]

2 examples of
blank game forms
for referees to use
during the
match....

Record:

- Team names
- Date, time, & location
- Final score (Home: Away)

[illegible]

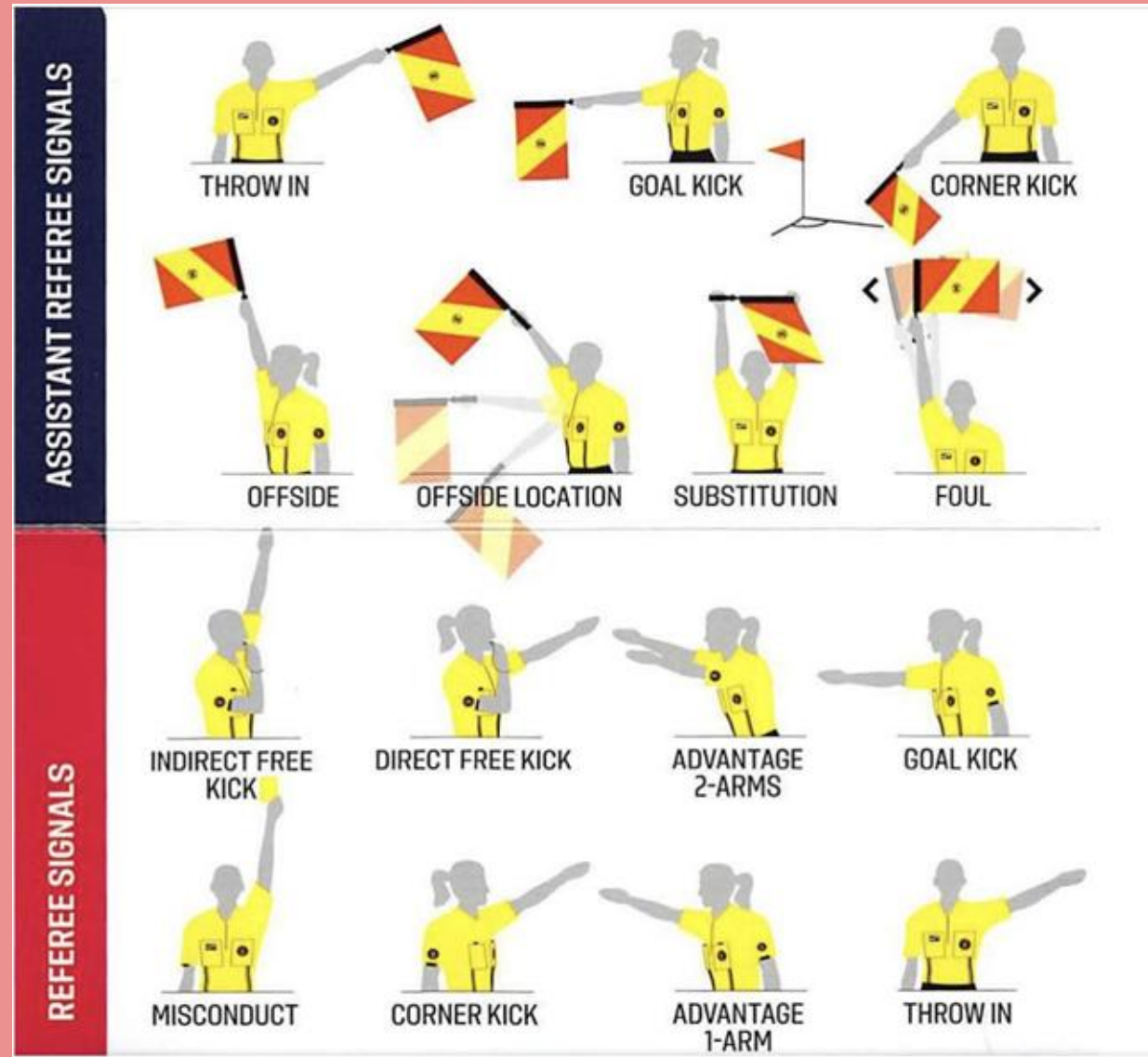
Game Reports (2)

- In-Town referees generally report only the score.
 - Unusual incidents (e.g., cancellations, severe injury) can be reported to Referee Director, or feedback form
- Game reports should be submitted within 24 hours.
- Game reports cannot be submitted until the game is accepted.
- See “Game Reports: Best Practice” on ASC website

Payment

- 2x per season for In-Town
 - Mid-season, End of season
 - Check sent to your house
 - \$25 per game
- No Game Report = No Pay!
- No Contact Information = No assignment!

Referee & Assistant Referee: Signals



Which of these
hand signals is
incorrect??



Referee Pre-Season Quiz

1. The grace period for late-arriving coaches/referees is
 - a. 5 minutes
 - b. 15 minutes
 - c. 30 minutes
 - d. None

2. Earrings are permitted
 - a. If they are taped both front and back
 - b. If they have silicon/plastic studs rather than metal studs
 - c. If parents give permission
 - d. If worn for religious reasons
 - e. Under no circumstances

3. The rules for soccer in Arlington are set by
 - a. ASC
 - b. BAYS
 - c. IFAB
 - d. All of the above

Game Cancellations

- ASC decides by 7:00 am /10:30 am for weekend games, so check ASC website and your own email.
- Referees can declare a field unplayable, in consultation w/ coaches
- Thunder/Lightning Policy
 - No play for 30 minutes

BAYS Table re Game Cancellations and Ref Payment

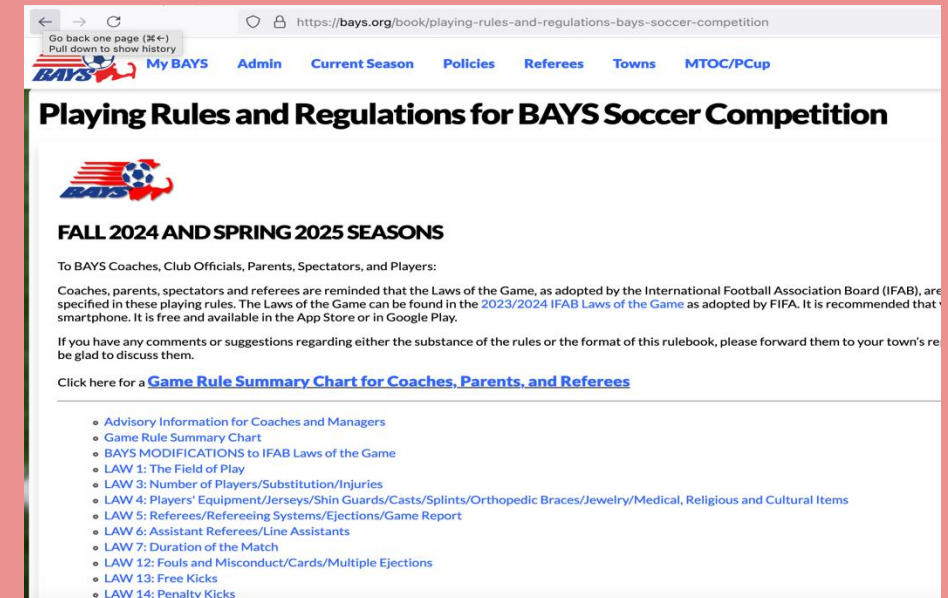
Referee Gear

- What items does every ref need?



Plus wristwatch!

Game Rules (LOTG)



Download the APP NOW – [HERE](https://www.theifab.com)
www.theifab.com



Keeping it Fun!

Arlington Soccer Club Rules Summary for Grades 3-4 In-Town Games

Size of team on field: 7v7

Size ball: No. 4

Time: Two 30-minute halves and a 5-minute half time break.

Important rules to remember:

In addition to (or in modification of) the regular laws of the game, the following special rules will apply to ASC Grade 3-4 In-Town games.

1. Educating players about the rules is an important part of the referee's job at this age. Briefly explain the rules if players appear confused (15 seconds should be enough—do not interrupt the flow of the game).
2. Free Kicks: Direct and Indirect free kicks are awarded. Opponents should stand **10 yards** away from the ball.
3. Penalty Kicks: NO Penalty Kicks are awarded at this level. Instead of a PK, a direct kick will be awarded at the edge of the penalty area closest to where the foul occurred.
4. Goal Kicks:
 - Place the ball 5-6 yards from the goal line—lines are not always marked, so goalkeeper and referee use their judgement.
 - Defensive team must retreat to the midfield line. Cones on each side are helpful to mark the midfield line. The ball must touch the field or a player in the defensive half of the field. If the ball crosses midfield without touching the ground or a player, the opposing team will be awarded an indirect kick at midfield.

Pick up a handout, and
bookmark on your phone



Referee Quiz

1. Substitutions CANNOT occur on which of the following situations?
 - a. Goal Kick
 - b. Corner Kick
 - c. Injury
 - d. Goal
2. Hats are permitted for players if they
 - a. Are soft and pose no threat to other players
 - b. Match the color(s) of the player's jersey
 - c. Can fit under a hoodie
 - d. Contain no metal parts
3. If 2 players have the same number on their jersey, then
 - a. Only one of those players can be on the field at a time
 - b. Only the lower number is allowed to play
 - c. A strip of tape can be added to make the number 1 (e.g., "9" → "91")
 - d. No action is needed—the referee just writes down the players' names.
4. After a goal is scored, the referee should
 - a. Blow the whistle loudly
 - b. Collect the ball from the net and return it to the center circle
 - c. Survey the field, point to center circle, and record the goal

Special Considerations for In-Town Referees

- No yellow-red cards.
- Education & Enforcement = 2 major roles
- Special rules for Grade 2, and for Grade 3-4 (see handout).
- Professionalism
 - Dress appropriately.
 - Display confidence with coaches, players, and spectators.
 - Use whistle and hand signals.
 - Move with the ball around the entire field.
 - Be in charge of substitutions, restarts, and the whole game.

Questions?