

## Assessment Information

In Arkansas, we offer several types of assessments for the referee community. At most of the tournaments, we conduct developmental assessments to help the referees with their on-field development as referees. During these assessments, we may watch part or all of a match and provide the referee with feedback after that match. The assessor may comment on positioning, foul recognition and field coverage to name a few. These, as all assessments, are to help the referee understand the mechanics and dynamics of the soccer match as viewed by a trained observer. We offer solutions to problems that you may encounter during this, or future matches. These assessments are provided at no cost to the referee.

Another assessment is the upgrade assessment. During this type, the assessor will concentrate on one match only. The assessor will pay exacting attention to the referee looking to upgrade in rank. More detailed feedback will come during the assessor's post game debriefing with the referee crew from that match. This assessment is paid for by the referee requesting the assessment. This is a requirement by the US Soccer Federation for those referees wishing to advance in their referee careers.

The assessment program also performs maintenance assessments. These assessments are performed annually for all Grade 6 State Referees as part of the recertification process. The purpose of the maintenance assessment is to make sure the referee has not developed any "bad" habits and continues to work toward improvement in their grade. These assessments are done on specific games with requirements depending on grade. Again, detailed feedback can be expected from this assessment. This assessment is a requirement set forth by the US Soccer Federation. The referee pays the required assessment fee for this service.

One thing to understand is that the assessor is scheduled to the match by the State Director of Assessments with the guidance from the State Referee Administrator and the State Youth Referee Administrator. Anyone wanting an upgrade assessment **MUST** go through these people to get it done.

Some points to remember; an assessment doesn't hurt a bit, in fact, it may actually help you and if you want to improve, request an assessment at the next tournament you attend.