

Greetings from Your Alabama State Referee Committee!

Summer 2017 Events by SRA, Pat Miller

Over the past month, a number of our referees attended Region III events.

June 8-11, 2017, Danny Colpo attended the RIII Adult Regionals in Raleigh, NC.

June 13-18, 2017, Jeremy Ferguson, Pete Gonzalez, Tim Holt, Can Kucuktas, Alex Morris and Gonzalo Rodriguez attended the United States Youth Soccer (USYS) Region III, Division II President's Cup in Tulsa, OK.

The RIII President's Cup Committee selected Alex Morris as one of the Top 15 Referees for that tournament.

June 22-29, 2017, JP Archer, Sam Bierster, Ryan Campbell, Diego Chulan, Alex Garcia, Austin Holt, Luke Horst (Paul Stanton Male Youth Referee of the Year), John Rich, Jonathan Sauers, Tiffini Turpin and Nick Vickery attended the USYS Region III Championships in Greensboro, NC.

During the RIII Awards Ceremony the following Alabama referees were recognized:

Top Assistant Referees - Diego Chulan, Austin Holt, Alex Garcia, JP Archer, and John Rich

Top Referees - John Sauers, Tiffini Turpin, Sam Bierster

The following referee was invited to attend the USYS President's Cup National Championship in Auburndale, FL:

Tiffini Turpin

The following referees were invited to attend the USYS Youth National Championship in Frisco, TX:

Referees – Sam Bierster and Jonathan Sauers

Assistant Referee – JP Archer



Alabama Delegations to
USYS Region III Championships



Danny Colpo
Adult Regionals

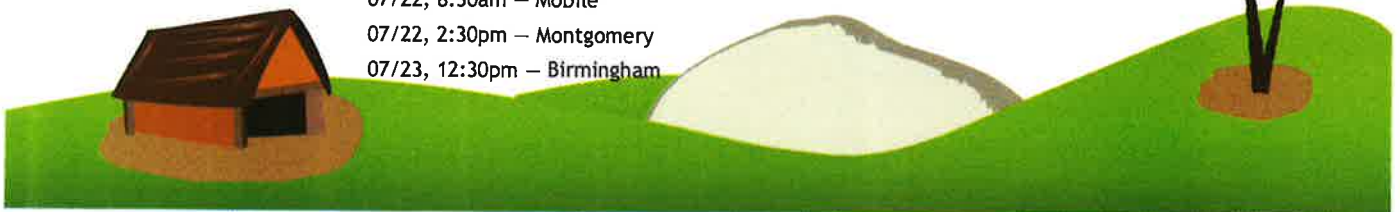
Important Dates:

07/22-23/2017 Southern Tour
Roadshow Recertification

07/22, 8:30am – Mobile

07/22, 2:30pm – Montgomery

07/23, 12:30pm – Birmingham



Tip #1 from Jon Sauers! Dealing with communication during both dynamic play and when admonishing a player: We are encouraged to talk to players on the field. It's one way of managing the game and, during dynamic play when players are going after a 50/50 ball, I have the habit of saying "find the ball" or "find it" over and over again. 1) What does that statement mean to a player? 2) Does it make an impact if repeated over and over again throughout a game? Try saying, "use your skills", "keep going", and "I'm right here"; let your presence tell everyone that there was no foul. Be there when you need to be. Choose your time to say, "no more". Show the players that you have built up to that point and you will literally take no more from that player.

Tip #3 from John Rich! Adjust my square stance as AR to a slightly offset stance (one foot set slightly back—only my feet because I need to keep my shoulders square so I have a good angle for offside position) so I can get out of my stance quicker and have more dynamic movement.

Tip #4 from Sam Bierster! Do the work to get into position on dead balls ahead of time. Even if you know it will take time to get the ball back in play. Jog, don't walk.

Learn from Your Fellow Referees:

There are tip boxes in this newsletter! Read each one carefully and understand that this was their primary tip that each referee took away from the higher level tournament they attended! These are offered to the referees by coach-mentors that were available to them and were some of the highest level referees in this country (FIFA Referees Ted and Christina Unkel were two that offered a great deal of information).

We can learn a great deal from each of our refereeing experiences and this is our opportunity to share and learn from the very best! If you have any questions about these tips, please contact that referee directly or send them to any of the members of the SRC and we will get them answered. The purpose of this newsletter is to make us all better by communicating the latest instructions and examples we have heard!

Remember, everything is from a verified source! So, discuss this with your referee family and see how each one applies to your game!

Tip #2 from Ryan Campbell! Have players either wear or hold their jerseys at check in to ensure that the jersey matches the number listed on the roster. The number that players say they will be wearing doesn't always match the one they actually put on in the game, which can lead to problems like duplicate numbers on the field.

Tip #5 from Alex Garcia! While working as the referee, I utilized input from an assistant referee to change a call that I originally had correct. The one coaching tip that stuck with me was to go with my gut. I was 110% sure about my decision and didn't stick with it, so I'd say as a referee stick to your gut, because it's generally right. (Do NOT let a referee convince you that you weren't right just because they have more seniority!)

- Alabama SRC**
- SRA, Pat Miller**
- SYRA, Ohannes Younanian**
- SDA, Klaus Staefe**
- SDI, Kris Bailey**
- SAC, Coral Gubler**
- North ARA, Cedric Thomas**
- Central ARA, Kris Rose**
- South ARA, Jonathan Sauers**

FIFA Considerations

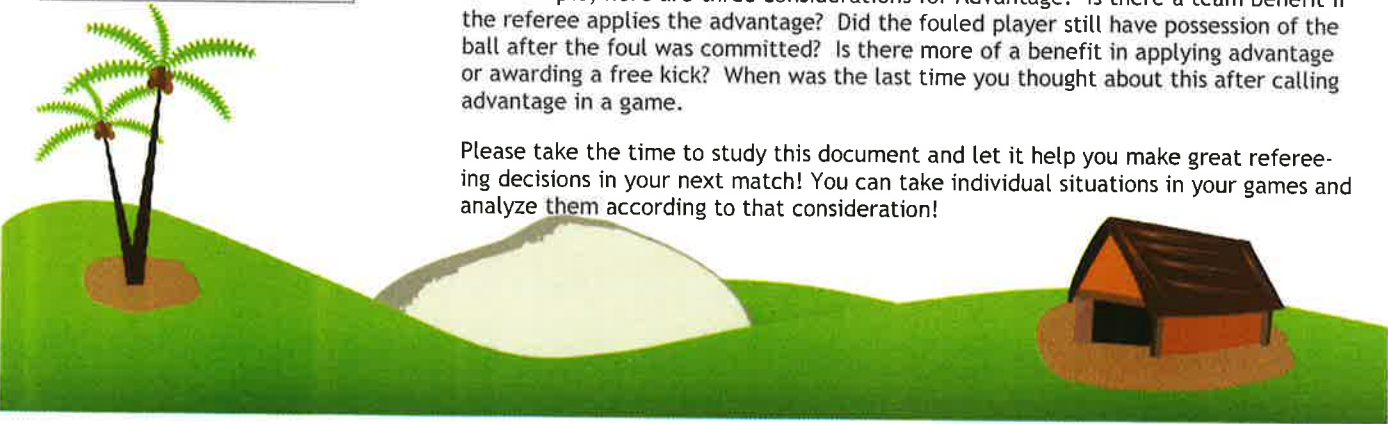
How often do you actually sit down and analyze the match you just completed? Certainly, we talk about the memorable calls we made....a PK that was protested by everybody on the opposite team, a goal that looked offside, a kid who told us what he thought of us as a referee...but do we really sit down and analyze what we did and why we did it?

We sit in classes and analyze video clips from other referee situations and may just sit and listen to others. However, the development of really good referee pools are those that continually challenge themselves to improve every time they take the field!

United States Soccer Federation wants every referee to study and use the FIFA Considerations for Match Decisions. The document is included with this newsletter. It is six pages of situational analysis of game-time decisions.

For example, here are three considerations for Advantage: Is there a team benefit if the referee applies the advantage? Did the fouled player still have possession of the ball after the foul was committed? Is there more of a benefit in applying advantage or awarding a free kick? When was the last time you thought about this after calling advantage in a game.

Please take the time to study this document and let it help you make great refereeing decisions in your next match! You can take individual situations in your games and analyze them according to that consideration!



Time to Recertify and Register!

2018 USSF REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN THROUGH ARBITER

Tip #6 from Austin Holt! One of the most important tips I received during regionals was a tip about angles. It's common to hear an assessor to say "work on getting wider." When referees hear this we are usually far away and/or chasing behind a player instead of stepping to one side of the player to see contact with an opposing player. The tip I received about getting a better angle wasn't when I was chasing play or far away from play it was when I was having to get deep inside the penalty area to see any potential situations. I feel as referees we think just because we are deep inside the penalty area or close to play we'll be able to see everything, but that's not always the case. Just because we're close doesn't mean we'll see it. While being close will help sell the call, it will not always help make the correct call, so we always need to think about the angle we are taking even in the penalty area.

Tip #7 from Nick Vickery! Maintain professionalism at all times. Don't get caught by some small thing that paints you in a negative light. Take note of your mechanics. They may seem small but the smaller things can often separate a good referee from an outstanding referee.

Tip #8 from Diego Chulan! Focus on life and family first, because soccer will always find a way into your life.

Steps for RETURNING REFEREES:

1. Log into ALYS Arbiter account
2. At top of page select Central Hub
3. Select Registration
4. Select your Registration Grade that you are currently
5. If you are an Instructor/Assessor/Assignor you can select all of the at same time
6. Complete Input (most data should be filled out from your Arbiter Profile)
7. Pay Registration Fee (You will not be registered until fee is paid).

NEW REFEREES - Never been a USSF before at any time in the past.

1. Go to this website---<https://ussoccer.secure.force.com/referee/>
2. Click the Green Click Here button
3. Selected - Haven't Created a Password? Create one now
4. On right side New Referee, Select ALABAMA from Drawdown menu of states
5. Select Registration
6. Select 2018 - New Officials
7. Fill out ALL required information
8. Pay Registration Fees

Tip #9 from JP Archer! A good tip I received at regionals was as an AR, to (as much as possible), try to use a preventative voice to the players to establish a presence as an AR so that the players know you're watching. This becomes especially helpful to the referee when play is closer to the AR and at the same time builds teamwork and communication with the crew. This tactic is also helpful when a free kick is being taken more so towards the AR. Talking to players, telling them to give the respective distance, is a critical piece of teamwork.

Tip #10 from Tiffini Turpin! One of the biggest things that I took away and would suggest to other people is to just take any opportunity you can to learn. Talking with your crew before and after games but also at halftime and discussing situations and getting feedback. Everyone has their own style of refereeing and each person may handle situations differently but it is good to get that feedback or information because you may need to use it one day. Not every game is the same. Not every player is the same. You need to be able to adjust how you respond and getting feedback from other officials, mentors, and assessors gives you that so that when you find yourself in an unusual or unfamiliar situation, you are better prepared to handle it.

Tip #11 from Luke Horst (Paul Stanton Male Youth Referee of the Year!) The best suggestion I got was to work on anticipating the next phase of play. On goal kicks, free kicks, etc., locating the drop zone and getting into a good position based on that drop zone. While the ball is in play, anticipating where the ball will go so I don't get behind the play.





REMEMBER.....IF YOU INTEND TO UPGRADE FOR THE 2018 YEAR, YOU TAKE THE RECERTIFICATION TEST FOR YOUR NEW GRADE! YOU ALSO NEED TO FORWARD ALL YOUR INFORMATION TO THE SRA, SYRA, AND SDA TO LET THEM KNOW YOUR INTENT!



My sincerest apologies to Anyone who was not included in this Photo Array!