



# *Australian Officiating Development Schedule*

*January 2012*

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Australian Officiating Development Schedule

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The Australian Officiating Development Schedule (*AODS* or *Schedule*) is the foundation document for match officiating in Australia. It represents the only match official accreditation system recognised by Football Federation Australia (FFA) and its use is mandatory throughout Australia.

Officials need a formal, broad, comprehensive and professional development process, comparable to the development they would undertake during their working careers.

The Schedule describes the career pathways and professional development of all match officials and their supporting colleagues. It replaces the 2002 *National Grading Schedule* which in turn supplanted the original Referee-only schedule developed in the early 1990s.

The Schedule documents all Football & Futsal Referee, Referee Assessor & Referee Instructor classifications & training programs as well as the protocols and processes to manage the accreditation process.

Processes, procedures and policy documents must be open and transparent. If officials are to achieve their personal goals it is essential that they have access to up-to-date information, policies, modern officiating trends, educational programs and support.

The policies and procedures to manage the development and accreditation of match officials throughout Australia are documented in the "*Match Official Policies and Procedures Manual*".

### 1.2 NOAS Registration and FFA Training Programs

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FFA is football's national controlling body and is recognised by the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) as a National Sporting Organisation (NSO)

In March 2005 FFA determined that training programs for match officials should be registered under the ASC's National Officiating Accreditation Scheme (NOAS). To achieve this objective FFA commissioned a project team to create a suite of training programs and prepare the detailed documentation required for ASC-NOAS registration. Eight Football programs have been developed, submitted to the ASC, and have received NOAS registration. Following the submission of 2008 revised editions the original expiry date of December 2009 has been extended to September 2013.

The FFA Futsal Level 3 Referee Training Program was created in 2007/8. It has been granted ASC-NOAS registration until September 2013.

All training programs incorporate the ASC's competency based education model. ASC guidelines state:

*Competency statements are broad descriptions of the skill sets expected of ... officials who have a particular qualification. A competency statement defines what an official must be able to 'DO' and to what standard to become qualified ... at a particular level.*

Australian Sports Commission  
Guidelines for the Design and Registration of NCAS and NOAS Training Programs  
Belconnen ACT, June 2003, p.21

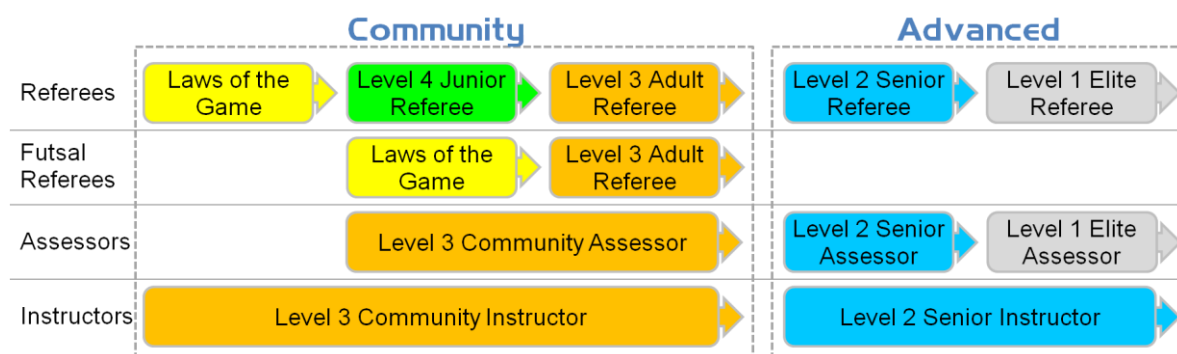
There are time frames specified to complete programs and timing guidelines for individual units. As units are studied participants should receive feedback and guidance from appropriate coaches, mentors and colleagues about their officiating (e.g. coaching sheets and formal assessments). Practical field work is an important component of most training programs.

Detailed manuals have been developed for all programs. Additional resources are published in the FFA edition of the "*Laws of the Game*". It is also recognised that a centralised and accessible reference system might be created and made accessible to all match officials. The methodology to achieve this goal has not yet been determined.

The ASC requires FFA to keep its training programs under review. This includes renewal of a program's NOAS registration, as well as monitoring and improvement.

Additional FFA program planning remains under active consideration including programs for Referee Instructor Level 1, Futsal Level 2 Senior, Futsal Level 1 Referee and Futsal Referee Assessor Level 3.

### 1.3 Summary of programs



Accreditation Level		Program Details			Minimum Age and Prerequisites
		Program Length	Assessments	Exam	
Referee	Laws of the Game certificate	9 hours		Yes	None
	Level 4 Junior	6 hours	Matches		13 years of age and have passed Laws of the Game certificate within last 2 years
	Level 3 Adult	7 hours	Fitness Test Matches		16 years of age with current Level 4 Junior Referee accreditation
	Level 2 Senior (Theory)	7 hours		Yes	18 years of age with current Level 3 Adult Referee accreditation
	Level 2 Senior	Variable	Fitness Test Matches		18 years of age with current Level 3 Adult Referee and Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory) accreditations
	Level 1 Elite (Theory)	11 hours		Yes	18 years of age with current Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory) or Level 2 Senior Referee accreditation
	Level 1 Elite	Variable	Fitness Test Matches		18 years of age with current Level 2 Senior Referee and Level 1 Elite Referee (Theory) accreditations
Futsal Referee	Laws of the Game certificate	8 hours		Yes	None
	Level 3 Adult Referee	8 hours	Matches		16 years of age and have passed Futsal Laws of the Game certificate within last 2 years
Assessor	Level 3 Community	7 hours	Match reports	Yes	18 years of age with current Level 3 Adult Referee accreditation
	Level 2 Senior	7 hours	Match reports	Yes	18 years of age with current Level 3 Community Assessor accreditation
	Level 1 Elite	14 hours	Match Reports	Yes	21 years of age with current Level 2 Senior Assessor accreditation
Instructor	Level 3 Community	ASC Presenter/Facilitator Training Program or Certificate IV in Training & Assessment		Yes	18 years of age with current Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory) and Level 3 Adult Assessor accreditations
	Level 2 Senior	24 hours	Practical training Theory presentation	Yes	21 years of age with current Level 2 Senior Referee and Assessor accreditations

## 1.4 Match Official Accreditation

When a participant successfully completes a training program they are granted accreditation under the NOAS for a period of up to four years unless cancelled earlier. FFA reserves the right to refuse to accredit or reaccredit applicants.

The date of accreditation expiry is calculated from the first day of the training program. All accreditations expire on 31 December.

For example if a Level 2 Senior Referee program commences on 2 February 2012 then accreditation would expire on 31 December 2015.

### Renewal of Accreditation

Every four years you need to renew your match official accreditation.

During the time you are accredited you need to be active during at least two of those four years as well as undertake a number of activities during those active years.

During the final year of your accreditation you must also successfully pass a Laws of the Game examination (excluding Level 4 Junior Referees).

The following table outlines the activities that are required to be undertaken each year in which the official is active. The activities are to be recorded in the Official's Log.

FFA Qualification		Active officiating (per year) *	Attend formal coaching sessions (per year) **	Pass LOTG exam ***	Additional requirements ****
Referee	Level 4 Junior	6 hours	3 times	Not required	
	Level 3 Adult	12 hours	3 times	Yes 70%	
	Level 3 Futsal Adult	12 hours	3 times	Yes 70%	
	Level 2 Senior	18 hours	4 times	Yes 80%	Pass 1 match assessment per year
	Level 1 Elite	24 hours	4 times	Yes 85%	Pass 1 match assessment per year
Assessor	Level 3 Community	6 hours	4 times	Yes 70%	Review of 1 match report per year
	Level 2 Senior	12 hours	4 times	Yes 80%	Review of 2 match reports per year
	Level 1 Elite	18 hours	4 times	Yes 85%	Review of 3 match reports per year
Instructor	Level 3 Community	6 hours on FFA program	3 times	Yes 80%	
	Level 2 Senior	12 hours on FFA program	4 times	Yes 85%	

\* Active officiating for referees does not include matches as a fourth official.

\*\* Coaching sessions may include the formal pre-season seminar.

\*\*\* Match officials must successfully complete an examination during the final year of their accreditation.

\*\*\*\* Match reports include coaching sheet and complete running sheets for each match.

### Official's Log

An Official's Log is available to accredited match officials as part of FFA's Laws of the Game publication. It is recommended that activities are recorded as they occur, or are recorded in summary form at frequent intervals.

## 1.5 Referee Committees

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### FFA Referee Committees

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Committees and their membership are determined exclusively by FFA as required from time to time.

### Referees Technical Committee

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All Member Federations should have a Referee Technical Committee (*RTC*) that shall:

- implement the national referee development curriculum within their Member Federation as directed by FFA;
- supervise the career development of all registered match officials by ensuring that this Schedule's requirements and processes are implemented without exception;
- demonstrably comply with all FFA directions regarding the development, training, education, coaching and accreditation of match officials;
- be responsible for the identification of registered match officials ready to undertake further training programs and recognition at national level;
- monitor, supervise and assess their registered match officials undertaking training programs and accreditation processes.

While the names of a RTC may vary between Member Federations, there must be one group in each Member Federation that is responsible for the above requirements.

## 1.6 Program Accessibility and Career Progression

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### Access to programs and accreditation

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Access to FFA's Referee, Referee Assessor or Referee Instructor training programs is available to individuals registered as a match official with FFA through a FFA-recognised referee group. Two programs are exempt from this requirement - the Laws of the Game certificate and Futsal Laws of the Game certificate programs.

Members of referee groups not recognised by FFA or match officials who are not registered with FFA do not have access to FFA certification, ASC accreditation, training programs, tournaments, match official panels, or any other FFA initiatives and support.

The participant's Technical Committee has the power to cancel an enrolment in a program if serious shortcomings are detected, documented and unable to be rectified.

### Career progression

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There is evidence from many sports that a key factor in the failure to retain officials is reluctance by Referee/Umpire groups to identify and promote talented younger officials as well as lack of coaching and mentoring.

Accelerated progress is encouraged where this is appropriate and where neither the match official nor the matches they officiate would be placed at risk. Time restrictions on advancement *per se* should not operate as they are incompatible with NOAS program design guidelines and competency based education structures.

Ideally this means that once a training program's competencies are exhibited and consolidated by a Referee, Assessor or Instructor there should be no barrier to enrolment in the next program and continuing progress in their professional development. However, it is appreciated that genuine resource limitations may impact on this principle.

## 1.7 Program Instructors

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Only currently accredited Instructors, individuals approved by the Member Federation's RTC or individuals approved by FFA as outlined in this Schedule can conduct match officials development programs.

Only currently accredited Instructors, individuals approved by the Member Federation's RTC or individuals approved by FFA as outlined in this Schedule can conduct examinations of match officials as required as a component of a development program or renewal of accreditation.

Only currently accredited Assessors, individuals approved by the Member Federation's RTC or individuals approved by FFA as outlined in this Schedule can conduct assessments of match officials during matches as a component of a development program or renewal of accreditation.

## 1.8 Candidates attending a training program

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### Information for candidates

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Candidates are expected to adhere to the following as a requirement of attending any FFA match official training program.

Candidates must:

1. Apply to undertake the training program and pay any fee associated with undertaking the program prior to the program commencing;
2. Ensure any work is undertaken and completed in accordance with deadlines set before, during or after the program;
3. Attend all units within the program unless Recognition of Current Competencies (RCC) has been approved prior to the commencement of the program;
4. Provide all documentation required to allow the Instructor or Assessor to determine the competency of the candidate; and
5. Undertake all assessment tasks required for the program within the times and deadlines specified.

### Recommendations for accreditation

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At the conclusion of a program Instructors will make recommendations regarding a candidate's accreditation as either:

- a) Competent at the level of accreditation for the training program undertaken; or
- b) Competent at a level below that at which the training program was undertaken and the reasons for such recommendation; or
- c) Not yet competent against an assessable component and, as required, the level of accreditation at which the candidate must meet the requirements of reassessment; or
- d) The candidate did not meet the attendance requirements of the program.

For Community level programs the recommendations will be made to the Member Federation's RTC.

For Advanced level programs the recommendations will be made to FFA who will review the recommendations from the instructor(s) and confirm or reject the recommendations.

Where the RTC or FFA rejects a recommendation they must advise the instructor(s) in writing and either seek additional information regarding the recommendation to allow further review or inform the instructor(s) of the reasons for making a determination that varies from the original recommendation.

### Code of Ethics forms

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Code of Ethics forms have been developed for both Assessors and Instructors and are required to be completed, signed and returned to FFA to finalise accreditation.

The *Code of Ethics* form must be returned to FFA by one of the following methods:

1. Facsimile; or
2. Postal service; or
3. Email as a scanned/PDF attachment.

Delivery details using these methods are listed on the last page in this document.

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## **Candidates undertaking Assessor or Instructor training programs**

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The following information details the process once a candidate has successfully completed an Assessor or Instructor program.

1. Within 28 days of confirming the recommendation of the Instructor(s) or making an alternate determination FFA will offer the candidate accreditation in writing by email or letter.
2. If the candidate wishes to accept the offer they must complete, sign and return the required *Code of Ethics* form within 28 days of the date of the offer.
3. If the completed and signed *Code of Ethics* form is not returned by the specified deadline the offer of accreditation shall lapse and accreditation will not be granted. The candidate will then be required to undertake the program again.
4. Candidates who wish to appeal the recommendation of the Instructor(s) or the determination of FFA should refer to the appeals process within this Schedule.

FFA may, at its discretion, make a second and final offer of accreditation, following the documented processes and timeframes, if the candidate informs FFA in writing within the original offer's timeframe that they did not receive the original offer.

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### **1.9 Program Timeframes**

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Participants are expected to complete all aspects of a training program within a specified timeframe. This is to ensure that the knowledge of participants is as up to date as possible.

Timeframes are documented in each of the respective training program.

Should a participant seek an extension to complete the requirements of a training program they must do so in writing to FFA before the end of the specified timeframe.

If all aspects of a development program are not completed within this period the participant will be required to undertake the development program again.

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### **1.10 Inconsistencies between this Schedule and program materials**

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Where there are inconsistencies between this and any program materials, the information within this Schedule is authoritative in every respect.

## 2. Referee Programs

### 2.1 Referee Career Development

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FFA programs cover a rich and diverse range of topics, mostly absent from pre-2006 promotion procedures. Program units facilitate long term exposure to modern officiating principles, interpretations, trends and processes, culminating in assessments of a Referee's practical competencies.

There are no separate levels or classifications applicable to any specific niche of Football or Futsal. Female and male officials use identical classifications, processes and procedures.

Selection to officiate in national competitions is made by FFA and fall outside the scope of this Schedule. FIFA or AFC match official nominations will be recommended to these bodies by FFA.

FFA wishes to identify talented Referees well before they are considered for nomination to elite tournaments and panels. National Identification Lists will assist in the identification of promising match officials and encourage their progress.

A Referee's career development is supported by formal training programs monitored by the RTC. The RTC may end an upgrading process if the participant clearly is unable to develop the required competencies or fails to complete required units. The RTC must advise the Referee in writing of the reasons for this action. Failure to demonstrate all competencies required during any practical field assessments does not necessarily mean an end to an upgrading process. Performances should be analysed carefully and further opportunities would normally be identified for a participant who has not yet demonstrated the required practical unit's competencies. It must be stressed that neither Referees or matches should be placed at risk.

At the end of each program, the RTC may confirm or deny the upgrading, or defer the program for rescheduling at the next available opportunity. The Technical Committee must notify the participant within 14 days of its decision and reasons.

### 2.2 Appointments

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It is understood that referee organisations may wish to appoint Referees to higher level matches than the Referee classifications used in this Schedule suggest. This may occur where talented Referees are known to be able to control such matches effectively. It is also recognised that Referee shortages may create a need to have lower classification Referees officiate at levels above those recommended. It is strongly recommended that match officials who are at least 16 years old but less than 18, and who are appointed to matches involving adult players, should be formally identified by the Member Federation's RTC as clearly capable of handling their duties. The RTC should seek to ensure that Referees and matches are not placed at risk.

### 2.3 Level 2 and 1 Theory and Practical Program Pathways

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The Level 2 Senior Referee and Level 1 Elite Referee programs are composed of two parts:

- **Theory**

This part includes all theoretical units of the program including the examination.

If a participant :

- a) undertakes the theoretical units of the program, passes the examination and does not wish to undertake the practical components; or
- b) undertakes the theoretical units of the program, passes the examination but does not pass both of the practical components

they will be recognised as holding the appropriate Theory qualification.

A FFA certificate will be provided and they will be included on the Member Federation's accreditation list as holding the appropriate level of Theory accreditation.

- **Practical**

This includes all physical fitness tests and practical match assessments.

If a match official undertakes all components of the program, passes the examination and practical components they will be recognised as holding the appropriate refereeing accreditation. A FFA certificate and ASC accreditation will be provided.

## **Theory pathway**

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A match official may undertake the following pathway that includes the theoretical components only:

- a) Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory)
- b) Level 1 Elite Referee (Theory)

To progress through this theory pathway the match official must hold current accreditation at the previous level. For the avoidance of doubt:

To undertake the Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory) program the match official must:

- hold current accreditation as a Level 3 Adult Referee; and
- meet the other pre-requisites for the Level 2 Senior Referee program.

To undertake the Level 1 Elite Referee (Theory) program the match official must:

- hold current accreditation as a Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory); and
- meet the other pre-requisites for the Level 1 Senior Referee program.

## **Practical pathway**

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A match official who holds the appropriate Theory accreditation may undertake the following pathway that includes the practical components:

- a) Level 2 Senior Referee
- b) Level 1 Elite Referee

To progress through this practical pathway the match official must hold current accreditation at the previous level. For the avoidance of doubt:

To undertake the Level 2 Senior Referee program the match official must:

- hold current accreditation as a Level 3 Adult Referee; and
- hold current accreditation as a Level 2 Senior Referee (Theory); and
- meet the other pre-requisites for the Level 2 Senior Referee program.

To undertake the Level 1 Elite Referee program the match official must:

- hold current accreditation as a Level 2 Senior Referee; and
- hold current accreditation as a Level 1 Elite Referee (Theory); and
- meet the other pre-requisites for the Level 1 Senior Referee program.

## **2.4 Community Football Referee Development Programs**

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### **Laws of the Game certificate**

#### **Level 4 Junior Referee**

#### **Level 3 Adult Referee**

These programs provide basic training and subsequent consolidation of officiating competencies. Junior and Adult program participants must be currently registered with FFA as a match official and hold current accreditation by being listed on the FFA match official accreditation database. Available data suggests that the majority of match officials in Australia can be expected to achieve Level 3 Adult Referee classification.

## Laws of the Game Certificate

The Laws of the Game certificate provides a basic introduction to the Laws and interpretations. It can be obtained by completing this program including a written theory examination or through an FFA approved equivalent online version.

Graduates receive a FFA certificate however FFA and ASC accreditation is not available and graduates are not qualified to officiate in matches other than Optus Small Sided Football.

To begin their Refereeing career graduates must be registered with FFA through a FFA-recognised referee group and achieve the competencies identified for the pre-officiating units of the Level 4 Junior Referee program.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a local area basis. The local Association, referee group or Member Federation's RTC will be responsible for approval, scheduling and appointment of Instructors.
<b>Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 3 Community Instructors (or higher level of FFA Instructor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to the organisation conducting the program. Any registration fee must accompany the application.
<b>Timeframe</b>	The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable components will be within one year of the commencement of the program.
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Level 4 Junior Referee

This program's practical emphasis complements the Laws of the Game certificate's theoretical focus.

Participants must demonstrate all pre-officiating unit competencies before accepting any Referee or Assistant Referee appointments.

These units are usually taught as a concentrated set of presentations and practical exercises taking about 8 hours. Practical assessments and other activities complete the program.

Program graduates are eligible to receive a FFA Level 4 Junior Referee certificate and accreditation and are considered qualified to officiate in football involving junior and youth players.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. The Member Federation's RTC, local Association or referee group will be responsible for the appointment of Instructors. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official ; and</li> <li>• must have successfully completed the Laws of the Game certificate within the last two years.</li> </ul> <p>It is recommended that applicants be at least 13 years of age at the commencement date of the program.</p>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a local area basis.
<b>Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 3 Community Instructors (or higher level of FFA Instructor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to the organisation conducting the program. Any registration fee must accompany the application.
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to their Technical Committee. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year without written approval from their Member Federation's RTC.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations    A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>Practical            A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Level 3 Adult Referee

### Theme: Skill Consolidation

Program graduates are eligible to receive a FFA Level 3 Adult Referee certificate and accreditation and are considered qualified to officiate from junior football to the lower divisions of adult football.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. The Member Federation's RTC, local Association or referee group will be responsible for the appointment of Instructors. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• be an active referee at least 15 years old; and</li> <li>• clearly exhibit the competencies required of a Level 4 Junior Referee.</li> </ul> <p>Applicants may be 15 years of age on the commencement date of this program however they cannot be granted this accreditation until they turn 16 years of age.</p>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a local area basis.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 3 Community Instructors (or higher level of FFA Instructor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>Match Assessors</b>	Where match assessments are conducted as part of this program, including any reassessments, these must be conducted by currently accredited Level 3 Community Assessors (or higher level of FFA Assessor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	<p>By application to their referee group's Technical Committee; or by invitation from that Committee. Any registration fee must accompany the application or acceptance of an invitation.</p> <p>Level 4 Junior Referees who possess the Level 3 Senior program prerequisites may be invited by their Technical Committee to enrol as a Level 3 Senior participant immediately their Level 4 Junior Referee classification is confirmed.</p>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to their Technical Committee. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year without written approval from their Member Federation's RTC.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p><b>Examinations</b> A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p><b>Practical</b> A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## 2.5 Advanced Football Referee Development Programs

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### Level 2 Senior Referee

### Level 1 Elite Referee

These programs provide advanced development for Referees wishing to officiate in senior and elite competitions. Participants must be registered with FFA and hold current FFA referee accreditation.

It is recommended that each Member Federation's RTC set a closing date each year for applications to undertake either of these programs. FFA recommends that this be 31 October each year to allow the scheduling of programs to commence early the following year. However, Member Federation's RTCs should exercise some flexibility in this matter, particularly in order to encourage talented members.

Ideally, entry to the upgrading process should be permitted as soon as the Referee has completed the previous program and consistently demonstrated appropriate officiating competencies.

Each program is a continuous development process. It generally extends over at least one season or longer if the Technical Committee deems this appropriate. Each participant should be given ample opportunity to complete the upgrading process, including appointments to the higher level matches needed to meet the program's requirements.

Assuming that the necessary instructional and coaching support is available, the Technical Committee should not defer or deny an application for entry to an upgrade program if the participant can demonstrate the competencies associated with the participant's current Referee qualification.

### Level 2 Senior and Level 1 Elite Program Requirements

1. The practical officiating units of these training programs require specified standards of matches. Referee groups who do not normally appoint Referees to such matches should make arrangements with other referee groups and Associations to arrange access to suitable matches and either party must not unreasonably withhold those arrangements. Consult the Member Federation's RTC or relevant FFA officer for advice. FFA may vary the standard of matches required at its absolute discretion.
2. Level 2 Senior and Level 1 Elite Referee appointments should only be made once the participant possesses the competencies laid down for the program's theory component, fitness tests and any other specified unit prerequisites.
3. Each Level 2 Senior Referee practical match assessment must be performed by a FFA Level 2 Senior, Level 1 Elite Assessor or an individual approved by FFA. Comprehensive assessment reports together with detailed running sheets are required.
4. Each Level 1 Elite Referee practical match assessment must be performed by a FFA Level 1 Elite Assessor or an individual approved by FFA. Comprehensive assessment reports together with detailed running sheets are required.
5. Level 2 Senior and Level 1 Elite referee certificates and accreditation will only be issued by FFA to individuals after recommendation from the program Instructor.

### National Competitions and International Panels

The FFA National Referee Technical Committee (NRTC) determined in 2011 the minimum accreditation levels for appointment to National Competitions and nomination for international panels.

These are documented in the "*Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual*".

## Level 2 Senior Referee

### Theme: Development of Advanced Officiating

Program graduates are eligible to receive a FFA Level 2 Senior Referee certificate and ASC accreditation and are considered qualified to officiate at matches ranging from junior football to the penultimate senior football in their State, Territory or region. (Refer Section *'Level 2 Senior and Level 1 Elite Program Requirements'*).

FFA will approve the conduct of this program, appoint the Instructors for the program, the panel of Assessors to be used and provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official ; and</li> <li>• be an active referee at least 18 years old; and</li> <li>• meet the requirements outlined in Section 2.3 <i>"Level 2 and 1 Theory and Practical Program Pathways"</i>; and</li> <li>• clearly exhibit the competencies required of a Level 3 Adult Referee.</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a national or regional basis. Suitable participants may be invited to apply for a place on the program. Member Federation's RTC may be asked to identify and encourage suitable candidates to apply.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 2 Senior Instructors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>Match Assessors</b>	Where match assessments are conducted as part of this program, including any reassessments, these must be conducted by currently accredited Level 2 Senior Assessors (or higher level of FFA Assessor qualifications) or persons approved by FFA.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	<p>By application to their Member Federation's RTC. Any registration fee must accompany the application.</p> <p>The RTC may invite members who meet the Level 2 Senior Referee program prerequisites to undertake the program. Any registration fee must accompany the acceptance of the invitation.</p>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to FFA. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations    A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>Practical            A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide FFA, through their Member Federation's RTC, the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Level 1 Elite Referee

### Theme: Senior Officiating – Commitment to Excellence

Program graduates are eligible to receive a FFA Level 1 Elite Referee certificate and accreditation and are considered qualified to officiate at matches from junior Football to the highest level of senior Football in their State, Territory or region and potentially at national level. (Refer Section 'Level 2 Senior and Level 1 Elite Program Requirements').

FFA will approve the conduct of this program, appoint the Instructors for the program, the panel of Assessors to be used and provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• be an active referee at least 18 years old; and</li> <li>• meet the requirements outlined in Section 2.3 "Level 2 and 1 Theory and Practical Program Pathways"; and</li> <li>• clearly exhibit the competencies required of a Level 2 Senior Referee.</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	12 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a national or regional basis. Suitable participants may be invited to apply for a place on the program. Member Federation's RTC may be asked to identify and encourage suitable candidates to apply.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 2 Senior Instructors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>Match Assessors</b>	Where match assessments are conducted as part of this program, including any reassessments, these must be conducted by currently accredited Level 1 Elite Assessors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	<p>By application to their Member Federation's RTC. Any registration fee must accompany the application.</p> <p>The RTC may invite members who possess the Level 1 Elite Referee program prerequisites to undertake this program. Any registration fee must accompany the acceptance of the invitation.</p>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to FFA. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p><b>Examinations</b> A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p><b>Practical</b> A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the "Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual".</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	<p>The Instructor must provide FFA, through their Member Federation's RTC, the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.</p> <p>Successful candidates program folders that meet all the requirements of this program must be reviewed by FFA before accreditation can be finalised.</p>

### 3. Futsal Referee Programs

#### **Futsal Laws of the Game certificate**

##### **Futsal Level 3 Adult Referee**

Futsal Level 3 Adult Referee is the entry level program for Futsal.

The creation of Futsal Level 2 Senior and Futsal Level 1 Elite Referee programs is under consideration. These programs are expected to provide advanced development for match officials wishing to officiate in senior and elite competitions.

#### **3.1 Transitional Arrangements for Futsal Referees**

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Any Futsal Referee wishing to seek recognition as a Futsal Level 2 Senior or Level 1 Elite Referee, or in possession of an overseas Futsal qualification, may submit an application for FFA Futsal Level 2 Senior or Futsal Level 1 Elite classification. Applications will be referred to and assessed by an appropriate FFA panel. FFA's RPL (*Recognition of Prior Learning*) and/or RCC (*Recognition of Current Competency*) policy procedures will apply. As no Futsal Level 2 Senior or Level 1 Elite Referee programs exist the outcome of any application for recognition above Adult is uncertain and may be guided initially by the establishment of precedents.

#### **3.2 Appointments**

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It is understood that Futsal referee groups may wish to appoint Referees to higher level matches than the Futsal Referee classifications used in this Schedule suggest. This may occur where talented Referees are known to be able to control such matches effectively. It is also recognised that Referee shortages may create a need to have lower classification Referees officiate at levels above those recommended. It is strongly recommended that match officials who are at least 16 years old but less than 18, and who are appointed to matches involving adult players, should be formally identified by their Technical Committee as clearly capable of handling their duties. Technical Committees should seek to ensure that Referees and matches are not placed at risk.

#### **3.3 Future Futsal Development**

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The following Futsal training programs are foreshadowed:

##### **Futsal Level 2 Senior Referee**

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Theme: Development of Advanced Officiating

It is anticipated that graduates will receive a FFA Senior Futsal Referee Certificate and accreditation. They will be considered qualified to officiate in local and State League matches.

##### **Futsal Level 1 Elite Referee**

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Theme: Senior Officiating - Commitment to Excellence

It is anticipated that graduates will receive a FFA Level 1 Futsal Referee Certificate and accreditation. They will be considered qualified to officiate in any Futsal matches, including elite and national level matches.

## Futsal Laws of the Game Certificate

The Futsal Laws of the Game certificate provides a basic introduction to the Futsal's Laws and interpretations. It includes a written theory examination.

Graduates receive a FFA Certificate however FFA/ASC accreditation is not available and graduates are not qualified to officiate.

To begin their Futsal Refereeing career graduates must join a recognised referee group and achieve the competencies identified for the pre-officiating units of the Level 4 Junior Referee program.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a local area basis. The local association, Futsal centre, referee group or Member Federation will be responsible for approval, scheduling and appointment of Instructors.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 3 Community Instructors (or higher Instructor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to the organisation conducting the program. Any registration fee should accompany the application.
<b>Timeframe</b>	The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable components will be within one year of the commencement of the program.
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Futsal Level 3 Adult Referee

This program's practical emphasis complements the Futsal Laws of the Game certificate's theoretical focus.

Participants must demonstrate all pre-officiating unit competencies before accepting any Referee appointments.

These units are usually taught as a concentrated set of presentations and practical exercises taking about six hours. Practical assessments and other activities complete the program.

Program graduates are eligible to receive a FFA Futsal Level 3 Adult Referee certificate and accreditation. Graduates are considered qualified to officiate in local Futsal matches.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official ; and</li> <li>• have successfully completed the Futsal Laws of the Game certificate within the last two years.</li> </ul> <p>It is recommended that applicants be at least 13 years of age at the commencement date of the program.</p>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a local area basis. The local association, referee group or Member Federation will be responsible for approval, scheduling and appointment of Instructors.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 3 Community (or higher Instructor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>Match Assessors</b>	Where match assessments are conducted as part of this program, including any reassessments, these must be conducted by currently accredited Level 3 Community Assessors (or higher level of FFA Assessor qualifications) or persons approved by the Member Federation's RTC.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to the organisation conducting the program. Any registration fee must accompany the application.
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to their Technical Committee. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year without written approval from their Member Federation's RTC.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations    A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>Practical            A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## 4. Referee Assessor Programs

### Level 3 Community Assessor

### Level 2 Senior Assessor

### Level 1 Elite Assessor

#### 4.1 Referee Assessor Career Development

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This Schedule outlines the career path for all Referee Assessors. These officials play a crucial role in Referee development. Their NOAS-registered training programs meet competency based design criteria similar to those used in Referees' training programs.

The broad aims of the Assessors' programs are to enable participants to develop an awareness of the role of the Referee Assessor; to recognise the need for career long development of Referees; and to provide Assessors with the basic tools, practices and policies they need to carry out their roles effectively. Programs prepare Assessors to work initially at a developmental level (local junior and youth levels) through to full assessment and coaching techniques for elite match officials.

Becoming a Referee Assessor is a crucial part of a Referee's continuing development. With this in mind Football's Level 1 Elite Referee program incorporates elements of the Level 2 Senior Assessor program.

There are three FFA Assessor classifications. An entry level Futsal Assessor program is anticipated and is expected to adopt similar guidelines to those used for the Assessor programs.

All applicants must be currently registered with FFA as a match official and be listed on the FFA database. Program graduates must complete, sign and return to FFA a *Referee Assessor Code of Ethics* form before they are issued with a FFA certificate and ASC accreditation.

#### Graduate Competencies

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Programs graduates generally will be able to:

- identify and apply the multifaceted role of the referee Assessor;
- understand and apply basic assessment guidelines;
- identify the positive relationships and communication skills needed to work collaboratively with colleagues;
- recognise the desirable personal characteristics and qualities of a good Assessor;
- demonstrate that they have a sound knowledge of the *Laws of the Game*, modern interpretations and applications, and required mandatory actions and sanctions;
- identify FFA's match official policies, their purposes, and how they influence the ability of the match official to make the best decisions;
- analyse and report on pre-recorded match incidents and live matches, writing objective, accurate, constructive coaching reports and/or formal assessments.

#### Referee Assessor Program Availability

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If teaching and coaching resources are scarce referee groups may decide to set an annual closing date for applications. FFA recommends that this be 30<sup>th</sup> November each year. However, the Technical Committee should exercise some flexibility in order to encourage members to improve and develop their work as Assessors. It cannot be guaranteed that training programs will be available annually.

The Technical Committee may not defer or deny an application for upgrading if the participant can show that the competencies associated with the participant's current qualification are still observable. Technical Committees are encouraged to progress Assessors through the first two levels as rapidly as possible, commensurate with individual's abilities, group resources and FFA decisions. No minimum time period need be served before enrolment in the Level 2 Senior program. Entry to Level 1 Elite Assessor is controlled by exclusively by FFA - see below.

All Assessor programs employ the ASC's NOAS competency based education model, described earlier in this Schedule. Participants need feedback and guidance from Instructors and coaches during the programs. Practical work forms an important part of these training programs.

### Level 3 Community Referee Assessor

Level 3 Community Assessors are qualified to assess and coach match officials assigned to local junior, youth and adult level matches, or local Futsal matches when the Futsal Assessor program is established.

FFA will provide the curriculum to be followed. The Member Federation's RTC will be responsible for the approval, scheduling and appointment of Instructors and Assessors. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 18 years old; and</li> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• hold current Level 3 Adult Referee (or higher level) accreditation; and</li> <li>• have had at least two years active experience as an accredited referee.</li> </ul> <p>A detailed written request to amend or waive this prerequisite may be made to the Member Federation's RTC.</p>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a State or local area basis.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	<p>An Instructor for this program must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a currently accredited Level 2 Senior or Level 1 Elite Assessor; or</li> <li>• a currently accredited Level 3 Community Assessor and Level 2 Senior Instructor; or</li> <li>• persons approved by FFA.</li> </ul>
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to the relevant Member Federation's RTC. Any registration fee must accompany the application.
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to their Member Federation's RTC. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year without written approval from FFA.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p>Examinations    A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p>Practical         A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide their Member Federation's RTC with the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Level 2 Senior Referee Assessor

Level 2 Senior Assessors are qualified to work with match officials assigned to junior, youth and adult level matches; or Futsal junior, youth and adult level matches when a program is developed. Tasks include, but are not limited to, the provision of coaching reports and match running sheets.

FFA will approve the conduct of this program, appoint the Instructors & Assessors and provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 18 years old; and</li> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• hold current Level 3 Community Assessor accreditation; and</li> <li>• clearly exhibit the competencies of a Level 3 Referee Assessor.</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	8 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a national or regional basis. Suitable participants may be invited to apply for a place on the program. Member Federation's RTC may be asked to identify and encourage suitable candidates to apply.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 2 Senior Instructors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	<p>By application to the relevant Member Federation's RTC. Any registration fee must accompany the application.</p> <p>The Member Federation's RTC may invite suitably qualified members in possession of the prerequisites to undertake this program. Any registration fee must accompany the acceptance of an invitation.</p>
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The participant may request an extension to this time by writing to FFA. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p><i>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</i></p> <p><i>Examinations A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</i></p> <p><i>Practical A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</i></p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the "Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual".</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide FFA the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Level 1 Elite Assessor

Level 1 Elite Assessors are qualified to work with all match officials in their code, including those officiating at senior and elite level.

FFA will approve the conduct of this program, appoint the Instructors & Assessors and provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	<p>Applicants must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 21 years old; and</li> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• hold current Level 2 Senior Assessor accreditation, have held it for at least two years and have been actively assessing during those two years; and</li> <li>• clearly exhibit, without exception, the competencies of a Level 2 Senior Assessor.</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	16 hours plus practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a national or regional basis. Suitable participants may be invited to apply for a place on the program. Member Federation's RTC may be asked to identify and encourage suitable candidates to apply.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 2 Senior Instructors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to FFA. Any registration fee must accompany the application. FFA may invite suitably qualified individuals that meet the prerequisites to participate in this program. Any registration fee must accompany the acceptance of an invitation.
<b>Timeframe</b>	<p>The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program.</p> <p>The applicant may request an extension to this time by writing to FFA. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year.</p>
<b>Reassessments</b>	<p>Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.</p> <p><b>Examinations</b> A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.</p> <p><b>Practical</b> A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.</p> <p>A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i>.</p>
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide FFA the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## 5. Referee Instructor Programs

### Level 3 Community Instructor

### Level 2 Senior Instructor

#### 5.1 Referee Instructor Career Development

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There are currently two Referee Instructor classifications

Level 3 Community Instructor; and

Level 2 Senior Instructor.

The Level 3 Community Instructor accreditation is recognised by FFA and is awaiting formal approval by the ASC.

The programs are designed to enhance the abilities of individual football Referee Instructors and to provide accredited Instructors to undertake the development of match officials.

An Instructor Level 1 program also remains under active consideration.

#### **Training programs able to be conducted**

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Level 3 Community Instructors are approved to run Community level referee training programs within their local area.

Level 2 Senior Instructors are approved to run all levels of match officials training programs.

### Level 3 Community Instructor

This program is designed to provide Referee Instructors with the tools and support to conduct grassroots referees programs at local and regional levels.

Training for this program utilises the ASC's Presenter/Facilitator Training Program supplemented by the provision of football-specific program materials.

Alternatively, if attendees are deemed to be not yet competent as a result of attending a Level 2 Senior Instructor program they may be deemed as competent to hold Level 3 Community Instructor accreditation without attending the ASC's Presenter/Facilitator Training Program.

<p><b>Prerequisites</b></p>	<p>To be granted this FFA accreditation the applicant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 18 years old; and</li> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• hold current Level 3 Adult Assessor accreditation, have held it for at least two years and have been actively assessing during those two years.</li> </ul> <p>In addition they must have successfully completed one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASC's Presenter/Facilitator Training Program; or</li> <li>• Certificate IV in Training &amp; Assessment or</li> <li>• Other accredited program approved by FFA; or</li> </ul> <p>The applicant must also have passed a Laws of the Game examination at the competency level required to pass the Level 2 Referee program within six months of the commencement of the program.</p>
<p><b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b></p>	<p>The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to persons who gain this level of accreditation and should be collected by Member Federations.</p>
<p><b>Reporting Requirements</b></p>	<p>The Member Federation's RTC must provide FFA the names and FFA number in a 'dummy' program register for FFA accreditation and certificate to be issued.</p>

## Level 2 Senior Instructor

The program is designed to enhance the abilities of football Referee Instructors and to provide accredited Instructors to assist in the development of match officials at all levels.

FFA will approve the conduct of this program, appoint the Instructors and provide the curriculum to be followed. All other aspects of the program are the responsibility of the organising referee group.

### Graduate Competencies

Program graduates generally will be able to:

- establish a relationship between the Instructor/coach and match officials;
- implement sound educational principles and practices;
- identify, plan, deliver and evaluate appropriate training methods to improve and develop changes in Refereeing performance;
- identify their own strengths and shortcomings in their presentation techniques;
- educate participants when to utilise mentoring, counselling and self assessment as techniques in the development of Referees;
- exhibit a sound knowledge of the relevant Laws of the Game and interpretations.

<b>Prerequisites</b>	Applicants must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be at least 21 years old; and</li> <li>• be currently registered with FFA as a match official; and</li> <li>• hold current Level 3 Adult Assessor (or higher) accreditation, have held it for at least two years and have been actively assessing during those two years; and</li> <li>• have/had a reasonable level of experience as an active Referee.</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	24 hours including theoretical and practical components.
<b>Program Availability</b>	This program may be offered on a national or regional basis. Suitable participants may be invited by FFA to apply for a place on the program. Member Federation's RTC may be asked to identify and encourage suitable candidates to apply.
<b>Program Instructors</b>	Currently accredited Level 2 Senior Instructors or persons approved by FFA.
<b>FFA Accreditation Fee</b>	The FFA Referee Accreditation fee is charged to attendees of this program and should be collected by Member Federations.
<b>Enrolment Processes</b>	By application to FFA. Any registration fee must accompany the application. FFA may invite suitably qualified individuals that meet the prerequisites to participate in this program. Any registration fee must accompany the acceptance of an invitation.
<b>Timeframe</b>	The time limit to complete all aspects of the program and meet the required competency level in examinable and practical components will be within two years of the commencement of the program. The applicant may request an extension to this time by writing to FFA. Such an extension shall not be longer than one year.
<b>Reassessments</b>	Participants may be offered additional opportunities to meet the required competency level in the examinable and practical components of this program.  Examinations    A maximum of three attempts to meet the required competency level. Each examination must be separated by a minimum of 28 calendar days to allow for sufficient revision and any necessary instruction that may be required.  Practical            A reasonable number of attempts to meet the required competency level.  A fee may be charged to undertake additional examinations or to be reassessed against the practical components of this program. These fees are outlined in the <i>"Match Officials Policies and Procedures Manual"</i> .
<b>Reporting Requirements</b>	The Instructor must provide FFA the completed program register within 28 days of the completion of the program.

## Appendix

### Definitions

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In this Schedule:

**curriculum** means the program structure including units to be presented and examination material.

**development of match officials** means the training, education, coaching and assessment of match officials including the conduct of programs approved by FFA.

**match official** means a Referee, Assessor or Instructor.

**program materials** means the manuals, presentations, audiovisual material, assessment forms, program evaluation forms and other materials used to conduct a program.

**program register** means the Excel workbook containing all details of a training program and details of all participants.

**recognised** means that the group is affiliated to a Member Federation and is therefore recognised by FFA.

**referee group** means local Association, referee organisation, Member Federation or similar organisations that are responsible for the development, training, education, coaching and assessment of match officials within their jurisdictions.

**registered match official** means a match official who is registered with FFA through a FFA recognised referee group in accordance with FFA's National Registration Regulations.

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#### Postal Addresses

Level 22, 1 Oxford Street  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

or

Locked Bag A4071  
Sydney South NSW 1235

#### Telephone

+61 2 8020 4000

#### Facsimile

+61 2 8020 4100

#### Email

refereeing@footballaustralia.com.au

#### Web

[www.footballaustralia.com.au/getinvolvedreferee](http://www.footballaustralia.com.au/getinvolvedreferee)

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