

**NATIONAL INTERCOLLEGIATE SOCCER OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL REFEREE PROGRAM**

**A. GENERAL**

The National Referee Program shall be open to all active NISOA member who meet and maintain the requirements as set forth under this policy.

The purpose of the program is to recognize NISOA members with demonstrated skills to be applied toward more challenging levels of intercollegiate soccer competition. Further, the program will assist in their development and maintenance of their abilities.

**B. NATIONAL REFEREE APPLICANT CRITERIA:**

- must have been an active NISOA member for three consecutive years prior to application
- must apply to their Regional Area Coordinator
- submit a completed application form, provided by their Regional Area Coordinator with the following:
  - ...a \$100.00 check payable to NISOA
  - ...two (2) letters of recommendation from the local chapter, a high school coach or college coach
  - ...two (2) NISOA assessments by 2 certified NISOA Assessors
  - ...a completed Medical Exam
  - ...evidence of passing a locally administered NISOA Physical Fitness Test by an authorized examiner
  - ...evidence of a minimum number (20) of college soccer games officiated as a NISOA referee
- with the approval of the Area Coordinator all will be forwarded to RAC Administrative Coordinator to the NRP for scheduling into the clinic program for certification,
- required to attend and successfully complete a NISOA National Referee Program Clinic and
- required to adhere to the NISOA Code of Ethics

**C. NATIONAL REFEREE CANDIDATE CRITERIA:**

- meet minimum Physical Fitness Test standard
- meet minimum Procedures Exam standard
- meet minimum NCAA/NISOA Rules Evaluation standard
- meet minimum number of games (**15**) officiated as a referee
- be assessed six (6) games in two years
  - ...assessments must be done by NISOA National or Regional Assessors
  - ...no more than two (2) assessments may be done by the same assessor
  - Note: Exceptions may be granted by the Area Coordinator, National Referee Director or Executive Director
  
  - ...at least three (3) of the six game must be officiated (referee) at a top level of competition
  - Note: Top Level shall be determined by the Area Coordinator and recorded on the Assessment Form
  
- candidate is to notify Area Coordinator of assessment needs

- candidate may not be assessed by another National Referee, National Referee Candidate of Applicant
- recommendation to advance to the next level shall be given by the Area Coordinator
- candidate must attend and complete a NISOA National Referee Clinic
- candidate must adhere to the NISOA Ethics Code
- appointment as a National Referee shall be made by the National Referee Program Director in conjunction with a Special Review Group

**D. NATIONAL REFEREE CRITERIA:**

- meet minimum Physical Fitness Test standard
- meet minimum Procedures Exam standard
- meet minimum NCAA/NISOA Rules Evaluation standard
- meet minimum number of college soccer games officiated as a referee (10)
- must re-certify every two years by attending a complete NISOA National Referee Program Clinic
- must submit four (4) assessments over two years done by NISOA National or Regional Assessors
- assessments **may not** be done by a NISOA National or National Referee Candidate
- assessments are to be coordinated by the Area Coordinator
- service between certification dates must be active and continuous
- Note: Any deviation must be approved by the National Referee Director or Executive Director
- must be recommended by the Area Coordinator to continue in the program
- reappointment shall be made by the National Referee Program Director in conjunction with a Special Review Group
- must adhere to the NISOA Code of Ethics

**E. REINSTATEMENT INTO NATIONAL REFEREE PROGRAM**

- The individual may not apply if they have been an Emeritus member
- The individual shall submit in writing an application to their Regional Area Coordinator
  - stating their name, address and period dates on last NRP membership.
  - state for which reason they were absent:
    - government, employment or military duty
    - personal injury/prolonged illness
    - family/personal concerns
    - job/relocation
    - educational issues
- for reason selected, supporting documentation must be attached
- The RAC will forward to the NRP Director with their comments to endorse or deny reinstatement.
- The individual shall meet all standards of the level sought before consideration into the next clinic.

**F. THE NISOA REGIONAL AREA COORDINATOR**

- shall collect all NRP assessments.
- shall review each NRP assessment and submit recommendations to the NISOA NRP Coordinator.
- shall coordinate all Regional Applicants to the National Referee Program.

**G. NISOA PERFORMANCE RATING SYSTEM:**

- shall include all component parts of the criteria,
- shall contain a minimum score for passing and one for probation.

**H. NATIONAL REFEREE EMERITUS**

- A NISOA National Referee who has served may apply for National Referee Emeritus,
- shall apply by letter to the NISOA National Referee Program Director.
- The intent of this grade is to recognize the contribution of those who have served NISOA.
- By registering the Emeritus Referee will receive a letter, certificate, and a pin;
- may retain active membership referee status.

**I. PARTICIPATION EXPENSES**

- Each applicant, candidate and national referee is responsible for the cost of each required assessment.
- National Referee Applicant, fee upon application is:
  - 2007-2011 \$150.00
  - Late fee, if postmarked after due date: \$30.00
- National Referee Program Clinic, the fee is:
  - 2007-2011 \$80.00
  - Late fee, if postmarked after due date: \$30.00.
- for certification as a National Referee Candidate, the fee is:
  - 2007-2011 \$190.00
  - Late fee, if postmarked after due date: \$30.00.
- for re-certification as a National Referee, the fee is:
  - 2007-2011 \$190.00
  - Late fee, if postmarked after due date: \$30.00.

Clinic Audit Fee: \$120.00

Post Clinic Process Fee: \$40.00

Any person applying for a NRP clinic within 7 days prior to the beginning of the clinic that they wish to attend, shall also pay a \$50.00 fee, in addition to all other fees due.

Missing book fee, \$5.00

Additional badge fee, \$5.00

Note: All National Referee Program fees are exclusive of the Annual NISOA dues required of all members and Local Chapter dues and are subject to change.

**J. STAGES WITHIN NATIONAL REFEREE PROGRAM**

- NRA: National Referee Applicant
- NRC: National Referee Candidate
- NR: National Referee
- NRE: National Referee Emeritus
- NRP-EX: National Referee Excused

Adopted: July 24, 1999

Revised: July 15, 2006