

# Information and Criteria Relating to the Use of USSF Referees, Instructors, Assessors and Assignors

The Washington State Referee Committee (SRC) is responsible for the registration and development of referees, instructors, assessors and assignors (officials) with US Soccer (USSF) to allow their participation in affiliated soccer games and programs in Washington State. Basic USSF policies are described in the Referee Administrative Handbook.

However, there is also a lot left unsaid in how those policies are implemented by the SRC. These criteria further define the relationship between the USSF, the SRC and registered officials, taking into account applicable state law. In effect, WASRC does not promote, recommend, endorse or prohibit registered officials from contracting with affiliated leagues, player associations or clubs, except as subject to the following criteria:

- All USSF-affiliated games are to be assigned by a USSF-registered assignor to USSF-registered referees. This can occur individually, through an affiliated league, youth player association or club, cooperative referee association or other business entity established for the purpose of assigning referees to affiliated games.
- All USSF-registered officials can accept games from any USSF-registered assignor and/or any recognized business entity responsible for assigning affiliated games.
- The USSF and the IRS consider officials to be independent contractors.
- Washington State considers officials' to be employees, and the 'employer' must be a recognized business entity (with a UBI Number) in the state, either as a sole proprietorship, partnership or corporation. Corporations are required to have articles of incorporation and bylaws.
- Any person or group that assigns referees to affiliated games is an employer consisting of – at a minimum – a registered assignor and a business entity with a UBI number.
- The employer is responsible for payment of proper L&I fees to the WA Dept of Labor and Industries for all games they assign.
- For all registered officials under the age of 18, each employer must have on file at their office a current authorization allowing the minor to work for them.
- The SRC will not review, approve or authorize contracts between employers and leagues or player associations/clubs. The employer is responsible for the collection of fees from player associations and disbursement of funds to registered officials subject to any declared deductions for administration and operation of the employer.
- In case of nonpayment or default by leagues, playing associations, employers or individual assignors, the SRC shall be indemnified and held harmless from any and all accrued debts of these entities.
- Nothing in these criteria prevents registered officials from instituting legal action against an employer to collect for unpaid services they performed for them.