



## International Games Requirements Standards for Match Officials Effective - January 2022

### OVERVIEW

International Games promoters and Match Agents are responsible for all fees and expenses related to Match Officials assigned by U.S. Soccer, Concacaf and/or FIFA. U.S. Soccer will pay the fees and expenses to the referees, and the Promoter/Match Agent will reimburse U.S. Soccer. An advance on these expenses maybe required per the International Games Match Agreement.

### ASSIGNMENT & PAYMENT

**Referee Assignment:** The U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Department manages referee assignment for international matches. Depending on the Tier of the match, officials may also be assigned by Concacaf and/or FIFA. U.S. Soccer will distribute the names, contact information and travel details (if required) for each match official to the Promoter / Match Agent once confirmed.

**Assessor Assignment:** U.S. Soccer may assign an assessor to the match. If assigned, U.S. Soccer will communicate the Referee Assessor's name and contact information to the Promoter / Match Agent. A referee assessor should be provided with: 1) Accreditation to access the press box, field and referee locker room; 2) A reserved seat in the press box and 3) A parking pass when available.

**Complimentary Tickets:** Each official, and Referee Liaison Officer, if assigned, is entitled to receive four (4) complimentary game tickets (Category 1 or 2) upon request.

**Procedure for Payment/Reimbursement:** All game fees, meal per diems and travel reimbursements will be paid to the officials by U.S. Soccer. Officials will provide valid receipts to U.S. Soccer for travel reimbursement (airport parking, mileage, shuttles, taxis, baggage fees, etc.) when applicable. U.S. Soccer will reimburse mileage at the standard government rate (58.5 cents per mile for 2022). Promoters / Match Agents may be required to pay a referee fee advance to U.S. Soccer.

**Cancelled Matches:** If a match is cancelled within 7 days of the date of the game, the referee crew will receive 50% of the game fees except for matches cancelled due to force majeure included but not limited to weather, public safety, public health or other covered circumstances.

### TRAVEL

**Air Travel:** When Match Official flights are required, U.S. Soccer will book flights via its travel agent (Anthony Travel) once the official has accepted the match assignment. Air reservations will be made by Anthony Travel using the lowest, most practical fares available.

**Accommodations:** When an overnight stay is required, hotel arrangements will be made by U.S. Soccer and/or Anthony Travel. If a promoter wishes to provide referee rooms instead, they can submit the Match Official Hospitality Form to U.S. Soccer.

**Ground Transportation:** If Match Officials are traveling for the match and staying at a hotel, the promoter must organize ground transport to and from the stadium. The drop off and pickup location at the venue must be in a secure area within the venue's security perimeter. If Match Officials are driving to the match, 1 personal vehicle per official should be accommodated in a secure parking location with the venue's security perimeter. (Parking for the Referee Liaison Officer can be in an outside lot, unless the RLO is driving a member of the referee crew).



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### REFEREE LIAISON OFFICER

For Category A & B matches, promoters must designate a Referee Liaison Officer (RLO) who will coordinate the ground transportation, health protocols, credentials, complimentary tickets and serve as the primary contact for the referee crew both on match day and in advance of the match. On match day, the RLO should be available to the referees to address issues relating to the field, locker rooms, tickets, hospitality, security and any other matter that arises.

An RLO is mandatory for Category A & B matches. U.S. Soccer reserves the right to require the assignment of an RLO for Category C & lower matches if deemed necessary. In the case that a promoter does not share contact details for a Referee Liaison Officer at least 21 days before a match, U.S. Soccer will assign a local RLO at a cost of \$350 per match (to be doubled for a doubleheader).

### EQUIPMENT

Promoter/Match Agent Will Provide:

- Substitution Board
- Printed substitution cards, 1 per substitute permitted under competition regulations. Teams must complete these cards to communicate subs to the fourth official.

Match Officials Will Provide:

- Referee Uniforms. Officials are required to wear Official Sports (OSI) uniforms. U.S. Soccer may allow for exceptions if foreign officials are assigned. Officials will bring multiple colors to coordinate with the teams and goalkeepers.
- All personal equipment including communications devices, disappearing spray, flags, whistles, watches, etc.

### STADIUM REQUIREMENTS

**Security:** The Promoter / Match Agent is responsible for ensuring the security of the officials before, during and after the match.

- Security personnel should be assigned to the Referee locker room(s) from the time officials arrive at the venue until they depart.
- Security should remain present even with the officials are on the field to protect the personal property of the referees.
- Security should be prepared to provide an escort if needed or requested from the field to the locker room at halftime and after the match, and from the locker room to personal vehicles or shuttle.
- No persons shall enter the referee locker room without consent of the assigned match officials.

**Locker Rooms:** Dressing rooms that meet the following standards must be provided for the assigned match officials. Please note that mixed gender crews may be assigned and must be accommodated in separate locker rooms.

All referee dressing rooms must:

- Include a private physical structure. Tents are not permitted.
- Have a locking door with a security officer always stationed outside of the door while referees are present in the venue.
- Suitable shower & toilet facilities with soap, shampoo and a minimum of two towels per official.
- Bottled water, sports drinks, and coffee/tea available.



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**CATEGORIES & GAME FEES**

**A. Foreign National Team vs. Foreign National Team (Non-FIFA Competition)**

Referee	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)
Assistant Referees	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)
4th Official	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)

**B. Foreign Pro Club Team vs. Foreign Pro Club Team OR Domestic Division 1 or 2 Pro Club Team**

Referee	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)
Assistant Referees	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)
4th Official	\$ 416.13 per day (two day minimum)

**C. Foreign Pro Club Teams vs. Domestic Division 3 Pro Club Team**

Referee	\$ 554.84
Assistant Referees	\$ 416.13
4th Official	\$ 277.42

**D. Foreign Youth National Team (U-23 or younger) vs. Foreign Youth National Team (U-23 or younger)**

Referee	\$ 277.41
Assistant Referees	\$ 208.07
4th Official	\$ 138.71

**E. Foreign National Team OR Foreign Pro Club Team vs. Domestic Amateur Team**

Referee	\$ 450.83 (No per diem)
Assistant Referees	\$ 270.49 (No per diem)
4th Official	\$ 180.33 (No per diem)

**F. Foreign Amateur Club Team vs. Domestic Amateur Team**

Referee	\$ 277.41 (No per diem)
Assistant Referees	\$ 208.07 (No per diem)
4th Official	\$ 138.71 (No per diem)

**G. Preseason: MLS Domestic Team vs. Foreign Amateur OR Foreign Professional Club Team**

Referee	\$327.82 per match (Per diem: \$50 for every 12 hrs. worked)
Assistant Referees	\$327.82 per match (Per diem: \$50 for every 12 hrs. worked)
4th Official	\$327.82 per match (Per diem: \$50 for every 12 hrs. worked)

- If a match features teams from different categories, the rate for the higher category will apply.
- Officials will be paid a minimum game fee of two days for Category A and B matches.
- If officials are required to arrive on MD-2 for health or other protocols, a third day must be paid.

**PER DIEM**

The per diem rate for 2022 for Categories A through D is \$95 payable in 12-hour increments.



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**CLOSED DOOR MATCHES**

For Closed Door matches, U.S. Soccer requests the match promoter or host provides reasonable accommodations in terms of dressing rooms & hospitality based on the venue.

**Payment of Match Officials:** Teams based in U.S. domestic leagues should pay Game Fees for Closed Door matches directly to the officials. For a match between two international teams that is not hosted by a U.S. domestic league team, the Game Fees will be collected in full during the application process. Refunds are subject to the cancelation policies noted above.

**Officials Game Fee for Closed Door Matches**

H. Closed Door Training Match (any category)

Referee	\$150 (no per diem)
Assistant Referees	\$100 (no per diem)
4th Official	\$100 (no per diem)



International Games Requirements

# MATCH OFFICIAL HOSPITALITY FORM

This form is required for all Category A & B matches, and any other match upon request by U.S. Soccer Federation. For tournaments, this information can be submitted in on a spreadsheet or in an alternate format.

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PLEASE SUBMIT NO LATER THAN 21 DAYS PRIOR TO THE MATCH OR TOURNAMENT

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## MATCH INFORMATION

Promoter: \_\_\_\_\_ Match Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

Matchup / Tournament: \_\_\_\_\_

Match Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Venue: \_\_\_\_\_

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## REFEREE LIAISON OFFICER

A Referee Liaison Officer (RLO) must be assigned for Category A & B matches as well as other matches upon request by U.S. Soccer. If a match organizer does not assign an RLO, U.S. Soccer will assign one at a cost of \$350/day.

Will organizer provide RLO?      YES      NO, U.S. Soccer should assign an RLO.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone : \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Languages Spoken: \_\_\_\_\_

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## ACCOMODATIONS

When match officials must travel, the expense of travel and accommodation is the responsibility of the match organizer. Flights will be booked by U.S. Soccer through our travel agent, Anthony Travel. U.S. Soccer will also book hotel rooms, unless match organizer declares an official hotel using this form.

Will promoter provide local accommodation for traveling referees if required?      YES      NO

Hotel: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Restaurant On Property:      YES      NO      Airport shuttle\*?      YES      NO

*\*If no airport shuttle is available or operating at the time of arrival) the promoter is responsible for arranging airport transfers for officials.*

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