FLORIDA

REFEREE

ACADEMY

PROGRAM

POLICY

The

Policy

Part I – Florida Referee Academy Program Vision

1. **There is a need to develop , train, and provide continuing educations for all referees in order that they may reach their potential in officiating Youth regional Cup, Youth State Cup, Adult, Adult State Cup, regional and professional competitions.**
2. **In that respect, Florida State Referees, Inc. (FSR) has authorized this new state wide Referee Academy Program to promote and ensure excellence at all levels of officiating the game.**
3. **The program will include active participation of the Youth and the Adult State Associations staff as well as the Assessment, Instruction, Assignment and the staff of FSR.**

Part II – Referee Academy Program Mission

1. **FSR is a service organization. The Referee Academy serves the referee community by promoting integrity and incorporates all referees, instructors and assessors into a program dedicated to ensuring the development of referees in terms of quality and quantity through achieving excellence in guidance and development.**
2. **This Policy shall work in the interest of all its members.**

Part III – General Principles

Purpose

1. **To define responsibility for the administration of the Academy**
2. **To determine the requirements and guidelines the Academy operation.**

Administration

1. **Administration of this Policy and implementation of its Mission through specific guidelines is the responsibility of the State Director of Referee Academies (SDRA).**
2. **The SDRA is appointed by the State Referee Administrator with the approval of Florida Soccer Referee Committee, to carry out these duties in conformance with the policies of FSR and is directly responsible to the SRA**
3. **In order to implement this Policy, the SDRA is responsible for coordinating with the State Directors of Assessment (SDA), State Directors of Instruction (SDI), the State Coordinator of Referee Assignors (SCRA), and a representative from each of the Youth and the Adult State Associations in making sure that this Policy is implemented in conformance with its Vision.**
4. **The SDRA will publish, submit to the SRA for approval, and revise as required, a written policy relating to Academy operations.**
5. **The SDRA will utilize all appropriate tools available through FSR and the State Associations in the performance of their duties.**
6. **It is the responsibility of the SDRA to create, prepare and submit to the SRA, the operational syllabus (the Program) necessary for the implementation of this Policy.**
7. **The SDRA will prepare and submit a budget to the SRA delineating the expected costs of the Program. The SRA will coordinate any common budget matters with the participating youth and adult organizations.**

8. **All expenditures must be approved in advance by the SRA.**
9. **All fees must be approved by the SRA.**
10. **The SDRA, with the approval of the SRA, shall appoint one individual in each area of the state to assist in the administration of this Program. This individual will work with in the local Referee Mentoring program and local clubs to identify potential candidates for the academy. This individual shall be known as the Area Director of Referee Academies (ADRA). The SDRA may extend to each ADRA all appropriate tools available for the accomplishment of their assigned duties.**
11. **. The ADRA, with the approval of the SDRA and SRA, may appoint any individual to perform a specific task or project in the compliance of this Policy**
12. **The SRA, in order to ensure this Policy achieves its Mission, will evaluate the ADRA's performance and may require periodic reports from the SDA and or any of the ADRA's appointees.**

Referee Eligibility and Selection

1. **All referees desiring and committing to develop and refine their refereeing skills**
2. **All Referee Academy candidates to be approved by the SDRA.**

Basic Curriculum

1. **Classroom**
    a. **Sessions to be held during January, February, March, August, and September, or as required.**
    b. **Not less than five hours per session, addressing typical topics such as, but not limited to:**

Player management	**Game management**
Recognizing and dealing with misconduct	**Player tactics**
Positioning and movement	**Use of advantage**
Reading the game	**Game analysis**
Art of referee Assistant	**Report writing**

2. **Field work focus**
    a. **Field sessions during April July, and September**
    b. **Physical fitness**
    c. **Positioning, signals, use of the whistle**
    d. **Bench control**
3. **Instructional Staff**
    a. **Instructors selected based on experience at the highest possible levels.**
    b. **Guest speakers may be invited, as required.**

Part IV – Program Evaluation

At least once per calendar year, the SRA and the representatives of the participating youth and adult associations will meet to discuss the progress of the program.