

WVSA BOD 12/13/2023

Changes to WVSA Referee Policy Manual and Appointments to the SR C as of 1/1/2024

All Changes were approved and appointments confirmed by the WVSA BOD 12/13/2023

BOD Voting, President Len Rogers, EXVP, Randall Coleman, Sec/Treas Charlie Birkelbach, VP Adult Aaron Wood, VP Youth Joe Pepe, D2 Clifton Williams, D4 Chris Kessell, D6 Sherri Stalzman, At Lrg Youth Jeff Cox, At Lrg Adult Scott Abbott Quorum was present 10/14

To: WVSA Board of Directors 11/5/2023

Fr: Len Rogers, WVSA President, Mike McCarthy WVSA SRA, Dave Laraba WVSA Executive Director

Re; 1. Changes to WVSA Referee Program Policy Manual 2. Appointment of WVSA SRA

Attached is a revised WVSA Referee Program Policy Manual as approved by the WVSA Referee Committee. Please review the explanation from Mike McCarthy that reviews the reasons for the changes.

Please email any questions or concerns and or your approval or disapproval of these changes to dave@wvsoccer by 5PM 12/11

Attached is a proposed, revised version of the WV State Referee Program Policy Manual for consideration by the WVSA Board.

This version comes recommended by the State Referee Committee on a vote of 8 - 0 with one voting member not casting a vote to date.

Summary of changes:

- The only substantive change is the creation of the position of State Director of Referee Development (SDD), a combination of the historic positions of State Director of Instruction (SDI) and State Director of Assessment (SDA).
 - This change aligns with the spirit of U.S. Soccer's own efforts in recent years to combine the roles of instructor and assessor into mentor or referee coach.
 - This change also aligns with recent changes in other state SRCs in the creation of a single position responsible for the "development" (training, evaluation and coaching) of referees, such as the Massachusetts SRC with its naming of Kara Honthumb to the role of SDD.
 - These revisions stipulate that the incumbent in the position of State Director of Development fulfills the roles of both SDI and SDA as currently required by U.S. Soccer policy, but that the incumbent casts only a single vote on the State Referee Committee.
 - The term of the SDD is stipulated to align with the previous position of SDA -- namely, a two-year term starting on January 1 of even-numbered years.
- Other changes reflect alignment with current verbiage and licenses used by U.S. Soccer; for example, the use of the terms "mentor" and "coach" in place of the deprecated terms of "instructor" and "assessor."

- Highlighted areas denote additional changes that the State Referee Committee has not yet formally adopted but which it and the WVSA Board may wish to consider in the near future, including:
 - An adjustment to the number of Referee-at-Large seats on the SRC so that, in light of the combination of the SDI and SDA positions into the single position of SDD, the overall number of voting members of the SRC remains an odd number (Policy 201 Sec 2.5).
 - Change in the Risk Management process for Referees given the use of the NCSI Background Checks in the Learning Center for all U.S. Soccer Referee Program licenses (Procedure 202.1.5). Note that allowance may still need to be made for the Youth Coach and Adult Player members of the SRC, should those positions be maintained, since they may not be subject to the NCSI Background Check process.
1. Also below is the recommendation of Mike McCarthy that Doug Sharpe be appointed WVSA SRA, effective 1/1/2024. WVSA President Len Rogers asks for approval of this appointment. Please email your approval or disapproval of this appointment to dave@wvsoccer.net by 5PM 12/11.

Len & Dave:

Applications for my successor as State Referee Administrator have been closed since the end of September, and I have heard of no additional expressions of interest in the position since that time.

I send this note to offer my strong recommendation for Doug Sharpe to succeed me in the role of SRA. Apart from being the only applicant to fill the position when my term ends on 31 December 2023, Doug possesses the level-headed maturity, the calm personality and the steady demeanor to succeed in the role. I am confident to recommend him as my successor.

I have enjoyed serving in the role of SRA and will treasure the many working relationships and friendships I have forged in the process -- the relationships with the two of you being foremost among them. As I have expressed to each of you directly and personally, I am comfortable that the time to pass the torch is ripe. I have full faith that the SRC will continue to develop referees that will represent our state superbly at the local, state, regional and national levels.

Michael McCarthy, State Referee Administrator

WV Soccer Association

On the Web: www.wvsareferees.org

On Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/wvsareferees