

## Mississippi Recreational Referee

Mississippi's State Referee Committee is excited to announce a new referee opportunity for small sided Recreational soccer games. **Effective immediately**, we will begin offering a **Mississippi Recreational Referee** program that will allow younger referees to enter the program, helping Mississippi increase the number of referees available for member organizations. It will also allow existing referees to concentrate on developing their skills on more challenging and older games. To become a Recreation(al) Referee, individuals must be at least **11 years of age** at the time they register for the Entry Level Course and must pass all the certification requirements. **A Mississippi Recreational Referee can only referee Small Sided Recreational games (U6-U12 ages)**. They cannot work competitive level games, locally or in tournaments. There are **NO EXCEPTIONS**. They wear a special Mississippi Recreational Referee badge that indicates they are Recreational Referees. Currently, the course will be online lessons followed by a one-hour Zoom session geared toward the Small Sided game.

The Mississippi Recreational Referee is certified through the Mississippi State Referee Program and not certified through USSF. They will wear a non USSF recreational badge. A recreational referee can become USSF certified when they become the age of 13, the allowable USSF age of certification. The recreational referee will take the USSF Entry Level Course through the Mississippi State Referee Association and upon passing the course, they will earn their USSF badge and be able to referee any USSF game (that their grade allows).

Click the link below and select "Become or Recertify as a Non-USSF Game Official (usually under age 13).

<https://mississippi.omgtsys.com/AvailableClinics.aspx>

If you have any questions pertaining to the new Mississippi Recreational Referee program, do not hesitate to reach out to me [sra@mssoccer.org](mailto:sra@mssoccer.org).

Tim Clements  
Mississippi Soccer Association  
State Referee Administrator