



Referee Assessment Criteria

Reviewed: 01/09/2023

Criteria	Guidance - Basic	Guidance - Higher
1a-e (Pre-Match Preparation)	In-person assessors should arrive 15 minutes early to assess pre-match preparation. Leniency should be given on 1a and 1c if the referee is involved in another match immediately prior to their assessment. Guidance will be provided to referees to ensure footage includes pre-match checks in the case of remote assessments.	
2a-b (Communication)	N/A	The referee should demonstrate the ability to communicate in an appropriate way (other than use of the whistle, cards and signalling) with players, coaches and other individuals both during and after the match. Communication can be both verbal and non-verbal.
2c (Communication)	The whistle should be loud and used when needed (i.e. when the ball goes out of play, as well as to signal the subsequent re-start).	
2d-e (Communication)	The signals (IKF, 2015) for substitutions, time-outs, changing zones, football, defended shots, cutting, 4 second rule, free passes and penalties should be consistently used when/if required. Some leniency may be given if an incorrect signal is used, as long as it does not cause confusion and is used consistently. Corrections should be noted in the feedback.	The referee should show competency across the full complement of signals (IKF, 2015) when/if required. Some leniency may be given if one or two incorrect signals are used, as long as they do not cause confusion and are used consistently. Corrections should be noted in the feedback.
3a-c (Interpretation of the Rules)	The referee should be able to consistently recognise fouls,	The referee should be able to consistently recognise fouls; there



	although some minor misinterpretation of the correct type of re-start (especially between re-starts and free passes) is to be expected. At the assessor's discretion, this may be fine as long as the decision-making is consistent. Regular and/or serious misinterpretation of what type of re-start should be given should require re-assessment.	should be minimal misinterpretation of the correct type of re-start (re-start/free pass or free pass/penalty), although some leniency should be given in marginal decisions. At the assessor's discretion, this may be fine as long as the decision-making is consistent. Regular and/or serious misinterpretation of what type of re-start should be given should require re-assessment.
3e (Interpretation of the Rules)	The referee should demonstrate understanding of the full criteria required to award a defended shot although leniency should be given in marginal cases and interpretation of 'an arm's length', as long as there is consistency. Clear and consistent misunderstanding of any of the requirements should lead to reassessment.	The referee should demonstrate consistent understanding of the full criteria required to award a defended shot, although some leniency may be given in marginal cases. Assessors should focus in particular on correct decision-making in cases where there is a height difference between two opposition players. Clear and consistent misunderstanding of any of the requirements for a defended call should lead to reassessment.
3f (Interpretation of the Rules)	Some leniency can be given here, especially in lower level games with newer players. Cases where players are clearly 'gaining' from the running offence and not trying to stop, however, should be consistently penalised by the referee.	The referee should have a good grasp of the 'running' offence and be consistent in their decision-making.
3g (Interpretation of the Rules)	Some leniency can be given here, although obvious cases of cutting (such as shooting immediately after 'running the block') should be picked up by the referee.	The referee should demonstrate good understanding of the range of cutting offences when they arise, although some leniency should be given in marginal cases.
4a (Control of Contact)	The referee should demonstrate the ability to control clear instances of over-physical play	The referee should demonstrate the ability to control over-physical play, including physical challenges at the post. Consistent failure to recognise cases of over-physical play, or



		unwillingness to deal with escalating situations should require re-assessment.
4b (Control of Contact)	N/A	This is desirable, but not essential for a pass. Special care should be taken to provide feedback on situations where the advantage rule was incorrectly used, or where a stoppage in play may have been a better decision in order to communicate with a player about a repeated offence.
4c (Control of Contact)	N/A	The referee should demonstrate the ability to deal with repeat physical infringements, either through a) verbal communication or b) an appropriate type of restart and the confidence to progress this where appropriate. Consistent failure to recognise cases of repeat physical infringements, or unwillingness to deal with escalating situations should require re-assessment. This may not arise in a match situation for assessment.
5a-b (Dealing with Misconduct)	The referee should be confident issuing cards where appropriate to retain control of the game. Higher level communication about behaviour either during stoppages in play or while play is ongoing is not expected for a pass at Basic level, but the ability to appropriately punish infringements that may otherwise escalate is. It is important to note that such a situation may not arise in an assessment match and leniency should be given in borderline situations where control was retained.	The referee should be confident issuing cards where appropriate to retain control of the game. Some demonstration of the ability to communicate with players, coaches or other individuals about behaviour either during stoppages in play or while play is ongoing is desirable but not essential.
6a (Positioning)	N/A	The referee should be consistently close to the play in order to best



		inform their decision-making. While some effort of this should be demonstrated, increased consistency of this should be expected at Elite level. Little or no effort may, at the assessor's discretion, require re-assessment.
6b (Positioning)	The referee should be making an effort to actively follow the play. Referees who stand on the half-way line, or in the corner of the court and rarely change position should require re-assessment.	The referee should be making an effort to actively follow the play. Referees who stand on the half-way line, or in the corner of the court and rarely change position should require re-assessment.
6c (Positioning)	N/A	The referee should actively recognise when they are not in a good position to assess the play and make a clear effort to improve their position. The referee should be able to keep up with the action, including when the ball changes end.