

Keys to the Course - Fundamentals of Rugby Refereeing

A primer for presenting the course:

USA Rugby's new course, Fundamentals of Rugby Refereeing, is a great introduction to refereeing contact rugby. This course focuses on the practical basics of refereeing and prepares new referees for the safety components necessary to insure a successful rugby match.

The primary focus of this course is to prepare referees for adjusted contact, intro to contact, middle school contact rugby and Jr Varsity contact rugby. The specific leagues and matches participants will referee will be outlined by the local State Rugby Organization (SRO).

Running a Course:

- **Step 1** - First contact your local SRO. They will help you set up logistics, trainers and materials.
- **Step 2** – Familiarize yourself with the materials, specially the instructor manual. If you need a copy of these materials, check in with your SRO.
- **Step 3** – Get out there and train referees!

Keys to running the Course:

-Participants should complete the 'homework' before attending the course. The information contained within the homework is vital to completing the course in a timely fashion.

-The Match Cards should also be distributed to the participants before the course for review. This allows them to review and bring questions to the course.

-Participants do not need to print their 'homework', they can have it completed on a smartphone or tablet if they wish.

Requirements for Course Leaders:

-Each State Rugby Organization (SRO) will select course leaders to lead their courses. Local Referee Organizations (LRO) will also be able to put forth course leaders to teach the course.

-Each course leader will submit their information at the following link:

-Course Leaders will be trained by USA Rugby national office staff and kept on the USA Rugby course leader database for updates and informational offerings.

-Course Leaders should be registered as a referee, and have been through a background check with USA Rugby.

-‘Mentors’ should be registered as a 'Coach', 'Referee' or 'Exec/Admin' with USA Rugby. Each of these tiers come with a background check and ensures mentors are safe around underage participants.

Requirements for Participants:

-Participants may be any age

-Participants must be registered with USA Rugby as a player (Youth, HS, College or Adult) or as a 'Referee'. Participants may also be registered as 'Executive/Administrator' or 'Coach'.

-Participants will sign up and pay (if applicable) for the course through their local SRO. SROs will track attendees and completions. SROs will also engage new referees after the course for their local leagues.

Questions on the course or for more information contact Kurt Weaver – kweaver@usarugby.org

