



PAYSA
Prince Albert Youth Soccer Association



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Referee Report 2024-25

Annual General Meeting, October 8, 2025

PAYSA's Referee Team

PAYSA continues to train and develop youth and district level referees. In 2024-25 PAYSA had a team of 42 dedicated referees to officiate all House League games, regular season and playoff as well as Club Day and Melba Jenkins Memorial Cup matches. This number includes ten newly trained referees who joined our referee team in February of 2025.

Indoor 2024-25 Season

House League Program:

In the Indoor 2024-25 season, a total of 272 House League regular season games were officiated. There were 36 playoff games played, for a total of 308 games officiated. The season was played from October 21st, 2024 to March 7th, 2025. While referees are integral in ensuring the House League program is both played in a safe and fair manner, it is a great opportunity for officials to learn, gain experience and referee on a consistent basis.

Celtic Program:

In the Indoor 2025-26 season, PAYSA referees officiated a total of 79 Club Day and friendly matches. PAYSA hosted 3 full Club Day Weekends (Hollandia/Phantom Lake, SUSC, ASTRA), and competed against many other teams from across the province while hosting friendly matches. Within this competitive stream, referees are challenged with officiating a higher level, and more competitive games. While most game formats utilize the 1-referee system, some games allow for referees to gain experience in the Assistant Referee role in older age group, 9v9 matches.

Melba Jenkins Memorial Cup:

The 4th Annual Melba Jenkins Memorial Cup was held over the November 8th to 10th, 20224 weekend. PAYSA referees had a busy weekend, officiating 72 games played by U9 to U13 teams over the three-day event. Teams from Saskatoon, North Battleford, Yorkton and Rosthern Valley participated, with the event being a great success!

Outdoor 2025 Season

House League Program:

In the Outdoor 2025 season a total of 239 House League regular season games were officiated. There were 44 playoff games played, for a total of 283 games officiated over the season. The season was played from May 1st to June 25th, 2025. Referees continued to officiate games ensuring matches were played in a safe and just manner. Outdoor, larger sided games provide additional experience to referees under different conditions, including the enforcement of the offside rule.

Celtic Program:

In the Outdoor 2025 season, Celtic teams played 5 friendly matches, which were officiated by PAYSA referees using both the single referee, and 3-referee systems.

Prairie Soccer League (PSL):

In 2025, 11 matches were hosted by PAYSA for the participating U15 Girls and U15 Boys Celtic Teams. 7 PAYSA referees officiated the matches, which are of the highest level of youth soccer competition in Saskatchewan.

Referee Development

This year's referee course was held on January 25th, 2025. In total 10 new referees were trained! Congratulations to:

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| • Sawyer Cowan | • Conner McKay | • Abby Du Plessis |
| • Troy Zalewski | • Kayen Chokani | • Javier Cabrera |
| • Mila Stonechild | • Muhammed Halilo | • Heitor da Costa |
| | • Temitope Jebutu | |

I would like to thank Gord Quinlan of SSA for delivering this training.

This is a dynamic process and succession planning is key to the success of the program. PAYSA's refereeing team needs new recruits so that the club can continue to build a broad base of youth referees who will continue to develop and referee older age groups. As our older District referees move on to new opportunities or secondary education, I say farewell to our college and university age referees. This year we saw Sienna Nimubona and Nnaemeka (Joe) Ndubuka graduate. We wish them both the very best in their future endeavors!

The Future

Referee Recruitment:

As many youth referees eventually move on upon graduating from high school, there are holes left where senior and adult referees are needed. This is particularly relevant when looking at higher level competitions, such as U17/19 Celtic matches, as well as the Prairie Soccer League and High School competitions. Emphasis will be made on recruiting and training additional adult referees where possible.

Recruiting and training youth referees will continue to be a critical part of the development component. Anyone over the age of 14 can begin the process as a referee in training. This process is comprised of an online, theory-based portion, along with an in-person, practical portion.

Referee Support:

For referees that are a part of our team, emphasis will be made on ensuring everyone has the support they need in order to not just succeed, but thrive in their roles as officials. Mentorship will continue to be provided to new referees, as well as referees taking on new challenges. We will also be pursuing programs such as the SSA's Green Whistle Initiative, which supports a safe environment for referees, in this instance, youth referees.

Wishing everyone a great 2025-26 Season!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Thomas McIntosh', followed by a period.

Thomas McIntosh,
PAYSA Club Manager

