

MRRS Grading Policy

Revised 15 May 2016

It is the policy of the MRRS that match officials are allowed every opportunity to improve themselves and their ability to referee. Furthermore, it is the policy of the MRRS that grading of match officials should only be used to assist referees with their own development as well as allowing external organizations to gauge a referee's current ability level. Grading shall not be used as a gauge of a referee's worth to the sport or the society.

The RDC may accept the grade of any referee who is transferring into the MRRS. Additionally, under direction from USA Rugby Refereeing, the RDC may promote a referee to any local grade.

Montana Rugby Referee Grading Level Requirements

C4

Requirements

- USA Rugby registered (CIPP, must be renewed each year) - Needed for any youth match

Description

A referee obtains the C4 rating by joining the Society and accepting referee assignments. A C4 level referee is one that has just started with refereeing. The C4 referee may continue to play rugby and does not have to referee 'full time'.

They can referee lower level matches (nothing above level 6) and are preferred touch judges on higher-level matches.

Comfortable at match level: 8 (U-19 Girls or any B-side Match)

Requirements for Promotion to C3

- L1 Officiating Course Certification
- Two matches safely refereed and observed by referee developer (Educator, Coach, PR)
- Competencies observed:

General

- Arrived at match early enough to ensure players, touch judges, and playing enclosure were properly prepared
- Protected safety of players
- Observed dangerous tackles

- Whistle tone was distinctive according to decision (Penalty v Scrum)
- Primary signal (penalty kick, free kick, or scrum) was clear and given simultaneously with whistle.

Advantage

- Recognized distinctions of advantage for penalty kick infringements versus scrum infringements
- Did not return play to the original infringement after advantage had been gained

Scrum

- Awarded scrum put-in to the correct side when the ball became unplayable at a ruck or maul
- Awarded scrum at the correct position
- Ensured fair competition for the ball in the scrum

Maul

- Did not permit static mauls to move again

Kick-off and Restart

- Observed kick-offs and drop outs that were taken incorrectly (method and place)
- Observed offside players at kick offs and drop outs

Lineout

- Awarded the lineouts at the correct place
- Established and maintained a one-meter gap until the ball was thrown in
- Ensured fair competition for the ball in the lineout

C3

Requirements

- All C4 Requirements
- Level 1 Officiating Certified

A referee obtains the C3 rating by demonstrating the ability to referee second and third side matches of lower divisions and achieving World Rugby Level 1 Officiating course certification. A C3 referee has a deeper knowledge of refereeing when compared to a C4, but may have problems with some aspects of the game. The C3 referee may not be in position to observe events, not understand what is occurring, or not understand the best way how to facilitate a positive outcome.

Comfortable at match level: 7 (Any league match)

Requirements for promotion

- Touch Judge Certified

- Consensus of RDC that referee exhibits all competencies for C2 as outlined in USA Rugby's Referee Grading Manual

C2

Requirements

- All C3 Requirements
- Touch Judge Certification

A C2 referee is refining the craft of refereeing. A C2 referee will have a continuous improvement program (including a diary) and will regularly be soliciting feedback from referee developers. Additionally, he/she will most likely be refereeing instead of playing or coaching. He/She should be positioned correctly at scrums, lineouts, and situations that occur near the goal line. He/She should conduct himself with good demeanor both on and off the field.

Comfortable at match level: 6 (Men's and Women's League matches, U-19 Boys' Playoffs, or U-19 Girls' Final)

Requirements for promotion

- Assistant Referee Certification
- Concussion Training
- Two at grade or above grade C1 performance review for a level 5 match, including by one from a non-Montana Performance Reviewer
- Regular coaching
- Consensus of RDC

C1

Requirements

- All C2 Requirements
- Assistant Referee certified
- Concussion Training
- Regular coaching sessions

A C1 referee can referee any match conducted inside of Montana. He/She should be confident in his/her management of the players, skilled at game facilitation, and be able to establish clear priorities for the players. The C1 referee should be actively involved in professional development including attending/leading study groups and informal coaching. The C1 referees are ambassadors of Montana refereeing.

Comfortable at match level: 5 (Any Men's Playoffs or U-19 Boy's Final)