

	<p><b>Qualifications &amp; Appointments Policy</b></p>
<p><b>Policy No:</b> FSCREF-010</p>	<p><b>Revision No:</b>2A</p>
	<p><b>Date:</b> February 2025</p>

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this Policy is to set out the manner in which Referees within FSC will be appointed based on the level of Qualification held under the Australian Officiating Development Schedule (AODS).

**Preamble**

The AODS sets out the levels of qualification of Referees in Australia. There are four levels applicable to Referees:

**1. Level 4 – Entry Level Qualification**

This is a basic entry level qualification requiring a Laws of the Game (LOTG) examination with a 100% pass mark with coaching support in matches (and is only suitable to the lower levels of community football. Minimum Age 13 years

**2. Level 3 Qualification**

This is a qualification suitable for community football. It requires a Laws of the Game Examination with a 70% pass AND Match assessments as a referee and as assistant referee. This is a suitable qualification for community football. Minimum Age 16 years.

**3. Level 2 Qualification**

This is an advanced qualification requiring a Laws of the Game Examination with an 80% pass and Match Assessments as a referee. FSC currently has the capacity although limited to conduct one of the two required assessments within, however, the second must be conducted in an outside area. FSC considers this as a necessary requirement for consideration of appointment to its highest levels of football. Minimum Age 18 years.

**4. Level 1 Qualification**

This is a qualification that can only be acquired with match assessments outside FSC at present and can only be obtained at a minimum of NPL1 competitions. However, the LOTG Theory component is available to all who have undertaken the lower level Theory qualifications and FSC would encourage all its Members to seek to obtain this Theory level.

## Revalidation LOTG

All referees have to undergo revalidation after each period of four (4) years. It is expected that ALL referees would pass the LOTG Theory component of that re-validation process at a Level appropriate to the Grades they are refereeing ie:

Premier League 1<sup>st</sup>, District League 1<sup>st</sup> and Women's Div 1 - 85%

Premier League 2<sup>nd</sup> and Youth, District league 2<sup>nd</sup> and Women's 2 – 80%

District League 2<sup>nd</sup> and Youth, Women's remaining grades, Community Leagues 1&2, Master's 1, and all Juniors – 70%

Those with Level 4 do not have to do a LOTG to retain Validation but FSC would expect that to occur for ALL remaining senior football and Junior football above under 15.

## Appointments

The Table below sets out the Qualifications required to be appointed to the FSC grades shown and the expected achievements in re-validation LOTG tests to maintain that standard of appointment.

Grade	Qualification Required for New Referees	Re-Validation LOTG Result All Referees
IPL 1 and DL1 and Women's PL	Level 2	85%
IPL 2 <sup>nd</sup> and Youth, Women's CL	Level 3 and desirably Level 2 Theory	80%
District League Res and Youth and Community League 1, Master's 1 Over 35's 1	Level 3	70%
Juniors 16 first Under 18	Level 3	70%
Referee Development Panel	Level 3	70%

Failure to achieve at the level required will be grounds for demotion to the appropriate competitions.

## **Assessments**

For the purposes of assessments for the higher Qualifications the following match allocation is established for FSC Qualifications assessments:

**Level 4** – no assessments required – coaching assessments are to occur.

**Level 3** –

Seniors: Any District League minor grade, IPL Youth Grade, Women's 2 or 3, Community League 1 match.

Juniors – Under 16 first division

**Level 2** - District League First Grade or Women's Division 1.

## **Referees Transferring from other areas**

AODS outlines the requirements for referees transferring into Australia.

For Referees joining FSC Referees from within Australia, their theory qualification will be accepted subject to their compliance with the AODS and any re-validation requirements.

Where they have been continuously refereeing but have failed to comply with the requirements of the AODS and maintained validation through examination, they will be required to sit a LOTG examination and they will be accepted at the Qualification of their score in that examination.

All referees joining from other areas will be practically assessed by FSC to determine their suitable grouping for appointments to matches based on their practical performance and ability in accordance with the framework above.

## **Transition Arrangements**

Where existing Members may be currently refereeing in a manner not in accordance with the above, they will be advised that they need to work with Football South Coast to ensure they comply within a twelve month period.