

Small Sided Football Referees Course

If you are interested in officiating in Small Sided Football a course is available from your local County Football Association. The course is designed to be more flexible to include the delivery of practical courses and focus on practical referee skills as well as basic knowledge. It is still aimed at providing candidates aged 14 and over with the knowledge and skills required to officiate in Small Sided Football within England.

The Football Association aims the course at 5, 6 and 7 a side football played indoors and outside. It is not designed to assist those involved in 'Mini Soccer' played by children aged 7 – 12 where a separate course entitled 'Mini Soccer Match Day Facilitators' is readily available and is currently being revised.

It is recommended that people with no previous refereeing qualification attend the 'Small Sided Football Referees Course' and if existing eleven a side football referees wish to receive training in officiating in Small Sided Football; they should attend a 'Conversion Course'.

At the end of either course following two short examinations you will be registered with the County Football Association (CFA) as a 'Small Sided Football Referee'.

The Course for Small Sided Football Referees is aimed to be run over 10 hours classroom/practical time including 2 hours at the end for the examinations. In addition to this the course includes pre-course work and an assessment of knowledge paper on the first session. The appropriate CRB check and Safeguarding Children awareness training will be included in addition to this time for those who are not existing referees. At the end of the course if successful you will be awarded a certificate and badge to officiate small sided football

The conversion course for existing eleven a side referees is aimed to be run in one session lasting three hours including the examination at the end.

If you are interested or have any further queries please contact the Referees Development Officer at your local County FA.