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The FA Referee Department Women's game pathway

Key Principals

Available for both men and women who wish to progress in the women's game.

A clear link to the Women's Pyramid of Football.

Allows progression for referees willing to solely dedicate themselves to the women's game as well as those wishing to follow a route in both the men's and women's game.

It shall allow progression through for referees irrespective of their geographic location.

The steps in the pathway

WOMEN'S SUPER LEAGUE	Referee on The FA WSL & WC
WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP REFEREE	Referee on The FA WC Assistant Referee on the FA WSL
WOMEN'S NATIONAL REFEREE	Referee on the 6 FA WNL divisions. AR on The FA WC
WOMEN'S REGIONAL REFEREE	Referee on Women's Regional & County Leagues
WOMEN'S YOUTH REFEREE	Operating in all youth matches

Classification

Women's Super League Referee	1W
Women's Championship Referee	2W
Women's National Referee	3W
Women's Regional Referee	4W
Women's Youth Referee	YW



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Progression criteria

Women's Regional Referee (4W) – Women's National Referee (3W)

Promotion from YW to 4W is automatic when the referee turns 16.

Promotion is controlled by the County FAs. Referees must express an interest in writing to their CFA RDO prior to the start of the season if they wish to be considered for promotion.

Criteria

Minimum of 1 season and/ or 20 games

Minimum of 3 assistant referee appointments (ideally on FA WNL games)

Minimum of 3 observations on women's games attaining 3 standards expected or above

Successful completion of a laws of the game exam

Progression criteria

Women's National Referee (3W) - Women's Championship Referee (2W)

All referees wishing to be considered for promotion at this level must express their interest in writing to their CFA prior to the start of the marking season.

The FA control promotions at this level. Once all criteria have been met, promotion will be decided at an FA selection day.

Minimum of 1 season and 20 appointments as referee (at least 70% in women's football).

Minimum of 8 assistant referee appointments

Minimum of 5 referee appointments on The FA WNL

5 observations on Women's football attaining a minimum average mark of 73

Officials are to operate on the most senior level of women's football available

Minimum of 8 lines in adult football

Successful completion of a laws of the game exam

Passing the required fitness test

Attendance at Women's football training events

Selection following an FA organised assessment day



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