

AUSTRALIAN OZTAG



REFEREE MANUAL

Updated November 2020

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of the document

This manual provides information on the levels a referee can reach within the game and the chance to understand their roles and responsibilities. The information also outlines the criteria referees need to meet in order to progress levels. Domestic Associations can use this manual to assist with training and assessing their current referees.

This manual also outlines the procedure used by AO to develop, assess and assist domestic referees progress to representative tournaments.

The support from each individual Association is crucial for this policy to succeed. All domestic Associations need to be united and work together to ensure and maintain a positive and professional culture with regards to the development of our referees.

Information provided includes:

- AO responsibilities
- Convener responsibilities
- Referee responsibilities
- Administration required at each level and who is responsible for this
- Criteria required to attain and maintain each level
- Referee's needed template poster

1.2. Contact Details

AO CONTACT DETAILS

Web: www.oztag.com.au

Postal Address: PO Box 703
Cronulla, NSW 2230

Phone: 9526 8633 Fax: 9531 0533

NATIONAL REFEREE DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Bill Harrigan billh@oztag.com.au M: 0408 899 333

1.3. Related Documents

This manual should be used in conjunction with the:

- AO Operations manual
- AO Policy manual
- AO Practical Assessment Form

2. Australian Oztag

AO has the responsibility of successfully implementing and managing this initiative throughout Australia. AO is to provide ongoing support for Associations in development and training of referees in our game to ensure a high and consistent level in refereeing.

AO's main responsibilities include:

- Provide referee courses for both Junior and Senior Referees.
- Mark written exams and issue certificates.
- Assess referees on the practical performance and provide constructive feedback.
- Manage referees for all Representative tournaments.
- Compile manage and release referee levels at the conclusion of each tournament.
- Discipline Associations who are in breach of this manual.

3. Association / Convener Responsibilities

Associations / conveners are encouraged to adopt the policies and procedures outlined in this manual. As players and referees are playing / refereeing in numerous competitions, as a sport we need to be unified in the interpretation and implementation of the rules of the game and training and assessment of referees. This will in turn result in a higher standard of referee and a higher standard of game.

Associations are required to make this information available to referees wishing to progress levels in our sport.

Associations / Convener's must advise AO of any referee wishing to progress onto level 1 as they are required to attend and pass an official Referee Course delivered by AO. Referees need to fill out **Appendix 8 – Referee Notification to be assessed** and submit this to AO.

Associations / conveners are also in a position to be able to assess their domestic referees (following AO's guidelines / assessment criteria) to progress from a Level 1 to a Level 2 as both of these levels refer to domestic competitions only.

4. Referee Responsibility

As referees are "on the front line" they have a responsibility to behave in a manner befitting the game of Oztag. They are a representative of our game and need to maintain a high level of professionalism at all times as their actions reflect your Association and Oztag as a sport.

Referees are in a position of power and should not abuse this position.

A referee hoping to progress to levels 3, 4 & 5 must advise AO as they will be sent the written exam to sit and submit back to AO. Once a referee has passed the written exam an AO Assessor will organize a suitable time for the assessment.

AO REFEREE CODE OF CONDUCT

- Always remember the game is for the players. Player safety and fair play come first.
- Study and learn the rules of the Game and understand the "spirit" of the rules. Help fellow referees do the same.
- Encourage and enforce the Philosophies of "Everyone Plays," "Positive Coaching" and "Good Sportsmanship".
- Respect other referees' decisions and do not publicly criticize another official.
- Wear the proper uniform and keep it in good condition.
- Maintain good physical condition so you can keep up with the play.
- Stay calm when confronted with emotional reactions from players, coaches and parents.
- Honour accepted game assignments. In an emergency, find a replacement.
- Support good sportsmanship with a kind word to players, coaches and parents of both teams when deserved.
- Always be fair and impartial, avoiding conflicts of interest. Decisions based on personal bias are dishonest and unacceptable.

Referee levels have been structured to ensure that each level carries a differing degree of commitment and responsibility. The levels and the responsibility associated with each are outlined below.

- Level 0** - To ensure they are competent to progress to level 1.
- Level 1** - Competent to control a round game on their own at a domestic competition.
- Level 2** - Competent to control a grand final game on their own at a domestic competition
- Level 3** - Officiate at AO's Representative tournaments. Referees may need to progress through tournament levels i.e. NSW Junior State Cup, NSW Senior State Cup, Australian Championships, Regional 1-day tournaments
- Level 4** - Officiate grand final games at the Senior Australian Championships
- Level 5** - Selected to officiate International Tournament / Tour including World Cup
- Level 6** - Selected to officiate ITF World Cup Final

5. Referee recruitment / suggested advertising methods

5.1. Suggestions on where to find referees

Securing enough referees is an on-going problem for numerous Associations / competitions. Below outlines different avenues worth trying to recruit referees

- Existing players – Long time or representative players will often “help out” when needed around their game. Associations may wish to offer free registration or transfer payment to representative costs
- Other sporting codes – forming a relationship with other codes in the area and “sharing” referees may be an option. Rugby League and Rugby Union would be ideal codes to work with.
- High schools / Universities – P.E. students (depending on the course structure of the school) are required to gain a certificate in refereeing / officiating. Part of the requirement of being issued with a certificate could be refereeing a season of Oztag. It’s worth contacting your local high schools to see whether this applies to their students. It’s also a good place to start for teenagers that are looking for part time work.
- Promotional flyers – ([Appendix 9 – Referee Recruitment template](#)) Can be used as a flyer to handout at community events (fairs, sporting events etc.) post at your venue to inform people of who to contact if they are interested in refereeing.
- Social media – Advertising on your association website, Facebook or any other social media is an effective way of advertising as it reaches a large number of people and is cost effective

6. Assessment Criteria

6.1. General Information

For referees to progress to the next level they are required to be deemed competent in 3 areas of assessment. These areas may be assessed at the domestic competition and or an AO delivered referee course / tournament:

- Written – assessed levels 0-3
- Practical – assessed levels 1, 3, 4 & 5
- Experience – Assessed levels 1--6

If a referee is deemed “not yet competent” in any of the above areas of assessment or if an assessment is not completed / submitted within the allocated time, then re-assessment is required. A re-assessment cannot be done within a 1-month period.

6.2. Written Criteria

A referee must pass the written exam for the next level before they can request a practical assessment. If a referee fails the written exam for levels 1 and 2 they are required to review the questions and re-submit these answers. If the referee fails the exam again further education and training is required before they can sit the exam again.

If a referee wishes to progress to a higher level, they must follow the steps outlined below:

- Written assessment criteria exist for levels 0, 1, 2 and 3 and must be achieved before being able to progress to the next level.
- The level 0 exam can be given to the referee by the domestic competition convener, may be taken home to complete and be re-submitted the following week. This is an open book (refer to AO’s rule book). The Level 1 exam is to be completed at the AO referee theory course.
- If the referee fails the written assessments for levels 1, 2 or 3 they will need to wait a minimum of 1 month before they are able to review the questions and allowed to re-answer these questions a maximum of one re-sit is permitted.

For specific criteria for levels 0, 1 and 2 please see the written exam templates.

Level 0 Junior Exam – [\(Appendix 2\)](#)

Level 1 Junior Exam – [\(Appendix 3\)](#)

Level 0 Senior Exam – [\(Appendix 4\)](#)

Level 1 Senior Exam – [\(Appendix 5\)](#)

Level 2 Senior Exam - [\(Appendix 6\)](#)

Level 3 Exam – This exam will consist of random questions, it’s not a set template. Referees will be given this when they wish to progress.

All exams are to be returned to AO for marking. Please either fax, post or email completed exams to AO.

F: 9531 0533 E: billh@oztag.com.au

Attention Bill Harrigan
PO Box 703
Cronulla, NSW 2230

Referees will be informed of their results within 2 weeks of AO receiving their exam and certificates will be sent out accordingly.

6.3. Practical Criteria

- Practical assessments involve an assessor watching the referee during a game/s
- If required an assessor may provide feedback to be utilized in future games in order to pass the assessment.
- AO has developed the Practical assessment criteria and should be utilized for all assessments.
- Practical assessments may take place at either a domestic competition or various tournaments depending on the level being assessed. See below:

If the referee fails assessment they will only need to be re-assessed on areas deemed “not yet competent”. The re-assessment can be completed during a later game that day / night. Should these areas still not be deemed competent after multiple attempts then the referee will be required to redo a full assessment for that level.

- Level 0 – Assessed by local Senior referee.
- Level 1 – Conducted by an AO Assessor at a domestic competition
- Level 2 – No assessment needed
- Level 3 - Conducted by an AO Assessor at a representative tournament
- Level 4 – Conducted by an AO Assessor at the Senior Australian Championships
- Level 5 – Conducted by an AO Assessor

For specific criteria for each level please refer to the practical assessment template. [\(Appendix 1\)](#)

6.4. Experience Criteria

A referee will not be able to proceed to the next level without first meeting the criteria.

Domestic competition conveners can assess and award a referee Level 0 providing they have passed the Level 0 Referee exam and meet all other criteria.

- Refereeing experience criteria exists for all levels and must be achieved to progress to the next level. This will take into consideration:
 - Referee’s age
 - Games refereed at domestic competitions over any number of years
 - Games refereed at AO Oztag tournaments over any number of years

The experience levels to be achieved are:

- Level 0:
 - Must be a minimum of 15 years of age for senior games, and 13 years of age or a minimum of 2 years older than the division they are refereeing for junior games.
- Level 1:
 - To be deemed competent to referee at a competition on their own
 - To have successfully completed an AO official referee course
 - No minimum age once they have successfully completed the referee course
- Level 2:
 - To have refereed a minimum of 2 seasons at their domestic competition
 - To have successfully passed the Level 2 referee exam
 - No minimum age once they have successfully completed the referee course
- Level 3:
 - Nominated/Invited to Officiate Junior/Senior State Championship
 - Display the ability to referee Grand Final games
- Level 4:
 - Officiated at 2 Senior Australian Championships or
 - Officiated at 2 Senior State Championships
 - Officiated a Grand Final at a Senior Australian Championship
- Level 5:
 - Officiated at International level including ITF World Cup
- Level 6:
 - Officiated an ITF World Cup Final.

NOTE: Given the difficulty that can be experienced in sourcing referees for new competitions, allowances can be made for a Level 0 referee to ref a game on their own at a domestic level. The minimum requirement for this to occur is that the referee has passed the referee Level 0 theory exam.

Table 1 provides a summary of all the criteria that is required to be met at each level.

Table 1: Summary of refer level criteria

Level	Criteria to achieve level
<p>0 Beginner Referee</p> <p>run lines and share refereeing at a domestic competition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show interest in being a referee • Achieved referee experience criteria <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A “common sense” approach needs to be taken. If the referee is not comfortable to referee a shared game or convener believes they aren’t ready to take the field yet, then more off field mentoring & running touch lines may be needed. • Pass Level 0 written exam • assessed by local senior referee • Complete a Referee Information form & “Hobby form” • Must provide convener 24 hours’ notice of unavailability • Officiate 15 games as a stand-alone referee • Referees will remain a Level 0 until successful completion of AO’s referee course.
<p>1</p> <p>This allows a person to referee by themselves at a domestic competition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain interest & displays enthusiasm while refereeing • Successfully completed AO’s referee theory course • Must provide convener 24 hours’ notice of unavailability • Display the ability to referee Lower grades • Pass Level 1 written exam referee • Referee at least 35 games before practical assessment. • Pass AO’s practical assessment Level 1 at domestic competition • Display the ability to referee lower/younger grades and maintain full control of the game on their own.
<p>2</p> <p>This allows a person to referee grand finals by themselves at a domestic competition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain interest & displays enthusiasm while refereeing • Achieved Level 1 assessment. • Refereed 2 seasons at domestic level. • Pass Level 2 written exam • Must provide convener 24 hours’ notice of unavailability • Display the ability to referee higher grades and maintain full control of the game on their own
<p>3</p> <p>This allows a person to referee at AO representative tournaments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Level 2 • Achieved referee experience criteria to advance • Pass level 3 written exam. • Display the ability to referee grand final games • Be nominated by their Association, or invited by AO for representative tournaments • Will be assessed at the Jnr tournament to determine their ability to progress to Senior tournaments. • Assessed by AO appointed assessor.
<p>4</p> <p>Senior official - referee a grand final game at the Australian Championships</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Level 3 • Achieved referee experience criteria to advance • Pass practical assessment at AO’s Australian Championships • Pass level 4 written exam • Officiated at 2 Senior Australian Championships or • Officiated at 2 Senior State Championships • Officiated a Grand Final at a Senior Australian Championship
<p>5</p> <p>International Referee- referee an International sanctioned event</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Level 4 • Achieved referee experience criteria to advance • Attend the referees briefing • Pass practical assessment at Senior Australian Championships • Be selected to officiate at a Sanctioned Senior International event including Emerging Nations, Big 4 Invitational, Trans-Tasman, ITF World Cup
<p>6</p> <p>GURU</p> <p>Officiate an ITF World Cup Final</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieved Level 5 • Achieved referee experience criteria • Attend the referees briefing • Practical assessment at ITF World Cup • Be selected to officiate a World Cup Final

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7. Criteria Required to maintain each level before Re – Assessment

7.1 General Information

Once a referee reaches a level they are required to continue refereeing both domestically and at the representative level they have reached to maintain that level except for Levels 5 and 6. Failure to do so will result in the referee regressing a Level.

- Level 0 – A level 0 referee is required to run lines or buddy with a more experience referee. This level also permits refereeing alone.
- Level 1 – Once a referee has attained a Level 1, they are required to actively referee at a domestic level.
- Level 2 - A referee must actively referee at a domestic level and Grand Final games in a season to be eligible for Representative Tournaments
- Level 3 – Once a referee has attained a Level 3 they are required to actively referee at Senior Representative Tournaments to maintain that level. If a referee fails to ref at a tournament for a 2-year period, they will regress to a Level 2
- Level 4 – Once a referee has attained a Level 4 they must receive a final at Senior Representative Tournaments within a 2-year period or they will regress to a Level 3.
- Level 5 - Once a referee has attained a Level 5 they will always maintain that status regardless of whether they continue to referee or not. However, if or when they return to refereeing they will need to referee at the domestic level for entry to representative level again.
- Level 6 - Once a referee has attained a Level 6 they will always maintain that status regardless of whether they continue to referee or not. However, if or when they return to refereeing they will need to referee at the domestic level for entry to representative level again.

Should a referee stop refereeing consistently at domestic competitions or AO tournaments due to various reasons (i.e. injury, change of careers, moving interstate etc.), in order to return to refereeing they will have to prove themselves competent first at a domestic competition before progressing to a Jnr / Snr State Cup, then an Australian Championships.

8. General Administration – Domestic Competitions

8.1.1 Referee Contact Details (Appendix 7)

Provides a generic Referee contact details form. This form should be used by Associations and all referees (both existing and new) should fill out the form. Associations should keep this form on file. For referees who are interested in Representative Tournaments and progressing to a higher Level – a copy of this form should be submitted to AO, so the individual can be recorded on our National Referee data base.

8.1.2 Nomination forms (Appendix 8)

- Nomination forms must be completed and submitted to AO for any referee wishing to be assessed practically
- Completing the nomination form ensures that AO can cater for suitable numbers at the referee course and prepare for the appropriate assessment at State Cup and Australian Championship tournaments.
- Nomination forms must be completed and submitted to AO by the Association where you referee.
- Nomination forms must be received no later than 1 week prior to the tournament the referee wishes to be assessed at.

8.1.3 Statement by a supplier form – “Hobby Form” (Appendix 9)

Every Association MUST have all referees at their venue complete a “Hobby Declaration Form” and keep this securely on file. If referees do not complete this form, Associations are subject to ATO penalties. Referees must complete the form as a Level 0 i.e. as soon as they declare they wish to become a referee.

The form identifies to the Association if the referee wishes to have the income earned as a referee declared as a hobby (tax free) or alternatively have tax withheld as part as their taxable income. The form can be picked up from any ATO office or alternatively downloaded from the ATO website (<http://www.ato.gov.au/content/downloads/nat3346.pdf>). However, a copy of the form has been provided.

To complete the form the referee adds his / her details as the “supplier”. The individual sections information is as follows:

- A1 – Referees name
- A2 – Referees address
- A3 – This section depends on how the referee wants to declare the income made by refereeing. Normally the only reason a referee would declare the earnings as a taxable income would be if they are a professional referee. If declaring as a hobby the referee would cross the box that says:

“is made in the course or furtherance of an activity done as a private recreational pursuit or hobby”

If a referee wishes to have their income declared for tax purposes, the venue coordinator would have to follow the correct procedure as directed by the ATO (e.g. withhold the correct percentage from the referee pay as tax)

- B – Referees details and signature

Once completed the forms must be kept and stored by the venue coordinator for as long as they remain a referee at that venue.

Table 3: Recommended referee payment scale for Senior Associations

8.2 Completed Assessments

All written assessments completed by referees and practical Assessments completed by Assessors are to be emailed or sent to the Australian Oztag. Results and certificates will be received within 2 weeks of AO receiving their exam.

AO – Referee Development
Bill Harrigan
Po Box 703
Cronulla, NSW
2230

E: billh@oztag.com.au

9. AO Representative Referee Procedures

9.1 National Referee Development/Training Officers

Australian Oztag have appointed several National Referee Development Officers whose sole purpose is to assist both Associations and referees with regards to development, knowledge and professionalism of Referees in our game.

9.2 Referee Assessors

AO have appointed Referee Assessors for each Representative Tournament. These assessors are responsible for reviewing and assessing tournament referees. For referees wishing to progress to the next Level and have been nominated and submitted the appropriate paperwork, the assessors will deem these referees as either 'competent' and approve of the referee progressing to the next level or 'not yet competent' and provide feedback and advice on the areas the referee weren't competent in.

9.4 Hierarchy of Referee Progression at Representative tournaments

For a referee to progress to a Level 2 or higher they need to follow the progression path as defined by AO. This path is explained below.

Once a Level 1 referee wishes to progress to a Level 2, they are required to have refereed on a domestic level for a minimum of 2 seasons. Once they have been refereeing domestically for 2 seasons it will be at the Association's discretion as to whether that Association feels the referee is competent to progress. Referees must pass the level 2 written exam, there is no practical assessment for this level.

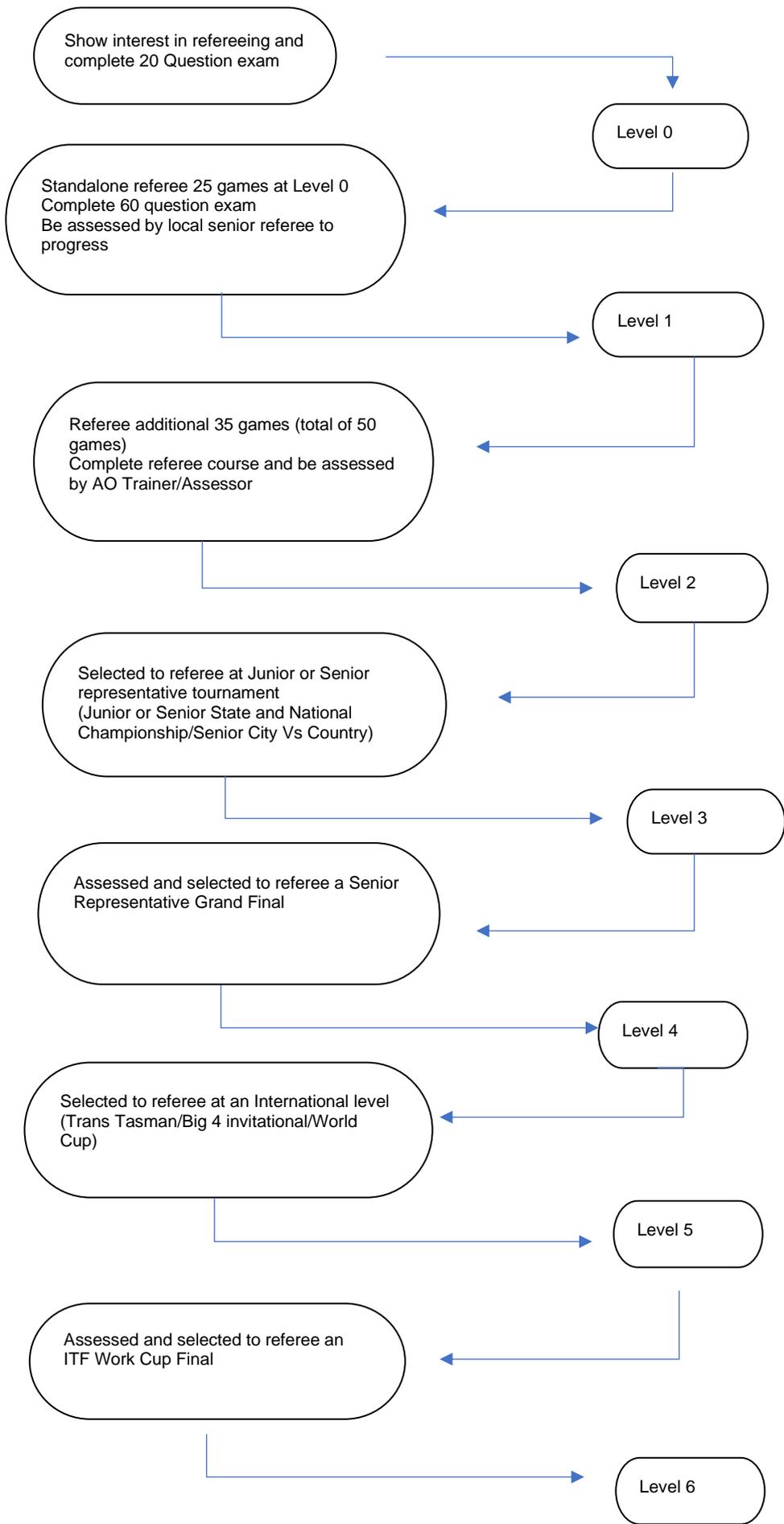
Level 2 is purely a domestic level to allow committed, reliable referees who don't referee tournaments to be rewarded for their contribution to associations. Once a Level 2 referee wishes to progress to a Level 3 an Association is required to advise AO that they are available and interested to referee. The referee will be invited by AO to referee at either a Junior State Cup or other representative tournament and will be assessed over the course of the tournament. If they are deemed competent they will progress to a Level 3 referee and will be invited to referee at a Senior State Cup.

The referee will remain a Level 3 at the Senior State Cup but will be assessed at this tournament to deem whether they are competent to referee at the Senior Australian Championships.

All referees will enter the Australian Championships as a Level 3 referee. They will be assessed at this tournament to determine whether they will be appointed any Grand Final games. It is only when a referee is appointed to a Grand Final game at the Australian Championships that they will progress to a Level 4.

All grand finalist referees' will be assessed at every Australian Championships and from this group the international referees – Level 5, will be determined.

Level 5 and 6 is automatically achieved once appointed to referee an International game. The status of Levels 5 and 6 will be maintained forever as a badge of honor.



9.5 Representative Referee Uniform

Representative Referees will be required to purchase the uniform (deducted from tournament payment). This money is then reimbursed over following tournaments.

This uniform may include the following

- On field shirt
- On field shorts
- Hat
- Polo shirt
- Pocket shorts
- Jacket
- Track pants
- Bag

9.6 Referees Resource APP

Referees have the ability now to access the AO RESOURCE APP that will show, hand signals and a variety of scenarios to improve their refereeing ability and knowledge.

9.7 Referees Team APP

Qualified referees will also be given access to the Australian Oztag Referees Team APP that will give them all the invitations and news to all of AOs tournaments, and other events.



Australian Oztag Referee – Practical Assessment

Referee Name:	
Date:	
Venue:	

To progress to a higher level a referee must demonstrate competency in the following criteria.

Presentation	Competent	Not yet Competent
1. Wearing the full and clean uniform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Possesses a confident manner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task – Pre-Game	Competent	Not yet Competent
3. Possess ball, tags, whistle, score card and pen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Arrives at the field at least 2 minutes prior to kick off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Check the field for anything that could cause injuries to players	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Calls in captains for decision on who will kick off etc	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task – During game (communication)	Competent	Not yet Competent
7. Use of vocals, whistle and hand signals in conjunction that displays authority	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Vocals – makes calls as needed and loudly for:		
a. Handles conflict situations adequately (using the 4-stage approach)		
i. Diffusing conflict situations if possible – on field warnings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Use of substitute players		
iii. Sin binning		
iv. Send off		
b. Applying rules on the run to improve game flow – use playing advantage / calling play on	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Brief verbal explanation of rules as needed to aid understanding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Calling of tag count	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Whistle – use whistle as needed, and loudly for:		
a. Start of game and restarts (from try being scored)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b. End of game and half time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Applying rules – use of whistle when calling any rules		
i. Quick whistle when infringement is made	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii. Walk to mark and blow whistle to give penalty		
d. Scoring a try	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Signals – use or arm / hand signals for:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Knock on	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Kick off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Awarding a try	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Contact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Forward pass	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Tag count restart (zero tag)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Jumping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Task – During Game (Positioning and Rules)	Competent	Not yet Competent
11. Demonstrate adequate knowledge of the rules with consistent rulings for:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Contact – zero contact behind the defensive line after a tag being made	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Contact – defenders closing the hole on ball carrier	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Kicking – on zero (with no play the ball), 4 & 5	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Kicking – ball crossing the plain of the try line from a kick off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Kicking – ball must travel 10m from a drop out	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Fending – “accidental” protecting of tags by bending, running with low arms / hands	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Diving –to score a try (knees touching before the ball is grounded)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Jumping – to receive ball (from high pass or kick) with defender in tagging distance and going for the tag	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Obstruction – in normal running of the ball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Offside – in front of the kicker from a kick off	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Play the ball – 3 second rule	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Play the ball – marker not square	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Play the ball – marker leaving early	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Appendix 2 – Level 0 Written Exam - Juniors)



Australian Oztag
Level 0 Referee
Exam – Junior Divisions



This exam is to be completed by the referee and submitted to AO prior to attending the referee course

Referee Name:	Mobile:	Date:
Address:		
Email:		
D.O.B:	Association:	

To be eligible to referee official games and achieve level 0, a prospective referee must answer each of the below questions correctly. A pass mark is 100%

True / False Questions

Please circle the correct answer

- 8 is the maximum number of players on the field at any time during an Oztag game.
A. True
B. False
- A defender must remove 1 or both tags to stop an attacker's progress.
A. True
B. False
- Players are permitted to take the field in football boots with metal tip or screw in studs.
A. True
B. False
- The Referee must get the defensive line back 10 meters during general play
A. True
B. False
- An Oztag game is started with a tap kick at half way.
A. True
B. False

6. The ball carrier is allowed to protect his/her tag and fend / palm off defenders.
- A. True
 - B. False
7. In an under 8 or 10 division, when a defender removes an attackers tag, they should stay on the spot and become the marker.
- A. True
 - B. False
8. If a player propels the ball in a forward direction with their hand or arm and the ball comes into contact with the ground it is deemed as a knock on.
- A. True
 - B. False
9. A player can defend if they have only 1 or no tags on.
- A. True
 - B. False
10. A try is awarded to the attacking team when they drop the ball on or over the try line.
- A. True
 - B. False
11. A player can kick the ball in general play on the 3rd tag at local level games.
- A. True
 - B. False
12. If a place kick from half way goes over shoulder height it is play on as long as it travels 10 meters forward.
- A. True
 - B. False
13. If the ball from a place kick or drop out lands in the field of play and then rolls across the opponents try line whether touched or not a line drop out occurs.
- A. True
 - B. False

14. In an under 8 or 10 division Dummy half can run, be tagged and can score a try.

A. True

B. False

15. A player can dive for a try.

A. True

B. False

16. If there is no dummy half in position the marker can run around the ruck and pick up the football.

A. True

B. False

17. A player may jump up in the air to avoid being tagged.

A. True

B. False

18. A player can dive to score a try.

A. True

B. False

19. Kicks in general play can go above the referee shoulders on the full.

A. True

B. False

20. A player can pass or run back over his or her try line.

A. True

B. False

Grade: _____/20

Is the prospective referee competent:

Y / N

Assessor:

Name:		Signature:	
Course date:		Course Venue:	

(Appendix 3 – Level 1 Written Exam - Juniors)



**Australian Oztag
Level 1 Referee
Exam – Junior Divisions**



This exam is to be completed by the referee at the referee course or taken home and sent back to AO.

Referees are required to get 100% to pass as this is an open book exam. Once a referee passes this exam a time will be arranged for a practical assessment.

Referee Name:	Mobile:		Date:
Address:			
Email:			
D.O.B:		Association:	

To be eligible to referee official games and achieve level 1, a prospective referee must answer each of the below questions correctly. A pass mark is 100%

Multiple Choice Questions

1. What is the minimum number of players required in a team to play a game?
A. 4
B. 5
C. 6
D. 8

2. Is a try allowed if the ball carrier touches the ground with his / her knees or arm before the try line?
A. no, never
B. yes as long as no-one is within tagging distance of the player
C. yes, no restrictions
D. yes as long as they don't hit anyone when scoring

3. In the under 8 & 10 divisions at what time can the marker and defensive line move?
A. When the ball is rolled / played by the tagged attacker
B. When the ball is touched by the dummy half
C. When the ball is passed by the dummy half

- D. When the 1st receiver gets the ball
4. Before awarding a penalty what, must a referee consider?
- A. The severity of the penalty
 - B. The time remaining in the game
 - C. Nothing – just award the penalty
 - D. Playing advantage
5. What happens if the dummy half has only one tag on and passes the ball to the first receiver?
- A. Tagged – Dummy half must have both tags on to pass the ball at any time
 - B. Penalty - Dummy half must have both tags on to pass the ball at any time
 - C. Play the ball – the attacking side must play the ball again with no effect on the tag count
 - D. Play on - Dummy half can have one tag one as long as they only take one step
6. What happens if the dummy half is not in position within 3 seconds of the ball being played?
- A. Play on – the attacking side has 5 seconds for a dummy half to be in position
 - B. Play on – the attacking side has 4 seconds for a dummy half to be in position
 - C. The marker can run around the and pick the ball up from the dummy half position
 - D. Change over awarded by the referee to the defending team
7. What happens if the attacking team bends forward to avoid being tagged?
- A. Play on
 - B. Referee to call tag and attacking team to play the ball
 - C. Penalty awarded to the defending team
 - D. Penalty awarded to the attacking side
8. Who has the responsibility to avoid contact?
- A. Attacker
 - B. Defender
 - C. Both attacker and defender
 - D. No one
9. What is to occur if the ball is kicked and accidentally makes contact with the referee and play is irregularly affected in general play?
- A. Play on
 - B. The player who kicked the ball should be sin binned
 - C. A change over at the point of contact
 - D. A tag is deemed and the attacking side must play the ball at the point of contact

10. What should occur if an attacking player kicks the ball and upon chasing it, dives on the ball to control it?

- A. Penalty – an attacking player cannot dive on the ball at any time.
- B. Play on – an attacking player can dive on the ball at any time
- C. Play on – the attacking player slipped and this does not constitute a dive
- D. Time off – the referee should whistle time off to ensure the player has not been hurt

Short Answer Questions

11. What happens if the ball crosses the plane of the try line from a kick and an attacking player regathers the ball before it touches the ground and grounds the ball for a try?

12. What happens if an attacking player is tagged over the try line on the last tag and before the ball is grounded?

13. Kicking the ball in general play is allowed in a local competition with which conditions applying?

14. What should occur if an attacking team knocks on and no advantage is gained by the defending team?

15. What happens when a player kicks in general play & is tagged simultaneously then kicks the ball again.

Grade: _____/15

Is the prospective referee competent:

Y / N

The referee is required to be re-assessed in the following areas:

Assessor

Name:		Signature:	
Course date:		Course Venue:	

(Appendix 4 – Level 0 Written Exam - Seniors)



**Australian Oztag
Level 0 Referee
Exam - Seniors**



This exam is to be completed by the referee and submitted to AO prior to attending the referee course

Referee Name:			
Referee No:			
Referee Email:			
Date:		Venue:	

To be eligible to referee official games and achieve level 0, a prospective referee must answer each of the below questions correctly. A pass mark is 100%

True / False Questions: Please circle the correct answer

1. 8 is the maximum number of players on the field at any time during an Oztag game.
A. True
B. False
2. A defender must remove 1 or both tags to stop an attacker's progress.
A. True
B. False
3. Players are permitted to take the field in football boots with metal tip or screw in studs.
A. True
B. False
4. The Referee must get the defensive line back 10 meters during general play
A. True
B. False
5. An Oztag game is started with a tap kick at half way.
A. True
B. False

6. The ball carrier is allowed to protect his/her tag and fend off defenders.
 - A. True
 - B. False

7. When a defender removes an attacker's tag in a senior division they should stay on the spot and become the marker.
 - A. True
 - B. False

8. If a player propels the ball in a forward direction with their hand or arm and the ball comes into contact with the ground it is deemed as a knock on.
 - A. True
 - B. False

9. It's the attacking player's responsibility to avoid contact?
 - A. True
 - B. False

10. A try is awarded to the attacking team when they drop the ball on or over the try line.
 - A. True
 - B. False

11. A player can kick the ball in general play on the 3rd tag.
 - A. True
 - B. False

12. If a place kick from half way goes over shoulder height it is play on as long as it travels 10 meters forward.
 - A. True
 - B. False

13. If the ball from a place kick or drop out lands in the field of play and then rolls across the try line whether touched or not a line drop out occurs.
 - A. True
 - B. False

14. In a senior division Dummy half can run, be tagged and can score a try.

- A. True
- B. False

15. A player can dive for a try as long as their knees don't hit the ground first and there isn't a defender within tagging distance.

- A. True
- B. False

16. A player may spin to avoid being tagged.

- A. True
- B. False

17. A player may jump up in the air to avoid being tagged.

- A. True
- B. False

18. A player can dive to score a try.

- A. True
- B. False

19. Kicks in general play can go above a referee's shoulders.

- A. True
- B. False

20. A player can pass or run back over his or her try line.

- A. True
- B. False

Grade: _____/20

Is the prospective referee competent:

Y / N

The referee is required to be re-assessed in the following areas:

Assessor

Name:		Signature:	
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(Appendix 5 – Level 1 Written Exam - Seniors)



**Australian Oztag
Level 1 Referee
Exam - Seniors**



This exam is to be completed by the referee at the referee course or taken home and sent back to AO. Referees are required to get 100% to pass as this is an open book exam. Once a referee passes this exam a time will be arranged for a practical assessment.

Referee Name:			
Referee No:			
Referee Email:			
Date:		Venue:	

To be eligible to referee official games and achieve level 1, a prospective referee must answer each of the below questions correctly. A pass mark is 100%

Multiple Choice Questions: Please circle the correct answer

1. What is the minimum number of players required in a team to play a game?
A. 4
B. 5
C. 6
D. 8

2. What is the maximum number of males for a team on the field during a mixed game?
A. 4
B. 5
C. 6
D. 8

3. In Senior divisions at what time can the marker and defensive line move?
A. When the ball is rolled / played by the tagged attacker
B. When the ball is touched by the dummy half
C. When the ball is passed by the dummy half
D. When the 1st receiver gets the ball

4. Before awarding a penalty what, must a referee consider?
 - A. The severity of the penalty
 - B. The time remaining in the game
 - C. Nothing – just award the penalty
 - D. Playing advantage

5. What happens if the dummy half has only one tag on and passes the ball to the first receiver?
 - A. Tagged – Dummy half must have both tags on to pass the ball at any time
 - B. Penalty - Dummy half must have both tags on to pass the ball at any time
 - C. Play the ball – the attacking side must play the ball again with no effect on the tag count
 - D. Play on - Dummy half can have one tag one as long as they only take one step

6. What happens if the dummy half is not in position within 3 seconds of the ball being played?
 - A. Play on – the attacking side has 5 seconds for a dummy half to be in position
 - B. Play on – the attacking side has 4 seconds for a dummy half to be in position
 - C. The marker can run around the and pick the ball up from the dummy half position
 - D. Change over awarded by the referee to the defending team

7. What happens if the attacking team bends forward to avoid being tagged?
 - A. Play on
 - B. Referee to call tag and attacking team to play the ball
 - C. Penalty awarded to the defending team
 - D. Penalty awarded to the attacking side

8. Who is the onus on to avoid contact?
 - A. Attacker
 - B. Defender
 - C. Both attacker and defender
 - D. No one

9. What is to occur if the ball is kicked and accidentally makes contact with the referee and play is irregularly affected in general play?
 - A. Play on
 - B. The player who kicked the ball should be sin binned
 - C. A change over at the point of contact
 - D. A tag is deemed and the attacking side must play the ball at the point of contact

10. What should occur if an attacking player kicks the ball and upon chasing it, dives on the ball to control it?

- A. Penalty – an attacking player cannot dive on the ball at any time.
- B. Play on – an attacking player can dive on the ball at any time
- C. Play on – the attacking player slipped and this does not constitute a dive
- D. Time off – the referee should whistle time off to ensure the player has not been hurt

Short Answer Questions

11. What happens if the ball crosses the plane of the try line from a kick and an attacking player regathers the ball before it touches the ground and grounds the ball for a try?

12. What happens if an attacking player is tagged over the try line on the last tag and before the ball is grounded?

13. Kicking the ball in general play at local competitions is allowed with which conditions applying?

14. What should occur if an attacking team knocks on and no advantage is gained by the defending team?

15 What happens when a player kicks in general play & is tagged simultaneously then kicks the ball again.

Grade: _____/15

Is the prospective referee competent:

Y / N

The referee is required to be re-assessed in the following areas:

Assessor

Name:		Signature:	
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(Appendix 6 – Level 2 Written Exam)



**Australian Oztag
Level 2 Referee
Exam – All ages**



This exam is to be completed by the referee at their domestic competition on a night you ref.

Referees are required to get 100% to pass. PLEASE NOTE this is NOT an open book exam. Associations can mark this exam, it doesn't need to be sent to AO. Once a referee passes this exam, Associations are to inform AO if the referee is interested in Representative Tournaments and an AO assessor will arrange a practical assessment.

Referee Name:			
Referee No:			
Referee Email:			
Date:		Venue:	

To achieve level 2, a prospective referee must answer each of the following questions correctly. A pass mark is 100%

Multiple Choice Questions

- An female attacker is 2m from the try line and dives between 2 defenders, avoiding contact, & grounds the ball behind the try line before her knees or arms touch the ground. What is the ruling?
 - Penalty awarded to the defending side – you cannot dive at any time
 - Play the ball – Referee to call a tag. The ball is played by the attacking side 5m out from where the attacker crossed the try line
 - Change over to the defending side – you cannot dive at any time
 - Try – you can dive for a try as long as the ball is grounded before your knees and arms touch the ground
- In a game an attacking player crosses the opposition try line and then returns back into the field of play and passes the ball to his mate. What is the ruling?
 - Play on – try awarded
 - Changeover – defending side to receive the ball
 - Tag called and attacking side plays the ball
 - Penalty – defending side to receive the ball 10m out and in line with where the infringement occurred

3. An attacker is about to ground the ball for a try and he is “shoulder barged” and drops the ball. What is the ruling?
- A. Knock on – defending side to receive a change over
 - B. Penalty try – a try is awarded when in a referee’s opinion the try would have been scored subject to the infringement
 - C. Tag – the attacking player to play the ball 5m out from where he dropped the ball
 - D. Drop out – defending team to conduct a drop out
4. The ball has been played but not picked up straight away by the dummy half and the marker or defensive line have left their mark. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty awarded to the attacking side
 - B. Penalty awarded to the defending side
 - C. Play on
 - D. Change over to the defending side
5. The ball has been played but has not been picked up after the referee counts the 3 secs. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty awarded to the attacking side
 - B. Penalty awarded to the defending side
 - C. Play on
 - D. Change over to the defending side
6. A tag has been made, no defender has taken the marker position. A play the ball is about to be initiated and a defensive player leaves the defensive line to take a marker position, dummy half has picked up the ball within the referee verbalizing 3 seconds and passes the ball to the 1st receiver. The defending player is more than 1m away from the ruck and makes the tag on the 1st receiver. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty awarded to the attacking side – defending player was off side
 - B. Penalty awarded to the defending side – the dummy half should have been there earlier
 - C. Play on – the defender has made an attempt to be at marker
 - D. Change over to the defending side – the dummy half should have been there earlier
7. I am attacking the line and pass the ball, just as I have passed it a tag was taken “late” and called by the referee, I then receive the ball back without putting my tag back on and no defender is in tagging distance. I then keep running and score a try. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty awarded to the attacking side at the point where the tag was taken
 - B. Play the ball – at the point in which the attacking player receives the ball back
 - C. Play on – try awarded (advantage to be received by the attacking side)
 - D. Penalty awarded to the attacking side at the point where the attacking player receives the ball back

8. I am attacking the line and pass the ball, just as I have passed it a tag was taken and the referee deemed it to be simultaneous, I then receive the ball back without putting my tag back on and no defender is in tagging distance. I then keep running and score a try. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty awarded to the attacking side at the point where the tag was taken
 - B. Play the ball – at the point in which the attacking player receives the ball back
 - C. Play on – try awarded (advantage to be received by the attacking side)
 - D. Penalty awarded to the attacking side at the point where the attacking player receives the ball back
9. A defending team player is off side from the play the ball, where is the penalty given?
- A. At the play the ball
 - B. Where the offside player should have been standing in the defensive line
 - C. Centre of the field on the defensive line the offside player should have been standing
 - D. Adjacent to the play the ball on the defensive line the offside player should have been standing
10. I have no marker and have one or no tags on, I tap kick the ball and pass it. What is the ruling?
- A. Play on
 - B. Play the ball and tag count increases by one
 - C. Change over to the defending side
 - D. Penalty awarded to the defending side
11. I have been tagged over the try line before I was able to ground the ball. Where do I play the ball?
- A. No more than 1m from the try line
 - B. 5m from the try line
 - C. 10m from the try line
 - D. Where I want to play the ball
12. The play the ball was taken 2m from my try line, the dummy half passes it to me and I am behind the try line, I then run into the field of play and get tagged. What is the ruling?
- A. Drop out by the attacking side
 - B. Change over to the defending side 10m out from where the ball crossed the plane of the try line
 - C. Play on – play the ball where I was tagged
 - D. Change over to the defending side 5m out from where the ball crossed the plane of the try line
13. A ball carrier comes into contact with the referee whilst trying to avoid a tag. What is the ruling?
- A. Penalty against the attacking player
 - B. Change over to the defending side
 - C. A tag will be counted
 - D. Play on – it does not affect the game

14. A ball carrier is tagged behind their own try line. What is the ruling?
- A. Attacking side to play the ball 5m out from the try line
 - B. Defending side to play the ball 5m out from the try line
 - C. Drop out from the center of the try line
 - D. Drop out on the try line adjacent to where the tag was made
15. The ball is kicked off and the opposition caught the ball on the full over the try line. What is the ruling?
- A. Ball is deemed to be kicked out on the full by the kicking team – penalty to the team that caught the ball center of the field on the half way line
 - B. Kicking team to play the ball 5m out of from the try line
 - C. Drop out from the center of the try line
 - D. Play on
16. From a line drop out, the ball bounces in the field of play and crosses over the receivers try line but is not touched by the receiving team. What is the ruling?
- A. Receiving side to play the ball 5m out from the try line
 - B. Kicking side to play the ball 5m out from the try line
 - C. Drop out from the center of the try line
 - D. Drop out on the try line adjacent to where the ball crossed the try line
17. I have kicked the ball and my team mate is in front of me, when is my team mate on side?
- A. When I have run past my team mate
 - B. When the ball receiver has run 10m in any direction
 - C. When the ball receiver has run 10m in the direction of their try line
 - D. A and B
 - E. A and C
18. In the middle of the field, in general play, the ball is kicked and goes out on the full, what is the ruling?
- A. Defending team to receive a change over 10m out from where the ball was kicked out
 - B. Defending team to receive a change over at the point where the kick was taken
 - C. Defending team to receive a change over 5m out from where the ball was kicked out
 - D. Tag count restart for the attacking side and a play the ball 10m from where the ball was kicked out

19. The attacking team knock ons. The opposition player kicks the ball off the ground downfield some 30m (below the referee's shoulders), & chases and while trying to regather the ball knocks on. What is the ruling?

A. No advantage received – Defending team to receive a change over and play the ball at the point of the original knock on

B. Advantage received – Attacking side to receive a tag recount and play the ball at the point of the 2nd knock on

C. No advantage received – Defending team to receive a change over and play the ball at the point of the 2nd knock on (30m down field)

D. Advantage received – Attacking side to receive a tag recount and play the ball at the point where the ball was kicked by the defending side

20. As a referee I have given a mark for a penalty but the tap kick was taken from another position. What is the ruling?

A. Award a penalty to the opposition

B. Award a change over to the opposition

C. Play on

D. Stop play and ask the team to take the tap kick again

Short Answer Questions

21. I have kicked the ball and it stays in play, I have been interfered with after the kick, where is the penalty to be given?

22. How long should a player be sin-binned for? What is the maximum length allowed?

23. An attacking player is shoulder barged 12m out from the try line and falls to the ground as they are chasing a kick. The ball rolls over the try line. What is the ruling? Would the ruling change if they were shoulder barged 5m out from the try line? If so, how?

24. It is tag count 3 and I have dived for a try and my knees have hit the ground before the try line, however I ground the ball over the try line for a try. There is a defender in tagging distance from me. What is the ruling? Would this ruling change if there wasn't a defender in tagging distance? If so, how?

25. An attacking player steps sideways into a hole in an attempt to avoid being tagged. At the exact same time a defender steps sideways into the same gap with hands raised and falls backwards from the contact. What is the ruling?

Grade: ____/25 Is the prospective referee competent: Y / N

The referee is required to be re-assessed in the following areas:

Assessor

Name:		Signature:	
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(Appendix 7 – Referee Contact Details)



OZTAG REFEREE CONTACT DETAILS

AO requests that Associations have new referees fill out the below details and a copy be emailed or faxed to head office so details can be entered into our National Data base.

REFEREE INFORMATION		
ASSOCIATION:	SEASON:	
FULL NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	P/C
MOBILE:	DOB:	
EMAIL:		

PREVIOUS REFEREEING EXPERIENCE (LEAGUE, TOUCH FOOTBALL, SOCCER ETC)
CODE:
YEARS INVOLVED:
LEVEL REACHED:
AGES REFEREED:
ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ACHIEVING A HIGHER LEVEL & REFEREEING AT REPRESENTATIVE TOURNAMENTS? Y / N

UNIFORM SIZE		
SHIRT:	SHORTS:	SPRAY Jacket:

MEDICAL- (CONFIDENTIAL)	
MEDICARE NO.:	PRIVATE HEALTH COVER: Y N
FUND:	LEVEL:
MEMBER NO.:	ASTHMA: Y N
ALLERGIES:	

Please list any other relevant medical condition:

Medical Privacy Statement

The above information will only be used for the purpose of providing medical details to authorized staff, first aid officer, doctor or ambulance officer. The information will not be used or disclosed for any other purpose and will be held securely. The information will be provided to staff on a need to know basis only and the privacy of the individual will be respected.

Yes, I agree to my details being passed on in the case of an emergency.

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

(Appendix 8 – Referee Notification to be assessed)



NOTIFICATION TO PROGRESS A REFEREE LEVEL

Any Referee wanting to progress to a higher level needs to fill out the below form and submit to AO.

F: 9531 0533 Email: billh@oztag.com.au

REFEREE NOTIFICATION TO BE ASSESSED (Referee Details)			
ASSOCIATION:		VENUE:	
REFEREE NAME:			
CONTACT PHONE:			
EMAIL:			
MAILING ADDRESS:			
CURRENT LEVEL:		NEXT LEVEL:	
EXAM RETURNED:	Y / N	EXAM PASSED:	Y / N
ASSESSMENT DETAILS			
ASSESSMENTS MAY BE CARRIED OUT AT DOMESTIC COMPETITIONS (LEVEL 1) OR TOURNAMENTS (LEVEL 2-4). PLEASE LIST YOUR PREFERRED ASSESSMENT TIME/VENUE BELOW. AN ASSESSOR WILL CONTACT YOU TO CONFIRM ASSESSMENT DETAILS.			
DOMESTIC COMPETITION ASSESSMENT – LEVEL 1			
VENUE:			
NIGHT /S YOU REFEREE:			
COMPETITION TIME SLOTS:			
TOURNAMENT ASSESSMENT – LEVEL 2-4			
TOURNAMENT:			
DATE:			
OFFICE USE ONLY: INVITATION TO TOURNAMENT SENT	Y / N		
AVAILABILITY TO ATTEND:	Y / N FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY		
Please complete & return this form to AOSA. F: 9531 0533 E: billh@oztag.com.au			

By submitting this nomination form to AO, you are requesting to be assessed in order to progress to a higher referee level. You have completed and returned the required written exam to AO and subject to passing the exam an assessor will be in contact to confirm practical assessment details.