

Introduction of the USSF
Recreational Youth Referee Course

After many conversations between the SYRA and NYSWYSA it has been decided to introduce the new Recreational Youth Referee program in Western New York as follows:

2003 – In conjunction with the introduction announcement by NYSWYSA at their March 30th meeting, the SYRA will setup as many as two courses each in Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse as a pilot program. These 6 courses will net a maximum of 150 recreational referees. It has been suggested by other state associations that a small/slow roll out be initiated to see exactly how it will fit into our needs. There will be no plans for the RYRI, instructor course, this year.

2004 – After the feedback from the districts, clubs and referees it will be decided what is the best approach is best for this level of referee in WNY. Depending on those results there may be another pilot program, could be a full scale implementation or total support for the program can be dropped.

For those districts planning to offer the RYRC course, I will ask that NO local dues be taxed to the grade 9 referees.

The importance to the recreational youth program to the New York State West Youth Association is dynamic for the following reasons:

- More referees to cover recreational games.
- Improved referee coverage to affiliated recreation clubs.
- Improved coverage for all Select Tournaments.
- Referees will help the recreational kids better understand the game.
- Reduced cost to the first year referee/ association.

And for WNYSRA:

- More referees to cover the recreational games.
- A training grounds to help with the retention problem.
- Referee Bridge program for Grade 8.