



U.S. SOCCER ASSIGNMENT PRIORITY POLICY

Assignment Hierarchy

While each official is expected to keep the assignments he or she accepts, there are certain rare occasions where a referee should be released from a lower level assignment to officiate in a higher-level competition. The US Soccer policy on assignment priority can be found at (<https://www.usoccer.com/referees/resource-center/assignment>). If a change in this policy comes into conflict with this section, the US Soccer policy will take precedence

1. In accordance with US Soccer policy, officials are responsible to:
 - A. Keep the lines of communication open about upcoming international and national and International appointments as far in advance as possible.
 - B. Communicate the receipt of a higher priority appointment to their assignor as soon as possible.
 - C. Report an assignor that refuses to release the official from a higher priority assignment to their State Referee Administrator and U.S. Soccer.
 - D. Report an assignor that demands an official accept a higher priority assignment or face penalties, to their State Referee Administrator and U.S. Soccer.

2. In accordance with US Soccer policy, assignors are responsible to:
 - A. Identify the highly-experienced officials on your assignment roster who are likely to be assigned to a higher priority assignment and always be prepared to fill these slots on an emergency basis.
 - B. Cooperate with officials and other assignors on those **rare** occasions when the game priority policy is invoked.
 - C. Report any concerns regarding the priority policy to the State Referee Administrator.

Note: See Table below for notification flow.



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(Notification Flow)

OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY	Official	Assignor	SAC	SRA	USSF
Rule O.1 Open channel of communication (e.g. email, phone)	Yes				
Rule O.2 Assigned higher-level games /notifies assignor		Yes			
Rule O.3 Assignor refuses to release official			Yes	Yes	Yes
Rule O.4 Assignor demands an official to accept a higher-level game or face penalties			Yes	Yes	Yes

ASSIGNOR RESPONSIBILITY	Official	Assignor	SAC	SRA	USSF
Rule A.1 Identifies higher-level games officials		Yes			
Rule A.2 If there is an assignment conflict, work with official and other assignor		Yes			
Rule A.3 Assignment priority concern			Yes	Yes	Yes