



# OFFICIATING AT THE KANGA CUP

AN OVERVIEW

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## 1. INTRODUCTION TO KANGA CUP

The Kanga Cup is the largest International Youth Football Tournament in the Southern Hemisphere with teams competing from Australia and overseas. The Tournament involved 373 teams in 2017 and proudly champions the mission of uniting the Youth of the World through Football. The Kanga Cup is run by Capital Football, the governing body for football in Canberra. The tournament is sanctioned by the Football Federation Australia and the Asian Football Confederation.

The tournament is open to club and school teams. The Kanga Cup is for male and female teams Under 10 to Under 18. Three divisions (Cup, Plate and Shield) are available in each age group to cater for elite or representative to just participation.

The Tournament is run in Canberra each year usually in the first week of the July ACT school holidays.

## 2. REFEREEING AT THE KANGA CUP

Referees play a critical role in the facilitation and success of the Kanga Cup. The Kanga Cup is a celebration of youth football and provides an opportunity for referees as well as players to learn and develop in a fun and supportive environment.

For any referee, Kanga Cup is an unrivalled opportunity to develop, learn, make friends and enjoy the satisfaction of officiating at an international youth tournament. Respect for referees is paramount.

Kanga Cup referees come from Canberra, around Australia and overseas. We recently reached 200 active referees in the Kanga Cup and continue to increase the number of referees. This includes referees with varying range of experience, from Game Leaders in their first year through to those who have refereed for years.

## 3. WHO CAN APPLY TO REFEREE AT KANGA CUP?

As mentioned above, Capital Football (CF) encourages all levels of local and interstate/overseas referees to participate in Kanga Cup. Applicants must be currently registered with Capital Football, FFA or a FIFA approved Association in another jurisdiction to participate.

Referees are initially allocated to a panel to service games in the appropriate age group and level based on their experience. Adjustments to panel rankings and appointments are made based on referee coach assessments and their performance over the first three (3) days of round robin type competition. Finals appointments are then made based on overall performance.

Priority in appointments is given to junior referees to the age of 20. Adult referees are also encouraged to participate to assist the junior referees. Adult referees are principally used as “fillers” at the various



grounds around Canberra given the main purpose of Kanga Cup is to promote the development of younger referees. Coaching is also targeted at the younger referees.

Referee registrations generally open in October of the previous year. Active information and registration links can be found on Kanga Cup referee webpage.

#### **4. PAYMENTS FOR REFEREEING**

All referees except those involved in the Referee Academy at the AIS receive payment for the games in which they officiate. Current referee payment schedule can be found in the Referee Handbook.

#### **5. KANGA CUP APPOINTMENTS**

Kanga Cup games are played around Canberra at various venues. This can change on a day to day basis if the weather and ground conditions require adjustment to the games grid. Small sided games are restricted to two or three venues each year with one of these in the past being the main KC Hub, Southwell Park. Venue details are confirmed when the draw is released prior to the event.

It is best if game leaders and referees can make themselves available to referee at any ground around Canberra. However, if you do nominate a specific venue, (we understand that all referees and game leaders can't be available at every venue), Capital Football cannot guarantee that these referees and game leaders will be appointed to games each day.

When you are appointed to a venue, you will not be required to move to another venue that day.

However, you might be appointed to different venues through the week depending on where different age groups are playing to match your experience. As a principle, you will be appointed to games that match your experience and your age (i.e. it is not CF policy to appoint you to age groups above your age or experience but there are exceptions to this rule that are decided on a case by case basis).

Game leaders are allocated to a venue (there will be limited game leader venues) and the Referee Coordinator will then make specific appointments based on available games.

Referees on full field games (U12s upwards) will be appointed to specific games on a schedule that will be released each day (sometimes days earlier particularly for first two days). Venue Referee Coordinators, in consultations with the Appointments Officer are sometimes required to amend these appointments based on what happens at a venue on any particular day including filling absences through "no shows".

Capital Football's aim is to have referees do up to three games a day which can include a mix of centres and lines. Game Leaders will be able to do up to four games a day.

## 6. THE KANGA CUP REFEREE YOUTH ACADEMY – WHAT IS IT, WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy is an opportunity for approximately 50 local, interstate and international referees to receive intensive coaching and mentoring, with a focus on developing referees in a tournament environment in the age group of 15 to 18. The Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy has the support of the FFA with the official curriculum using resources from the FFA Level 3 and Level 4 course.

As a member of the Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy you will be involved in seminars with current and former FIFA Referees, learn during feedback sessions with referee coaches and make new friends in a supportive environment at the Kanga Cup. There is no better week in the year for a young referee who is serious about improving and going to the next level.

The Kanga Cup Academy is an ideal first step for an emerging talented official at all panel levels i.e. it is not just for elite referees in the Panel 1 category but rather for referees who are showing potential at all levels and ages.

Referees aged 15 - 18 years from across Australia and overseas are invited to apply for the Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy. Referees who hold Australian Level 2 to Level 4 referee qualifications OR their equivalents are eligible to apply and are encouraged to have a minimum of one year's refereeing experience. The relevant local Referee Association will be asked to formally agree to each referees' participation. Referees are appointed to a panel that suits their qualifications and referees of varying experience are encouraged to apply.

As a principle, referees can apply and attend the Academy on two separate occasions.

Selected referees are housed at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) throughout the week. Applications for the Academy are sought each year with local candidates usually being sourced through their local Clubs. If you are interested, please speak to your Club Referee Coordinator or the referee team at Capital Football. More information on the Academy is available at [Kanga Cup Academy](#).

## 7. REFEREE COACHING AT THE KANGA CUP

The referees are joined by a dedicated team of Referee Coaches and Coordinators who work closely with the referees under a structured program developed by the Kanga Cup Referee Technical Director in line with the FFA curriculum.

The ultimate aim is to ensure every referee and game leader receives at least one coaching sheet at Kanga Cup.

Coaching sheets are now done electronically and are automatically sent to the referees email address when completed.

## 8. KANGA CUP TRAINING AND COACHING REQUIREMENTS

All Kanga Cup referees and game leaders need to attend two events pre-tournament:

A practical coaching session focusing on base skills for referees, game leaders and Assistant Referees

A technical Seminar on the Saturday or Sunday before Kanga Cup where all details regarding how Kanga Cup runs are discussed and explained in details and questions can be asked.

On a personal level, referees and game leaders are required to ensure they are at a good level of fitness to help them manage a week of refereeing.

## 9. KANGA CUP REFEREE AWARDS

Each year, a number of Referee Awards are made at Kanga Cup. These are based on the referee coaches reports and observations and input from Capital Football. The Awards include; Senior Referee of the Tournament, Junior Referee, Senior Assistant Referee, Junior Assistant Referee and Game Leader.

Venue Referee Coordinators will be asked to provide nominations for these Awards.

## 10. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### CAN I REFEREE EVERY DAY?

The answer is yes, game leaders and referees are able to nominate days on which they are available or the full week. Capital Football would prefer everyone is available on multiple days or all week to ensure the coaching and game day experience builds on your experience.

### WHO WILL PAY ME?

Capital Football will pay your fees into your nominate bank account asap after the Tournament so long as your match records are complete and provided your bank account details

### HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT MY APPOINTMENTS?

Appointments are advertised widely (Facebook, TeamApp, email etc.) each day for the next day (the aim is to circulate the next day's appointments by 6:00pm the previous day). First day appointments are released immediately following the KC Referee Training Seminars on Sunday

#### WHAT DO I DO IF I GET INJURED?

It is important that you get immediate treatment at the venue if you are injured. You should speak to the Venue referee coordinator who will arrange treatment if necessary and also contact your parent/carer if necessary.

If you feel you can't referee the next day, you must advise the Appointments Officer immediately so alternative arrangements can be made and we don't leave a game without a referee.

#### HOW DO I MAKE MYSELF AVAILABLE FOR KC MATCHES?

Capital Football will ask you specific questions relating to your availability closer to Kanga Cup. This will include days and times when you are available as well as locations which best suit (versus whole of Canberra availability).

#### WHAT UNIFORM DO I WEAR?

All referees and Game Leaders will wear their normal refereeing uniforms. Advice will be issued closer to Kanga Cup if specific Kanga Cup refereeing merchandise is available.

#### WHAT DO I DO WHEN I ARRIVE AT THE NOMINATED GROUND?

It is very important that you arrive at your appointed location at least 30 minutes before your first game. When you arrive, you should report immediately to the referee coordinator so they know you are available and don't give your game to someone else.

#### IF I HAVE AN INCIDENT IN A GAME, WHAT DO I DO?

If you have any problems in a game, you should report them immediately to the referee coordinator who will assist in resolving any issues.