



2024 KCRYA Referee Coach Information Pack



CONTENTS

Contents.....	2
SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION	3
Background.....	3
Tournament Details	3
SECTION 2: WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE KCRYA?	4
SECTION 3: THE ACADEMY	5
Management and Structure	5
Accommodation	5
Meals	6
Program and Activities.....	6
Appointment Process (including Finals)	6
SECTION 4: PARTICIPATION AS A REFEREE	8
Referee Welfare, Expected Behaviour and Disciplinary Action	8
Referee Coach Responsibilities.....	8
Academy Referee Responsibilities	9
Photography and Social Media	9
Costs.....	9
SECTION 5: PREPARING FOR THE KCRYA.....	10
Fitness Requirements, Injuries and Sickness.....	10
What to Bring?	10
Matchday Apparel and Equipment.....	10
Technical Session Equipment	10
Other Apparel	10
Medical Conditions and First Aid	10
Travel Arrangements	11
SECTION 6: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	12
I attended the KCRYA previously, am I able to attend again?.....	12
I can't arrive until Saturday night, is this okay?.....	12

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

Background

The Referee Youth Academy is run in conjunction with the annual Kanga Cup, a week-long football tournament held in Canberra, usually in the first week of the ACT school holidays in July.

The Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy (**KCRYA**) is an opportunity for selected interstate, overseas and local referees to receive intensive coaching and mentoring, with a focus on developing referees in a tournament environment in the 15 to 18 age group.

The KCRYA has the support of the FFA with the official curriculum using resources from the FFA Level 3 and Level 4 course. Participants who are selected for the KCRYA will be involved in:

- ✓ A week-long in-house Academy experience with up to forty other referees from Canberra, interstate, overseas, and similarly based referee coaches.
- ✓ Refereeing and coaching throughout the week in panel groups, including finals, reflective of their qualifications, experience, age and tournament performance.
- ✓ Nightly seminars (first four nights). Coaches may be asked to run or assist with sessions
- ✓ Coaches will provide feedback to Referees and Assistant Referees via electronic coaching sheets. Individual sessions with referees may also be undertaken where appropriate.

There is no better week in the year for a young referee who is serious about improving and going to the next level.

Tournament Details

The Kanga Cup is the largest International Youth Football Tournament in the Southern Hemisphere with teams competing from Australia and overseas. The tournament attracts 300+ teams each year and proudly champions the mission of uniting the Youth of the World through Football.

The Kanga Cup is run by Capital Football (**CF**), the governing body for football in Canberra. The tournament is sanctioned by the Football Australia and the Asian Football Confederation.

The Tournament is open to club and school teams. The McDonald's Kanga Cup is for male and female teams Under 9 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. In 2024, the Kanga Cup will be played from 8 – 12 July. The Academy runs from Saturday (7 July) to Saturday (13 July) inclusive.

This year will be the 32nd edition of the Kanga Cup.

SECTION 2: WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE KCRYA?

Referee Coaches and Instructors aged 18 years or older from across Australia and overseas, who are not registered as a Match Official with Capital Football, can apply, or be nominated (by their Member Federation or Referee Association) for the KCRYA.

Capital Football registered Coaches may be invited to the KCRYA upon application or nomination. Coaches who are not invited to the KCRYA may still participate in the Tournament as Local Coaches.

Referee Coaches who hold a minimum of a Football Australia Level 3 Assessor qualification (or international equivalent), plus a minimum of 1 year's referee coaching experience are eligible to apply for the KCRYA.

The KCOC will continue to formalise new and ongoing relationships with specific local, interstate and International Associations who have traditionally supported the Kanga Cup and are committed to providing referee development opportunities for their match officials through their participation at the McDonald's Kanga Cup.

These Associations will have the opportunity to nominate a cohort of referees and referee coaches to attend the Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy.

These agreements are designed to encourage and build relationships that support the development of local, interstate and international referees looking to progress to the advanced level of officiating. Should a Member Federation or Referee Association choose to provide nominations to the KCOC, they may use an application process to determine the nominations provided to the KCOC.

The outcome of a Match Officials application or nomination will be determined by the KCOC. Coaches can, at CF's discretion attend numerous Kanga Cups and participate in the KCRYA.

SECTION 3: THE ACADEMY

Management and Structure

Match Officials are an integral part of the Kanga Cup. Local and KCRYA Referees are supported by a network of Referee Coaches from Australia and from overseas.

The KCRYA Referees are supported by local, interstate and overseas Referee Coaches who are accepted to participate in the KCRYA program based on their commitment to assisting with the professional and personal development of youth referees.

They live-in at the accommodation, attend matches, and participate in technical sessions. All coaching is undertaken in line with Football Australia guidelines.

All KCRYA participants are joined by the following key staff members, which includes:

- Kanga Cup Head of Referees (**HR**);
- Kanga Cup Referee Manager (**RM**); and
- Kanga Cup Referee Appointments Officer (**RAO**); and
- Any other staff.

The KCRYA is led by the Head of Referees. The Head of Referees is responsible for the performance and development of all Referees during the tournament, including developing and delivering the KCRYA development program which will contribute to the overall development of Referees and Referee Coaches experience for future tournaments.

The Referees Manager is primarily responsible for the managing all operational aspects for all Match Officials participating in the Tournament.

The Referee Appointments Officer is primarily responsible for the appointment of Match Officials to group stage and Finals matches,

Mentor groups are established within the KCRYA and led by the referee coaches. These groups exist for the full week and act as a sounding board for referees and groupings for technical sessions.

Accommodation

KCRYA Referee Coaches will be accommodated in twin share rooms within a dormitory-style building. Referees will be required to share toilet and shower facilities.

All linen, pillows and doonas (duvets) are provided therefore sleeping bags and pillows are not required. The accommodation is secure with each individual room individually keyed and high-resolution recordable CCTV security cameras located throughout the property. Clothes washing facilities are available for referees and coaches to use.

PLEASE NOTE:

The fire alarm system is very sensitive and doesn't like aerosol cans which costs \$AUD1,500 for a false alarm. On this basis they are NOT ALLOWED – bring roll-on deodorant only please.

Meals

Academy based coaches should set the example to referees and be disciplined about their diet and hydration during the week. The Accommodation provides a good environment to achieve this goal.

Breakfast and dinner will be provided at the accommodation throughout the week. Lunches will also be packed by the Accommodation and provided to all KCRYA match officials and Coaches on matchdays. Access to the nutritious food served at the accommodation plays an important part in refuelling athletes' bodies to enable them to be able to train and perform at the highest level.

The Accommodation is committed to providing a supportive food environment that caters to a range of dietary needs, featuring a buffet service to allow maximum choice for KCRYA referees, with both hot and cold items catering for all tastes in a timely, efficient manner. A varied and rotating menu ensures meal times are enjoyable and there is something on the menu to meet every guest's expectation.

Special dietary requirements are also catered on an as requested basis at time of booking. Coaches who are accepted into the Academy will be asked to complete a dietary form which will highlight any issues individual referees may have so they can be accommodated by the Accommodation.

Program and Activities

KCRYA referees and coaches participate in U12-U18 matches, technical seminars, and practical training sessions. Participants are encouraged to fully engage with feedback sessions to maximize their learning and development.

For example only, an abridged version of the 2024 KCRYA program is as follows:

Saturday:	Arrive at accommodation by 1:00pm, welcome, tech seminars, ice breaker
Sunday:	KC Briefing Seminar, training, KC Opening, tech seminars (all day)
Monday:	Round robin games, tech seminar (all day)
Tuesday:	Round robin games, tech seminar (all day)
Wednesday:	Round robin games, tech seminar (all day)
Thursday:	Semi-finals, casual night (all day)
Friday:	Finals, presentation evening (all day)
Saturday:	Depart accommodation (by 10:00am)

Appointment Process (including Finals)

Over 200 referees from across Australia and overseas participate in the McDonald's Kanga Cup, with approximately 40 involved in the KCRYA. All Appointments (coaches and referees) including finals are the responsibility of, and made at the discretion of, the KCOC and its staff. No further correspondence will be undertaken on these decisions.

Referees aged fifteen to eighteen* years of age from across Australia and overseas are invited to apply for the KCRYA if they meet certain eligibility criteria. Referees who hold a minimum of FFA Level Four and a maximum of FFA Level Three referee qualifications or their equivalent (e.g. New

Zealand) are eligible to apply with exceptions to be considered by the KCOC on a case by case basis. Additionally, a minimum of one full year or season experience as a referee is required. The applicant's Member Federation or Referee Association will be asked to formally agree to the applying referee's participation and to endorse the experience the applicant has indicated as being accurate.

Coaches should hold a current minimum Level 3 Assessor 3 qualification (or its equivalent).

KCRYA referees and coaches will exclusively manage the junior competitions (U12s to U18s), not Small Sided Games (U11s and younger).

There are three levels in the competition namely the Cup, Plate and Shield levels.

All referees and coaches are initially appointed to the appropriate age group and level based on their experience and age. Based on their performance and assessments, adjustments can be made to the level at which they participate. This applies equally to KCRYA and non KCRYA referees and coaches.

Finals appointments are made based on overall performance and off-field behaviour and attitude. It is the KCOC's intention that all KCRYA referee participants will receive a finals appointment, however this is not guaranteed. This may be as a Referee, Assistant Referee or 4th Official. Coaches will assist with management on finals day and provide informal feedback if appropriate.

- **Note:** *Non-KCRYA local referees up to twenty years of age are equally considered for finals appointments.*

SECTION 4: PARTICIPATION AS A REFEREE COACH

Referee Welfare, Expected Behaviour and Disciplinary Action

Referee and coach welfare is a key issue in football, and is particularly important in the tournament sense; where referees are away from their normal environment and the heat of competition is squashed into a few days.

Players, coaches and spectators sometimes ignore the Respect slogan, and forget that the referees themselves are still learning and need to be supported, not abused. KCRYA Coaches and Referees need to remember they are our ambassadors both on and off the field.

During the Tournament, all KCRYA Referee Coaches staying at the accommodation are required to abide by the following rules in conjunction with Football Australia's Code of Conduct.

Referee Coaches must always follow the directions and instructions of staff at the accommodation, which includes:

- Referees lights out in sleeping areas is by 10:00pm; coaches should be aware that early starts are involved each day and should aim to achieve as much rest as possible and be sensitive to the needs of anyone they are sharing with
- No alcohol, non-prescribed drugs or offensive material is permitted at any time
- No smoking at any time
- Referees must stay under supervision at all times
- Referee Coaches must be mindful of others who share the accommodation. Others may wish to sleep or rest without loud interruptions
- Participants exhibiting poor or unacceptable behaviour will be dealt with appropriately. This includes removal from appointments including finals or being subject to immediate dismissal from the Tournament and being sent home (at the coach's cost) as well as being reported to your Member Federation / Referees Association.

Referee Coaches supervise the referees and live in-house at the Accommodation for the duration of the tournament. Coaches will only share rooms with coaches of the same gender. Referees and Referee Coaches do not share rooms. Coaches are not permitted to leave the Accommodation without permission of the Referees Manager or Head of Delegation.

Referee Coach Responsibilities

By agreeing to participate as a KCRYA Match Official, you are required to:

- Coach to the best of your ability at all times with respect to the Laws of the Game;
- Be punctual, prepared and well presented for all match appointments;
- Ensure the safety and wellbeing of referees;
- Treat others the way you wish to be treated;
- Show respect to all competitors, coaches, referees, volunteers and spectators;
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship and fair play at all times;
- Support, help and assist fellow referees and match officials;
- Always display exemplary behaviour and language;
- Be a leader and role model for referees;
- Cooperate with management, ground and referee coordinators and other referee coaches;

- Enjoy the experience and allow others to also do so.

Academy Referee Responsibilities

Match Officials are prohibited from consuming any alcohol and non-prescribed drugs.

Medicinal drugs are permitted if provided if prescribed by a medical professional. All participants must abide by FFA's [National Anti-Doping Policy](#).

Photography and Social Media

The KCRYA will adopt the FFA's policy on Taking Images of Children as per the [National Member Protection Policy](#).

Match Officials must abide by the Capital Football's [Social Media, Blogging and Internet Policy](#).

Costs

Coaches are responsible for their own travel costs to and from Canberra, as well as their incidental costs* during the week. Costs met by the KCOC include:

- Agreed transfers from arrival point in Canberra to the accommodation
- 7 night's accommodation
- Breakfast and dinner at the accommodation
- Healthy packed lunch each day
- Daily return transfers to venues and social activities
- Recovery sessions held at the accommodation each night (pool etc.)
- Daily physiotherapy services as appropriate (both a.m. and p.m.)
- No other costs incurred by applicants will be met by the KCOC except at the sole discretion of the Kanga Cup Head of Referees, or their designated agent.

Please note: in lieu of above, no referee match fees are paid to Academy match officials.

No other costs incurred by Referees will be met by the KCOC unless authorised by the Tournament Director.

** Incidental costs can include own purchases from canteens at venues, snacks from Supermarket, Friday night social activities (partially subsidised).*

SECTION 5: PREPARING FOR THE KCRYA

Fitness Requirements, Injuries and Sickness

Places in the KCRYA program are limited and it is important that you are fit and healthy to participate and undertake your coaching duties throughout the week. Unfortunately, accidents do happen and sickness does strike in the period leading up to the Academy.

In the interests of equity and fairness, it is important that coaches, like referees who are carrying injuries or are ill, withdraw from the KCRYA by notifying the [Referees Manager](#) as soon as possible. If you are injured or in doubt, you should not attend Tournament and we may be able to offer your spot to another coach who is fit.

The Accommodation allows the Academy to use their facilities on the basis that attendees are fit and healthy. Anyone not meeting these requirements will be subject to review and if necessary, arrangements made for them to go home (at the coach's cost).

What to Bring?

Apart from the standard *weather warning* regarding Canberra in July, the following advice might be useful in preparation for attending the Tournament.

Matchday Apparel and Equipment

You will need to bring the following items:

- Full coaching kit (suggested shirt x2, trousers x2, socks x2)
 - It is recommended to bring a minimum of 2x sets of kit given the strong chance of rain at the Tournament.
- Referee spray/rain jacket
- A minimum of x2 pairs of shoes should the venues become wet and muddy.
- Full coach equipment (watches, notebook, etc).

Technical Session Equipment

- Your own copy of the 2024 Laws of the Game Book.
- Notepad and pen.

Other Apparel

- Training apparel for 2x outdoor training sessions on Saturday and Sunday.
- Sleep wear
- Toiletries
- Casual clothing to wear at the accommodation.
- Smart casual clothing for the presentation function (Friday evening).

Medical Conditions and First Aid

Coaches, like referees will need to report personal injuries to the Venue Referee Coordinator (VRC) first at the venue before receiving attention at the venue from the Sports Medicine Australia trainer. This will need to be done urgently if it serious and/or impacts any appointments. Referee coaches will note injuries and assist as required.

The VRC will notify the RAO of any injury should an injury occur at the venue. Coaches will need to report injuries which will impact future coaching appointments to the RAO at the accommodation as soon as possible.

Basic first aid services will be provided within the Academy by appropriately qualified staff.

Note: Injury assessment and stretching exercises will only be available in the PM session.

If Emergency care is required, it will be provided in line with the agreement signed upon accepting an offer to participate in the Academy.

Travel Arrangements

All Coaches are responsible for their travel arrangements and costs in travelling to and from Canberra. Match officials are encouraged to book their airline, bus or train travel to Canberra through Performance Travel.

Contact Jack and his team at Performance Travel for an [obligation-free quote](#) now and save time and money.

Coaches can check into the accommodation from 12:00pm on Saturday 1 July 2023 and should check in no later than 1:15pm, with the program scheduled to start at 2:00pm on Saturday 1 July 2023.

Earlier arrivals will be organised on an individual basis based on the travel information you provide to CF.

SECTION 6: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I attended the KCRYA previously, am I able to attend again?

The KCOC allows selected coaches to attend KCRYA on numerous occasions.

I can't arrive until Saturday night, is this okay?

All KCRYA coaches should arrive by lunchtime Saturday and preference is given to those who can meet this requirement. Any exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Head of Referees or their delegate.