



# KANGA CUP

2025 REFEREE OVERVIEW



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# KANGA CUP

## INTRODUCTION

Kanga Cup is the largest International Youth Football Tournament in the Southern Hemisphere with teams competing from Australia and overseas. The tournament involved 355 teams in 2019 and proudly champions the mission of uniting the Youth of the World through Football.

Kanga Cup is run by Capital Football, 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. Kanga Cup is for male and female teams U9-U16. Three divisions (Cup, Plate and Shield) are available in most age groups to cater for elite or representative to just participation.

The Tournament is run in Canberra each year in the July ACT school holidays. In 2025, Kanga Cup will be played from 14- 18 July, in the second week of the school holidays.





## REFEREEING AT KANGA CUP

Match Officials play a critical role in the facilitation and success of Kanga Cup. The tournament 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 or Game Leader, 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 Match Officials come from Canberra, around Australia and overseas. This includes referees with varying range of experience, from Game Leaders in their first year through to those who have refereed for several years.

The Kanga Cup Organising Committee (KCOC) aim to have 200 Match Officials for the 2025 edition of the Kanga Cup.

## KANGA CUP REFEREE YOUTH ACADEMY

The Kanga Cup Referee Youth Academy (KCRYA) is a pathway program for approximately 40 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 16-20.

The KCRYA has the support of Football Australia (FA) with the official curriculum using resources from the Junior and Senior Football Match Official courses.

As a member of the KCRYA, referees 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. There is no better week in the year for a young referee who is serious about improving and going to the next level.







# WHO CAN APPLY TO REFEREE AT KANGA CUP?

The KCOC encourages all levels of local and interstate/overseas referees to participate in Kanga Cup. Applicants must be currently registered with Capital Football, FA or a FIFA approved Association in another jurisdiction to participate. There are 2 classifications of Referees at Kanga Cup:

- Local Referees; and
- KCRYA Referees

## LOCAL REFEREES

A Local Referee includes:

- A Capital Football Registered Game Leader;
- A Capital Football Registered Referee;
- A Referee or Game Leader registered with a Member Federation or Referee Association who has not been selected to participate in the KCRYA.

Referees and Game Leaders can register for Kanga Cup as a Local Referee by completing the [Local Referee Registration Form](#).

If you intend to both referee and play during the Tournament, we ask that you do not complete the registration form until your team has been advised which competition they will be playing in.

This information is required when you complete the registration form.





## KCRYA REFEREES

Referees aged 16-20 years from across Australia and overseas, who are not registered as a Referee with Capital Football, can apply, or be nominated (by their Member Federation or Referee Association) for the KCRYA.

Participants in Capital Football's Referee Academy will be selected to participate in the KCRYA as part of the Academy Program.

Referees who hold a Football Australia Junior Football Match Official (Level 4) to Emerging Referee (Level 2) qualifications (or international equivalent), plus a minimum of 1 years refereeing experience are eligible to apply for the KCRYA.

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 Referees application or nomination will be determined by the KCOC. As a principle, Referees can apply and attend the Academy on two separate occasions.





# TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

## PRE-TOURNAMENT TRAINING SESSIONS

Referees and Game Leaders who register to officiate at the 2025 Kanga Cup as a Local Referee are required to attend 1x training session in preparation for the Tournament.

The 2-hour practical session will focus on specific Referee, Assistant Referee & MiniRoos drills which aim to prepare all Local Referees for the Tournament.

Please register for the Training Session you wish to attend by filling in the [Registration Form](#).

All sessions will be held at Hawker Football Centre (Walhallow St, Hawker).

- **Session 1:** 10am – 12pm, Saturday 21 June
- **Session 2:** 12.30pm – 2.30pm, Saturday 21 June
- **Session 3:** 10am – 12pm, Sunday 22 June
- **Session 4:** 12.30pm – 2.30pm, Sunday 22 June

**Note: Only register for ONE training session, not all FOUR.**





## MATCH OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS

The Referee Appointments Officer (RAO) has the difficult job of appointing approximately 200 Match Officials to 900+ fixtures across 7-8 venues during the week.

The aim is to have Match Officials officiate three matches each day, with a maximum of four matches where required. These appointments can include a mix of roles as a Referee or Assistant Referee. Game Leaders will be able to do up to four games a day.

Junior Match Officials (aged 13-20) will have priority for match appointments over Adult Match Officials, as the main purpose of the Tournament is to promote the development of younger referees.

## MATCH OFFICIAL PANELS

Using the data provided by Match Officials, the KCOC allocates Match Officials to a panel which allows the RAO to appoint Match Officials matches 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 performance over the first three days of round robin type competition. Finals appointments are then made based on overall performance.

## REFEREE COMMITMENT

Local Match Officials will be required to complete a Commitment Form prior to the Tournament. The Commitment Form asks you for a time and location commitment for each day of the Tournament which assists the RAO in appointing Match Officials to matches during the Tournament.

It is preferable if Match Officials make themselves available to referee at any Tournament venue. However, if you do nominate a specific venue, (we understand that all Match Officials can't be available at every venue), the KCOC cannot guarantee that Match Officials will be appointed to games each day.







## MATCH PAYMENTS

Match Officials who are classified as “Local Match Officials” will receive payment for the matches they officiate. The referee payment schedule for 2025 will be published in the Referee Handbook prior to the beginning of the Tournament.

## MATCH OFFICIAL AWARDS

Each year, there are Match Official Awards presented at the conclusion of the Tournament.

These are based on the reports and observations from Referee Coaches and Referee Coordinators during the week.

The Awards include:

- Senior Referee of the Tournament;
- Junior Referee of the Tournament;
- Senior Assistant Referee of the Tournament;
- Junior Assistant Referee of the Tournament; and
- Game Leader of the Tournament.

## COACHING OF MATCH OFFICIALS

Match Officials are joined by a dedicated team of Referee Coaches and Venue Referee Coordinators who work closely with the referees under a structured program developed by the Kanga Cup Head of Referees in line with the FA curriculum.

The aim is to ensure every Referee and Game leader receives at least one coaching sheet through the duration of the tournament. Coaching sheets are done electronically and are automatically sent to your email address when completed.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## CAN I REFEREE EVERY DAY?

The answer is yes, Match Officials can nominate specific days on which they are available or for the full week. The KCOC 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?

The KCOC will pay your fees into your nominated bank account within 4 weeks after the tournament's completion, so long as your match records are complete and payment details are provided through Dribl.

## HOW DO I FIND OUT ABOUT MY APPOINTMENTS?

Appointments are advertised widely via Spond as our communication platform, and via Dribl where possible. The appointments for the first day are released as soon as possible following the Pre-Tournament Meeting for Match Officials on Sunday 13th July.

## 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 (VRO) who will arrange treatment and contact your parent/carer if necessary.

If you feel you cannot 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 MATCHES?

The KCOC will ask you specific questions relating to your availability closer to the Tournament. This will include days and times when you are available as well as locations which best suit you (versus whole of Canberra availability).

## WHAT UNIFORM DO I WEAR?

All registered Capital Football Match Officials will wear the official CF uniform (Legea) on matches during the tournament. The primary referee jersey colour is fluoro yellow. Interstate and International Match Officials are to wear their uniform of their registered Member Federation, Association, or Branch.

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

It is especially 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 Venue 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 either the Venue Referee Coordinator or Referee Coach(es) at your venue who will assist in reporting and resolving any issues.