

## HANDBALL REFEREE CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

### NEW REFEREES:

Persons interested in becoming a certified USATH referee, should fill out the application at the end of this document, save the document in 'word' format with your last name as the document name. Email it as a word document to the email indicated on the application. Interested persons will be emailed as clinics are scheduled and they can choose to attend at their own expense.

Prior to attending the clinic, candidates may receive a mailing consisting of the rulebook and a CD-rom. Candidates may need to contact the USATH Office directly to purchase a rulebook. The CD contains information such as IHF Rules clarifications, IHF instructions to referees, catalog of questions on the rules, and general information regarding officiating that has been posted on the IHF website since the previous clinic. Candidates will also have the opportunity to pre-order an IHF referee book to be purchased from the USATH office.

During the clinic, candidates attend at least a 3-hour classroom session, explaining rules, interpretations, and court mechanics. There are also videos and PowerPoint presentations.

Candidates will also spend about an hour on the court (without teams) physically learning mechanics, hand signals, and whistle usage.

There is also a rules exam that is taken closed book. These questions are taken from the questions on the IHF website at:

<http://www.ihf.info/TechnicalCorner/Referees/RulesandExpertsCorner/RulesQuestions/tabid/1283/Default.aspx>

Candidates officiate several 'mini-games' over the weekend and are evaluated on each game. In-game and formal evaluation forms are attached. Candidates are given individual reviews after each game, then the evening of the first day, a general review is held. Each candidate is given a copy of his or her formal evaluation form (it is printed on 3 part-NCR)

**NOTE: Referees from other countries need to scan an image of their previous country's license so that we may contact that country's referee committee to validate the license. Once validated, the NRC will certify the referee to work games for USATH.**

## USATH REFEREE CLASSIFICATION/QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

LEVEL	MINIMUM CLINIC REQUIREMENTS	*WRITTEN TEST	*FLOOR EVALUATION	*GAME LEVEL EXPERIENCE
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>	IHF (selected by USATH)	As per IHF	As per IHF	Nominated from GRTP
<b>GRTP/PATH</b>	PATH (nominated by USATH)	As per PATH	As per PATH	2 Years - National "A" GRTP-Must be 32 or younger
<b>NATIONAL "A"</b>	NATIONAL	30 QUESTIONS 85% PASSING	PRC COMMITTEE (Non-Scoring) Re-evaluation each year	3 Years Minimum National B - Regional
<b>NATIONAL "B"</b>	REGIONAL	30 QUESTIONS 80% PASSING	PRC COMMITTEE (Non-Scoring) Re-evaluation each year	2 Years - Regional Tournaments 1 Year - National Tournament
<b>REGIONAL</b>	REGIONAL	30 QUESTIONS 80% PASSING	FORMAL EVALUATION (Avg. 2 Games) Minimum Score-70 /year Physical Fitness Exam	LOCAL OR REGIONAL TOURNAMENT EXPERIENCE
<b>LOCAL</b>	LOCAL	20 QUESTIONS 70% PASSING	FORMAL EVALUATION (Avg. 2 Games) Minimum Score-58 Physical Fitness Exam	NONE

\*Referees are required to participate in a yearly review session either in person at a clinic, or via video-conference set up by the NRC

\*Requirements may be reduced or waived on a case by case basis

## **USATHF REFEREE CLASSIFICATIONS**

**INTERNATIONAL:** The International Handball Federation upon successful completion of an official IHF Clinic awards this level. Such clinics will be held in the Americas no more often than every 3-4 years. Typically, no more than two pairs at a time would be allowed from each country, and the IHF strongly discourages countries from trying to have more referees certified than is absolutely necessary for the international events in the continental federation.

**GRTP (Global Referee Training Program)/PATH:** Awarded by PATHF after successful participation in clinic for GRTP, organized by PATHF with the approval of the IHF. Nominations for this level are made by USATH as 'GRTP Candidates' Persons in this category are eligible to attend IHF Clinics and may be assigned to International matches within the PATH. PATH will recommend candidates to participate in IHF GRTP Program (see [www.ihf.info](http://www.ihf.info) for further explanation)

**NATIONAL "A":** This is the highest category in the USATH. The decision to assign a person to this level is entirely at the discretion of the USATH Rules & Referee Committee. Minimum qualifications include 3 years Handball officiating experience with at least 1 year at the National "B" level. Only persons in this category will be considered for nominations to IHF Clinics and have their names submitted to the PATHF for "Continental" Certification.

**NATIONAL "B":** This category is for those referees who have performed at the Nationals at least one year as full-time officials, and have regularly participated in Regional Tournaments. They have demonstrated in these games that they are capable of performing at a standard to be considered for participation in the National Championship on a regular basis. There is no formal "floor" evaluation for these officials, but their movement from Regional A to National is entirely the prerogative of the R/R Committee clinicians on the basis of their observations.

**REGIONAL:** This category is for referees who have not yet qualified for the Nationals (on a regular basis), but have been recognized as having a capacity that goes beyond that normally demonstrated by new referees. Referees may be placed immediately in this category upon completion of a USATH Regional Clinic (including a written test), provided they have demonstrated strong talent at the clinic.

**LOCAL:** This is the category for officials who are just beginning in Handball, having had no previous formal experience with either Handball or officiating. Persons attending a local clinic will be instructed in the basics of the rules and officiating mechanics. They are then eligible to officiate local teams within a geographic area.

# REGISTRATION & UNIFORM POLICY

## (Revised 5/28/12)

1. All referees must register yearly as a USATH member and with the Referee Committee. This will ensure yours and the Federation's protection when you officiate at sanctioned games or tournaments. It is advisable that you carry your own liability and medical insurance for officiating also. The best way to obtain this is either through your own personal policy or through a membership in NASO (National Association of Sports Officials).

2. **NEW-** All officials shall have 2 colors of shirts: **Plain Black and Blue with Black stripes**. This will allow all new officials to obtain new uniforms without spending a large amount of money. It will also ensure that when officials work with someone other than their regular partner, they will have the same color shirt.

Black referee shirts may be obtained through Official Sports International.

Go to [www.officialsports.com](http://www.officialsports.com) and look for the black short sleeve shirts with chest pockets-any style may be purchased.

The blue shirt can be obtained from [www.sportsunlimitednc.com](http://www.sportsunlimitednc.com) Shirt – NO mesh. Must have front pockets.

Black Shorts- Soccer Referee style. NO coaches, rugby, or gym shorts.

**NEW---**Black Socks-Short black socks are mandatory. Black crew or ankle socks are acceptable. Do not wear "hidden" socks. White crew/ankle socks will be acceptable at regional tournaments.

Black Shoes- Either Basketball referee shoes or black 'Adidas type' black sneaker.

3. Alternate Color Shirts-

Alternate shirts of any color or style may be utilized, provided both referees use the same one in a game.

**USATH REFEREE CANDIDATE APPLICATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE : \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

NEAREST AIRPORT: \_\_\_\_\_

ALTERNATE AIRPORT: \_\_\_\_\_

HANDBALL OFFICIATING EXPERIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICIATING EXPERIENCE (OTHER): \_\_\_\_\_

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SAVE AS A WORD DOCUMENT AND EMAIL TO:  
**Ben Dahaman at Ben\_dahaman@yahoo.com**