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**Maryland State Youth Soccer Association**

Member of the United States Soccer Federation

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February 1, 2023

**MSYSA Sanctioned League and Tournament Leadership:**

In an effort to provide clarity, after exhausting all reasonable efforts, in a situation where there are simply not enough USSF certified referees available on a given day or weekend to cover the existing game slots with a standard three-person referee crew, MSYSA sanctioned tournaments and leagues may utilize a system of two assigned certified referees plus one club linesperson (when available). If no club linesperson is available, then the two assigned referees will assume the roles of center referee and assistant referee 1 (AR1, team bench side). In this case, the center referee will work hard to cover the end of the field with no AR.

The Maryland State Referee Committee will be sending educational materials to all certified referees to reiterate the dynamics of how to proceed if there are only two assigned referees. All USSF certified referees working MSYSA sanctioned games in this capacity will continue to be covered by the USSF general liability insurance.

While not ideal, it is believed that a two-person crew can more effectively keep participants safe and can more accurately make calls during the run of play than a single referee.

Sincerely,

Greg Smith, Ph.D.  
Executive Director  
MSYSA

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Tournament Director Signature

CC: MSYSA President, Mark Cantor  
MSYSA SYRA, Gabriel Ado  
Maryland SRA, Jimmy Graham

