

U . S . S O C C E R F E D E R A T I O N



# **U.S. Soccer Referee Program 2023 License Pathway**



**IT BEGINS WITH A REFEREE**

**REFEREE**

# REFEREE PATHWAY



GRASSROOTS

REFEREE



# GRASSROOTS LICENSE CERTIFICATION



GRASSROOT CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
AGE	13 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER
ENROLLMENT	REGISTRATION
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	NA
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	NA
TRAINING	ONLINE and INPERSON FIELD SESSION
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS BACKGROUND CHECK (18 yrs. and older)
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATES	ONLINE - GRASSROOTS QUIZ
FITNESS TEST	NONE REQUIRED DETERMINED BY COMPETITION
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	NA



# GRASSROOTS LICENSE RE-CERTIFICATION



GRASSROOT RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	REGISTRATION
TRAINING	ONLINE <b>NO IN-PERSON SESSION NEEDED</b>
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS BACKGROUND CHECK (18 yrs. and older)
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATES	ONLINE - GRASSROOTS QUIZ
FITNESS TEST	NONE REQUIRED DETERMINED BY COMPETITION IF APPLICABLE
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	NA



# REFEREE PATHWAY

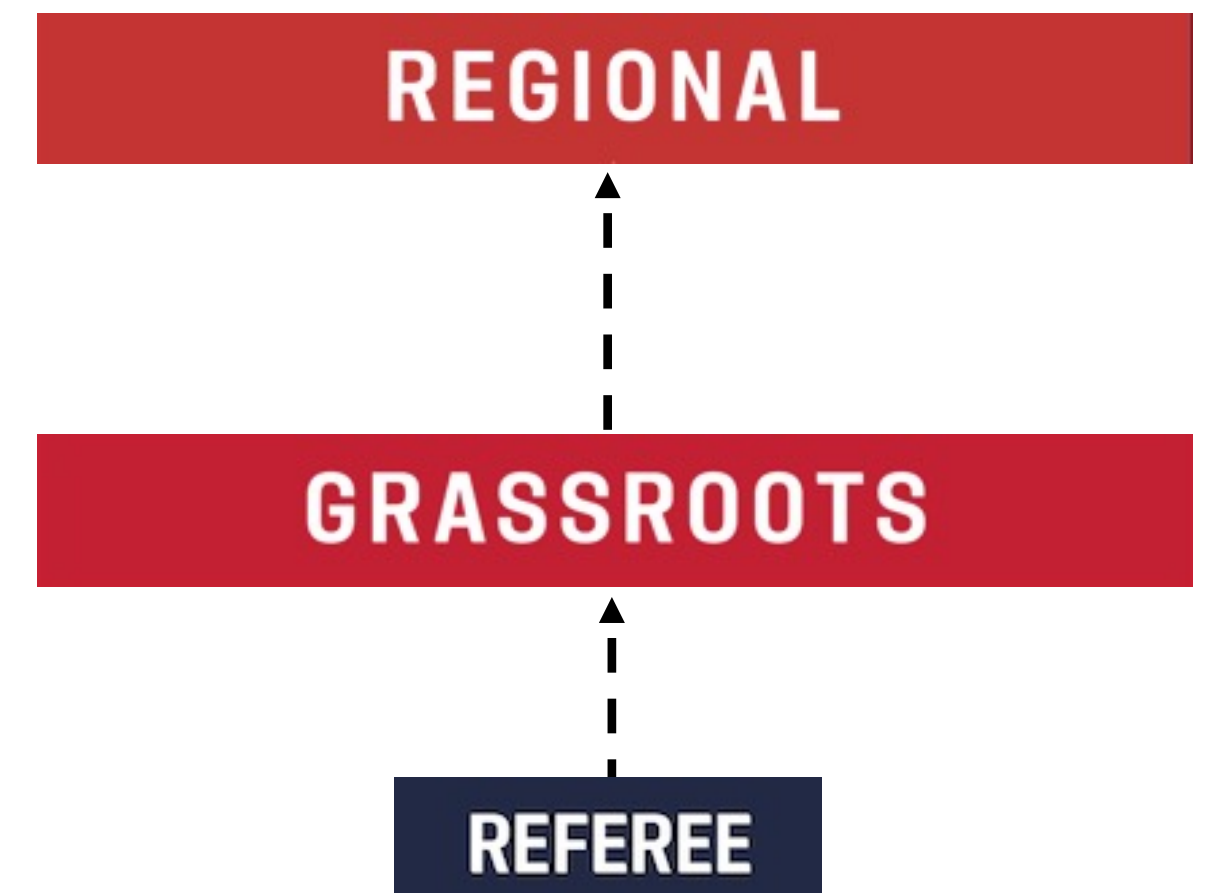


# REGIONAL REFEREE LICENSE CERTIFICATION



## REGIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

AGE	18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER
ENROLLMENT	REGISTRATION
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	25 GAMES AS A REFEREE AND 15 AS AN ASSISTANT REFEREE AT THE ADULT AMATEUR LEVEL
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	MUST HAVE HELD A GRASSROOTS LICENSE DURING THE PREVIOUS 3 REGISTRATION YEARS
TRAINING	REGIONAL REFEREE COURSE and INPERSON FIELD SESSION
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATE and TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	SPRINT / INTERVAL TESTS (FIFA WOMEN'S REFEREE TEST) Male - Category 1 Female - Category 3
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	MINIMUM OF THREE (3) PASSING EVALUATIONS AS A REFEREE. TWO (2) AT THE ADULT AMATEUR LEVEL, ONE (1) AT THE HIGHEST YOUTH LEVEL (U18 or U19) (2 X 45 - minute half) EVALUATIONS MUST BE DONE BY THREE (3) DIFFERENT REFEREE COACHES FOR ALL THREE GAMES



# REGIONAL REFEREE LICENSE RE-CERTIFICATION



REGIONAL RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	REGISTRATION MUST HAVE HELD A REGIONAL LICENSE IN THE PREVIOUS REGISTRATION YEAR
TRAINING	ONLINE AND IN PERSON FIELD SESSION
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATE and TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL LAWS OF THE GAME TEST
FITNESS	SPRINT / INTERVAL TESTS (FIFA WOMEN'S REFEREE TEST) Male - Category 1 Female - Category 3
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	TWO (2) PASSING REFEREE EVALUATIONS. ONE AT THE ADULT AMATEUR LEVEL ONE AT THE HIGHEST YOUTH LEVEL (U18 or U19) (2 X 45-minute half) EVALUATIONS MUST BE DONE BY TWO DIFFERENT REFEREE COACHES





# REGIONAL REFEREE LICENSE CERTIFICATION/RECERTIFICATION GAME EVALUATIONS



- For Regional Referee **certification**, candidates may use three (3) adult games to satisfy the practical evaluation requirement for certification
- For Regional Referee **recertification**, candidates may use two (2) adult games to satisfy the practical evaluation requirement for certification
- State Referee Committees **cannot mandate** that candidates use all adult games to satisfy the practical evaluation requirement

# REGIONAL REFEREE LICENSE CERTIFICATION/RECERTIFICATION

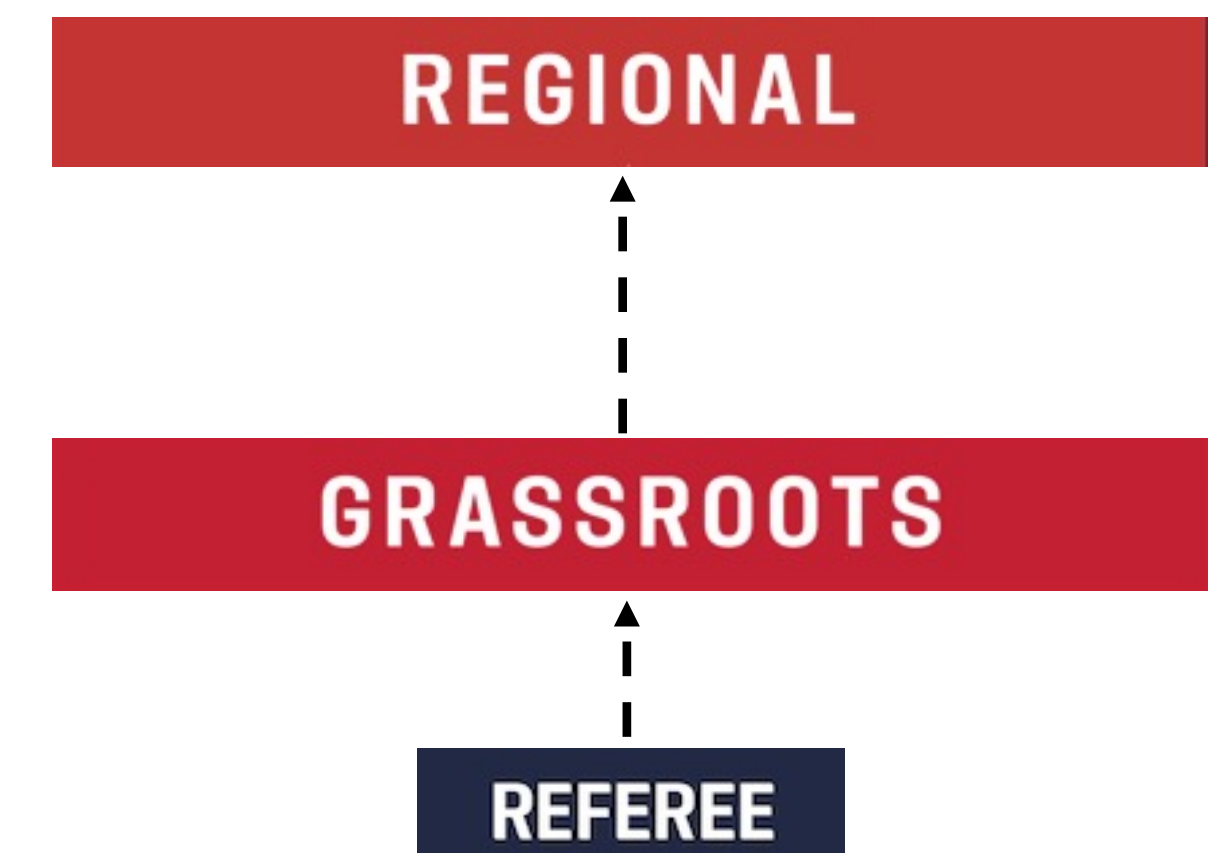


- For the 2022-2023 Registration Year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)
  - Regional Referee fitness tests are required for all certifying and recertifying Regional Referee candidates

# REGIONAL and NATIONAL REFEREE EMERITUS



REGIONAL AND NATIONAL REFEREE EMERITUS CERTIFICATION and RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT - MINIMUM AGE 45	REGISTRATION
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	3 YEARS REGISTERED AS A REGIONAL OR NATIONAL OFFICIAL
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS BACKGROUND CHECK
TRAINING and Testing	ONLINE - NATIONAL LAWS OF THE GAME TEST
FITNESS TEST	NOT REQUIRED
PRACTICAL APPLICATION	NOT REQUIRED



# REFEREE EMERITUS



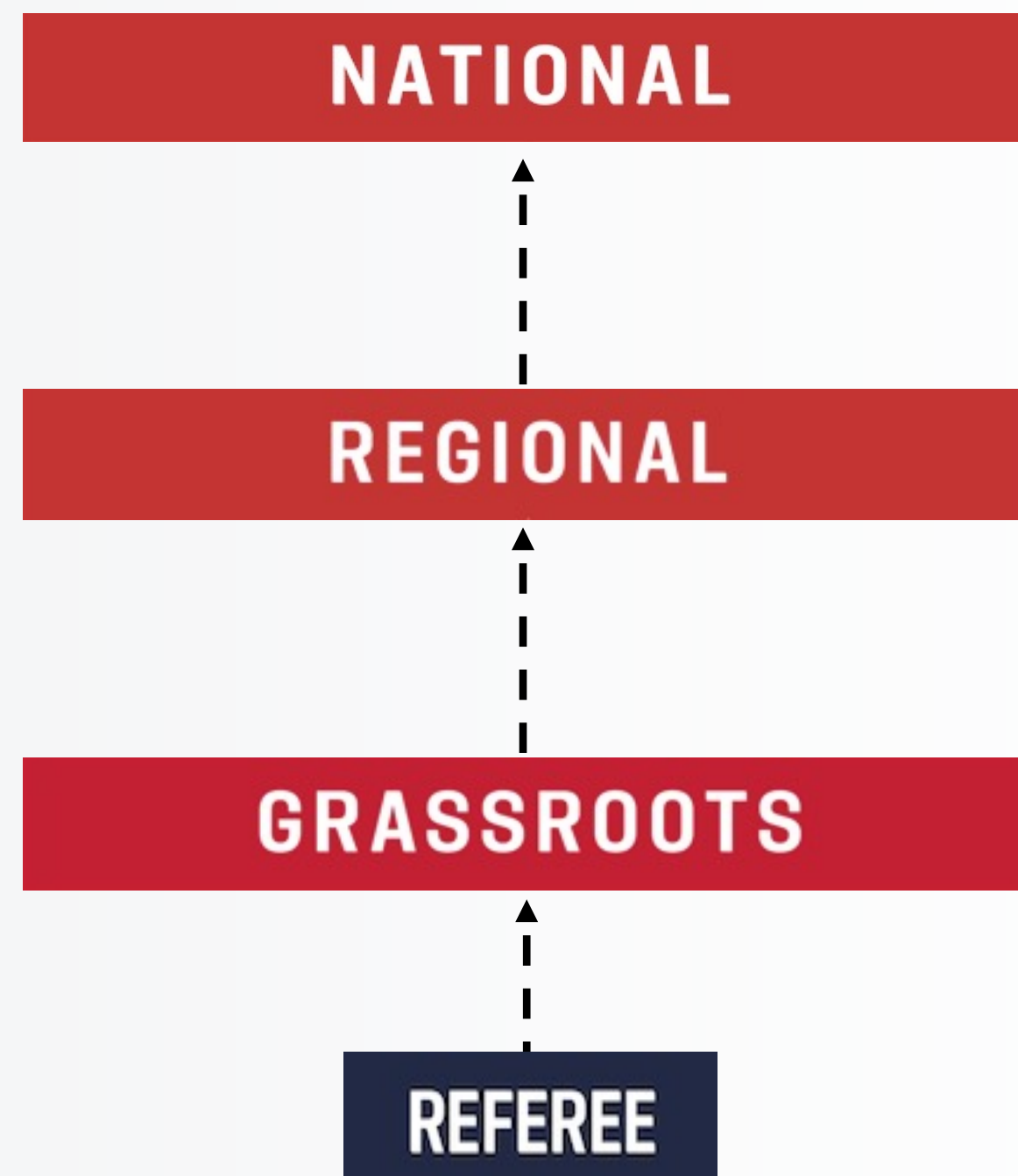
- The purpose of the emeritus license is to retire from the highest level the referee has attained. It may not be used to circumvent the fitness testing and registration procedures of U.S. Soccer
- The emeritus license allows a National or Regional official the option of retiring from those levels of officiating while retaining that license and continuing to referee at a lower level

# REFEREE EMERITUS



- An emeritus referee may reinstate as an active official at the license level the official retired from once all the game criteria for the license has been met for recertification including the following.
  - Passing the fitness test for the license
  - Completed the number of evaluations for the license

# REFEREE PATHWAY



# NATIONAL REFEREE LICENSE CERTIFICATION

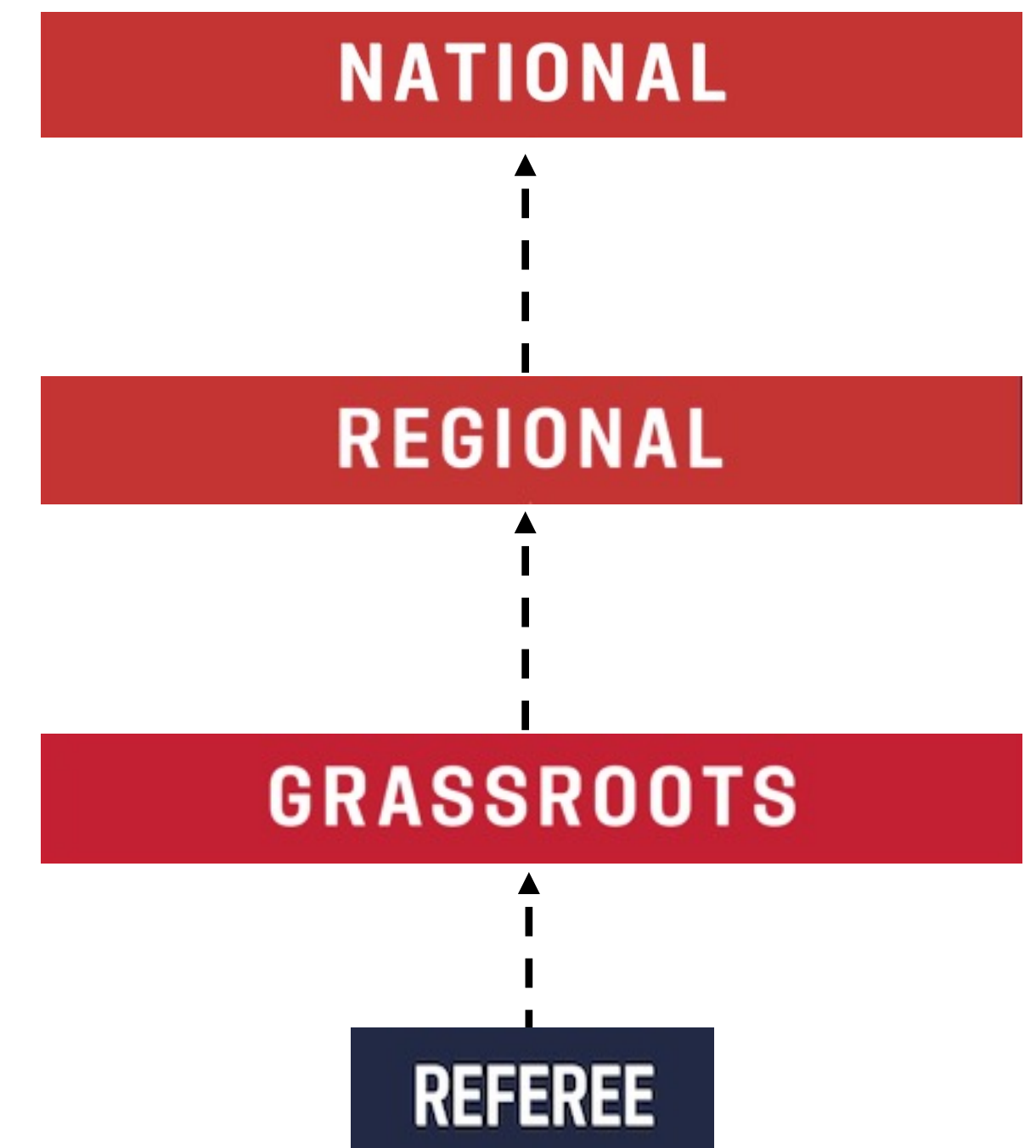


- The selection process begins with the candidate filling out an application stating they wish to be considered as a national official.
- State Referee Committees are responsible for providing the past two consecutive fitness test results on every candidate from their state.
- Candidates are responsible to provide their cumulative game count on the games worked as a referee and assistant referee.

# NATIONAL REFEREE / ASSISTANT REFEREE LICENSE CERTIFICATION



NATIONAL CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	SELECTED BY U.S. SOCCER NATIONAL REFEREE SELECTION COMMITTEE
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	65 GAMES AT THE ADULT AMATUER LEVEL <b>REFEREE (40) AND ASSISTANT REFEREE (25)</b>
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	MUST HAVE HELD A REGIONAL LICENSE FOR THE PREVIOUS TWO REGISTRATION YEARS
TRAINING	ATTEND and SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE NATIONAL CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATE and TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR and GENDER SPECIFIC) Category 1
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	MINIMUM OF THREE (3) PASSING NATIONAL EVALUATIONS AS EITHER REFEREE or AR MUST BE BY THREE DIFFERENT NATIONAL REFEREE COACHES



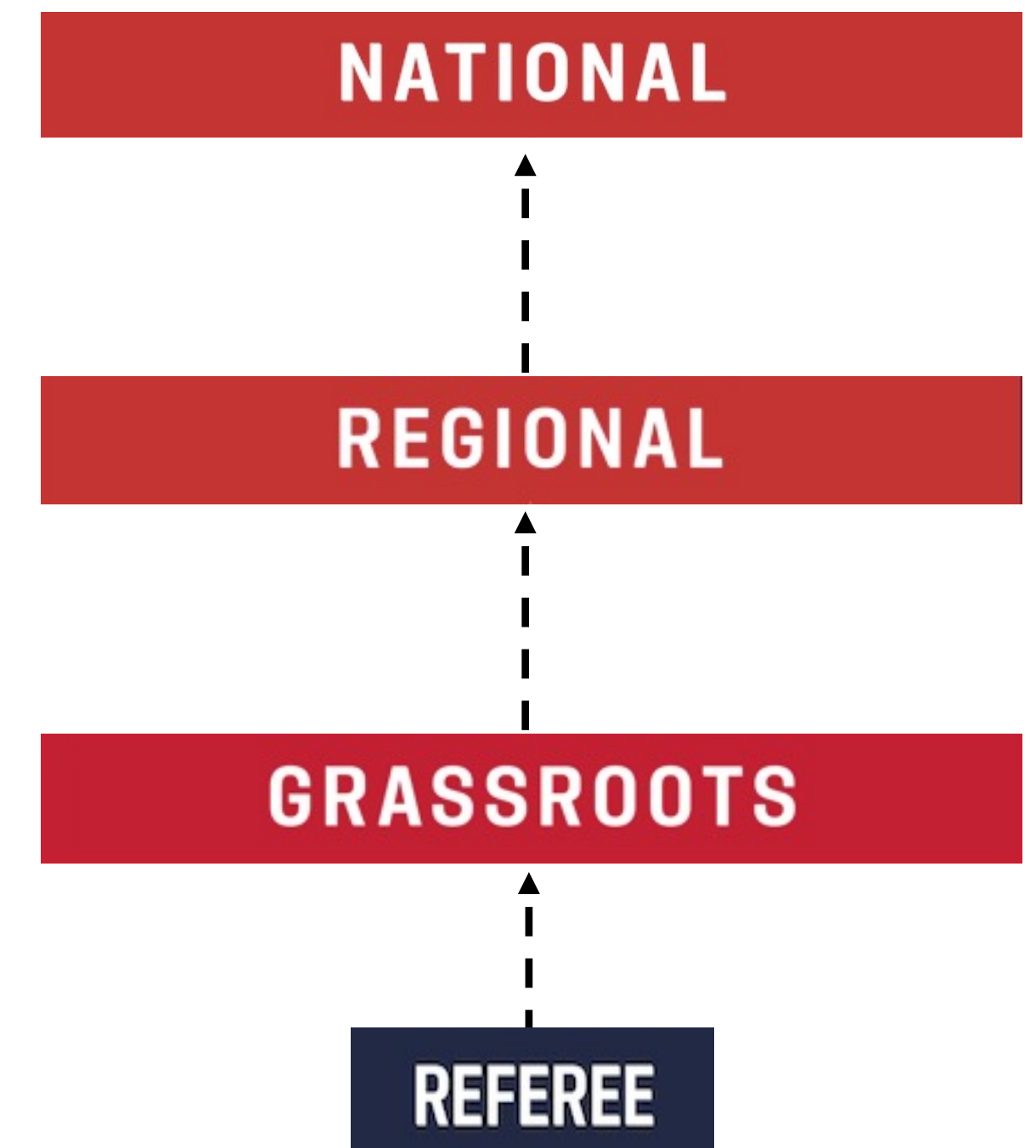


# NATIONAL REFEREE / ASSISTANT REFEREE LICENSE RE-CERTIFICATION

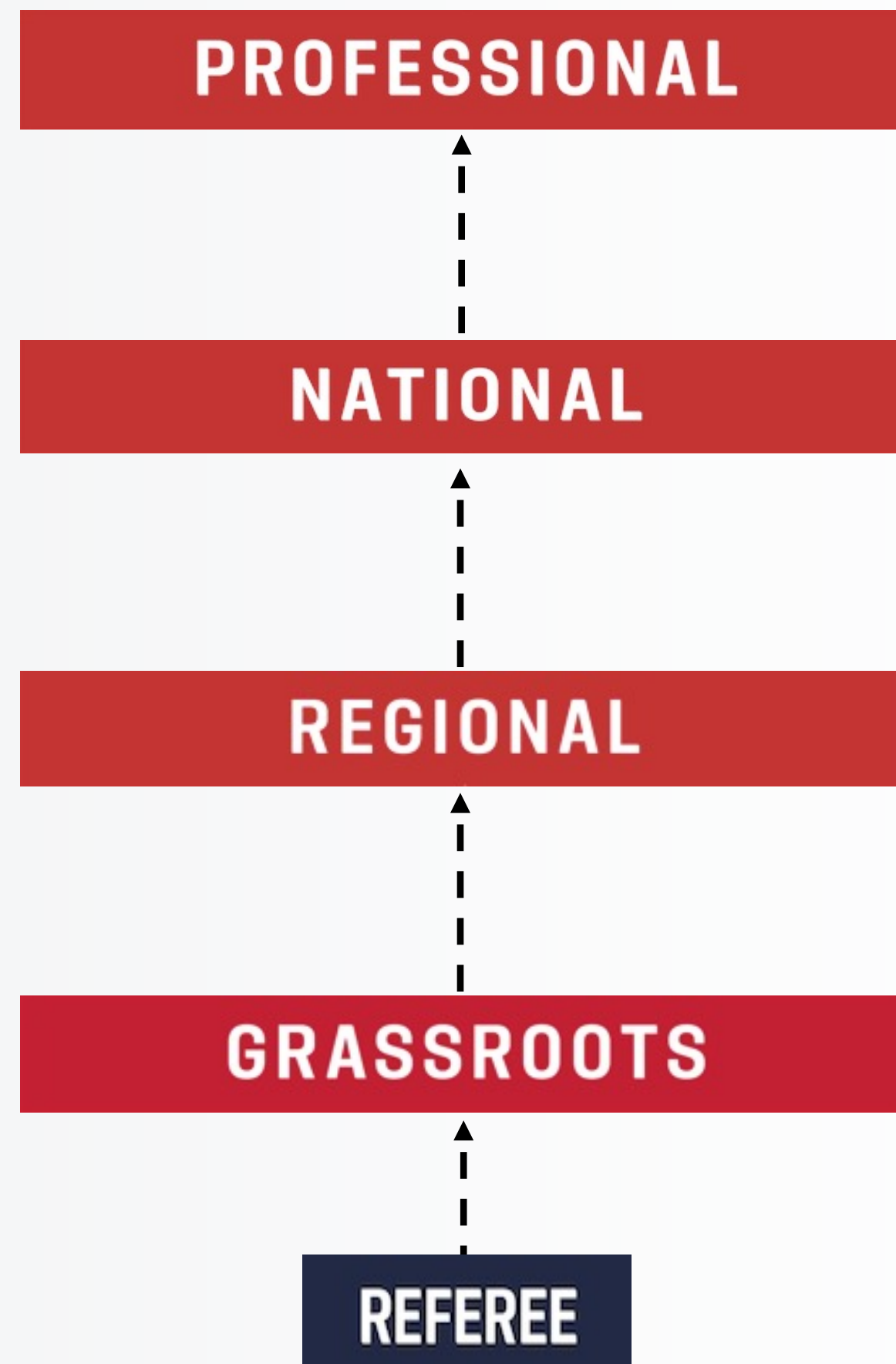


## NATIONAL RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

ENROLLMENT	SELECTED BY U.S. SOCCER NATIONAL REFEREE SELECTION COMMITTEE
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	12 GAMES AS A REFEREE OR 12 GAMES AS AN ASSISTANT REFEREE IN AMATEUR ADULT GAMES OR HIGHER LEVEL (PROFESSIONAL or INTERNATIONAL)
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	PREVIOUS YEAR AS A NATIONAL OFFICIAL
TRAINING	ATTEND and SUCESSFULLY COMPLETE NATIONAL CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL (NCSI) BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME UPDATE and TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR and GENDER SPECIFIC) Category 1
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	MINIMUM OF THREE (3) PASSING NATIONAL EVALUATIONS AS EITHER REFEREE or AR MUST BE BY THREE DIFFERENT NATIONAL REFEREE COACHES



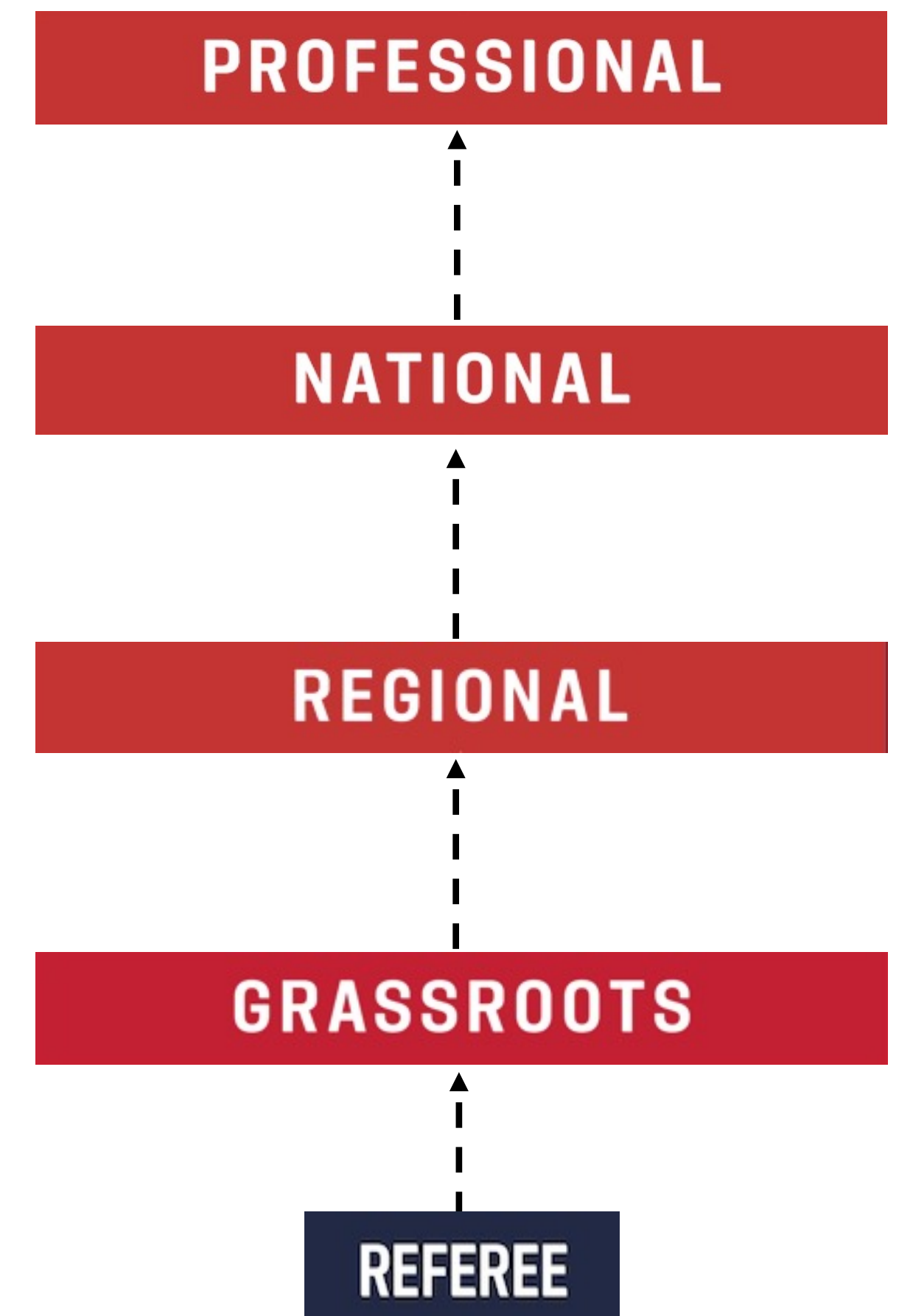
# REFEREE PATHWAY



# P.R.O. LICENSE CERTIFICATION



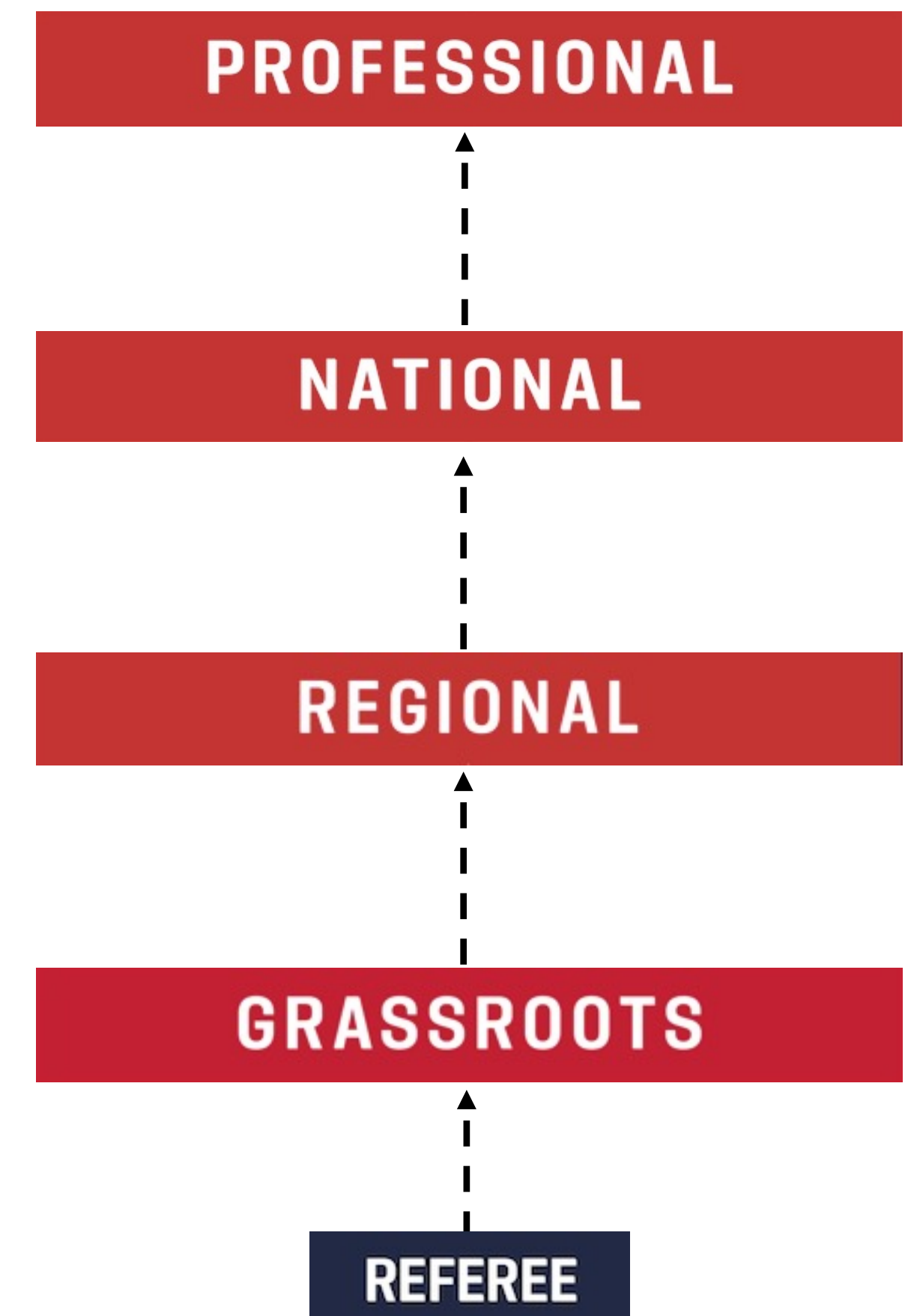
P.R.O. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	SELECTED BY PRO
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	DETERMINED BY PRO
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	MINIMUM OF 2 YEARS AS NATIONAL REFEREE
TRAINING	PRO PRESEASON CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR & GENDER SPECIFIC)
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	PASSING P.R.O. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (BASED ON PRO/PSRA CBA)



# P.R.O. LICENSE RE-CERTIFICATION



P.R.O. RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	SELECTED BY PRO
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	10 GAMES AS A REFEREE OR 10 GAMES AS AN ASSISTANT REFEREE
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	PREVIOUS YEAR AS P.R.O. OFFICIAL
TRAINING	PRO PRESEASON CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR & GENDER SPECIFIC)
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	PASSING P.R.O.'s ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (BASED ON PRO/PSRA CBA)



# REFEREE PATHWAY



# FIFA CERTIFICATION



FIFA CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	RECOMMENDED BY U.S. SOCCER REFEREE COMMITTEE APPROVED BY USSF BOD
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	TWO (2) YEARS WORKING IN THE DIVISION I PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	MINIMUM OF TWO (2) YEARS AS PROFESSIONAL REFEREE
TRAINING	PRO PRESEASON CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL (NCSI) BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR & GENDER SPECIFIC)
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	PASSING P.R.O. ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (BASED ON PRO/PSRA CBA)



# FIFA RE-CERTIFICATION



FIFA RE-CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	
ENROLLMENT	RECOMMENDED BY U.S. SOCCER REFCO APPROVED BY USSF BOD
PREVIOUS GAME EXPERIENCE	PREVIOUS SEASON WORKING IN THE DIVISION I PROFESSIONAL LEAGUES
PREVIOUS CERTIFICATION EXPERIENCE	PREVIOUS SEASON AS A FIFA REFEREE or AR
TRAINING	PRO PRESEASON CAMP
SAFETY AND COMPLIANCE	SAFESPORT TRAINED SAFE and HEALTHY PLAYING ENVIRONMENTS NATIONAL (NCSI) BACKGROUND CHECK
LAWS OF THE GAME TEST	ONLINE - NATIONAL TEST
FITNESS TEST	FIFA FITNESS TEST (REFEREE OR AR & GENDER SPECIFIC)
PRACTICAL EVALUATION	PASSING EVALUATIONS AT CONCACAF or FIFA COMPETITIONS





# REFEREE PATHWAY





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