

EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SOCCER ASSOCIATION
REFEREE COMMITTEE

Young Referee of the Year Award



Honoring distinguished young referees
in Eastern Pennsylvania who show
outstanding performance both on and
off the soccer pitch.

This award is given annually to two
young referees who exemplify
initiative, leadership, determination,
good character and philanthropy as an
example for all to follow.



**Young Referee of the
Year Award**

Andrew Daoud



Eastern Pennsylvania
Youth Soccer

Awards Banquet

February 23, 2024
Reading, PA

**Young Referee of the
Year Award**

Kylie Ridilla





ANDREW DAOUD

Some things come naturally and seem to be second nature, and that's what soccer was to Andrew Daoud. He began playing soccer young, as so many of our young referees have, at the age of six. He continued playing and is now currently with FC Europa 07 (Under 17). But between six and 16, Andrew has developed not only into an exceptional player, but also a dedicated referee.

Soccer has become a way of life for Andrew both on and off the field. He began officiating at the age of 14 and for the past few years has increased his game count and the level of the games he works – from recreational to travel matches. He works closely with other referees, asking questions and learning, and has established relationships with his assignors.

Within his community, Andrew has worked at soccer camps with young children making sure they have a good time, in addition to learning soccer. Andrew plays basketball for his church team, is a member of the National Honor Society, and a member of the FIFA Club at school. At his local church, Andrew is a First Sunday School Servant, where he teaches first graders. This is quite the challenge, as they “love to chat” so he must use his leadership skills to keep them focused.

One of the things that Andrew loves about refereeing is teaching the younger ages. Once, in a U12 game, the defender played the ball back to the keeper and she picked it up. He effectively explained this mistake to the players, and awarded the indirect free kick. Because it was handled well, with authority yet understanding, everyone learned from the experience.

As a referee, Andrew has developed traits such as fairness and assertiveness. He's learned to make split second decisions with confidence and while under pressure. These skills have helped him as a player – allowing him to stay calm and think ahead. He's a leader on his team and has built many good relationships with his teammates and coaches.

Andrew has two younger brothers who look up to him and can't wait to turn 14 so they too can become referees. He has inspired his friends to become referees and helps mentor them when they work together. Andrew is an inspiration and we're proud to present him with this year's Young Male Referee of the Year Award.



KYLIE RIDILLA

As a player, Kylie Ridilla has what it takes to make a difference on the soccer field, and this has extended to her ability to be a successful referee. Kylie began playing soccer when she was four years old, originally starting with Penn Legacy, then with Lancaster Elite, and currently with PA Classics. As like so many others, she took the ref-

eree course hoping to try something new and make a little money. This proved to be a smart move as her love of the game allowed her to excel as a referee. Kylie's easy-going yet confident personality helped her develop and gain respect from coaches and players.

Kylie continues to improve her knowledge as a referee, watching videos of referee situations and decisions, and then applying them to her games. As co-captain of multiple teams she leads by example, always demonstrating fair play and ethical behavior. She recently achieved her Futsal certification and began reffing Futsal over the next winter which gave her the confidence to start accepting more challenging outdoor games and working more as the center referee.

Off the field, Kylie excels just as much. She is the consummate student at school – she is in the AP program, a member of the National Honor Society, the Hempfield Coding Club and the Hempfield Varsity Club. She's a gifted athlete as, in addition to soccer, she runs winter, indoor and spring track, lettering her freshman year in the triple jump, 200m and 400m runs.

Kylie is an active volunteer in her church where she supports the elementary age youth program (Kingdom Kids). In school, she is active in the Sisterhood, where young women get together to support each other and promote women in the community to succeed both in school and in their personal lives.

Kylie's accomplishments have only touched the surface, and her decisions and choices have set her on a path for true success. Congratulations Kylie on winning the Young Female Referee of the Year Award!