

The **Referees Shield** is a pre-season competition run by QCSRA and sanctioned by the QCSA to provide an opportunity for QCSRA to train Referees and Assistant Referees for the upcoming QCSA season. It is also an opportunity for all QCSA clubs who wish to participate in this competition to have a chance before the season starts to work out their team/s.

QCSRA are holding the "Referees Shield" pre-season competition again this year on the following proposed dates: **5/6, 12/13 and 19/20 of March and the finals being played on 26/27 of March 2021.** The Referees Shield is open to all seniors (including Women's and Over 30's and 40's) that have registered their team with the QCSA, for the 2021 Season. U18 Boys will be welcome to play in the senior men's competition. Please note that this will involve playing against men's teams, and probably teams from Divisions 1 and 2. **No allowance** will be made to specifically place U18 teams with lower division teams. The number of games each team will play, depends on the number of teams entering the competition, and the weather. The Draw will plan for each team to play the following minimum number of matches over the course of the tournament:

- Senior Men: 2 games per day of 25x25 min halves. Total of 6 games plus Finals
- Senior Women: 1 game per day of 35x35 min halves. Total of 3 games plus Finals
- Overage: 1 game per Friday night of 35x35 min halves. Total 3 games plus Finals.

The Draw may incorporate for teams who do not make the finals to play a single non competition game on the same dates as the Finals against a team from another group. Details of this additional round will be available at a later date.

After receiving feedback from both players and Referees, QCSRA has decided that wherever possible, the Saturday games will start in the mid afternoon and continue into the evening under lights to attempt to minimise the health effects of playing in the heat of the middle of the day. This of course requires fields with lights. If fields with lights are not available, the competition will proceed as per previous years starting at 1.00pm each day.

Fields are required for the both the Saturday competition (Senior Men and Women) and also for the Friday night competition (O30's and 40's combined competition). Please advise if your club will provide suitable fields for the competition and whether they are available for night games. Fewer fields will negatively impact the number of teams that can enter the competition. Clubs may be reimbursed costs associated with preparing the fields, if requested. Clubs supplying fields will be given preference when developing the competition playing list.

The competition structure will depend on the number of teams that have entered in each segment of the tournament. Teams may be limited, to enable a fair competition structure to be supported. The number of teams accepted for the competition will be dependent on the number of available fields. Entries will operate on a 'first come, first served' basis. Entries will not be considered until nomination fees have been paid.

If your Club wishes to nominate a team for the competition, please complete the **ONLINE FORM**. Go to:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfD3DLme1HTajPh8-xkoEiWCQn2ARSu3eyzJDeDsIC5aszL0Q/viewform?usp=sf_link

A Nomination fee of *one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150.00)* (including GST) per team will be required. There will be no other fee. This can be paid at the time of nomination by direct bank deposit (bank details on form). Nominations will close at **6 p.m. Friday 19th February 2021** and must be accompanied by the Nomination Fee and player list.

Please arrange payment to:

Direct deposit
QCSRA Inc.
BSB Number - 034189
Account Number – 265576

Use 'club name'- Refs Shield as reference.

Please email Noel Lever at accounts@qcsra.org.au to discuss alternate payment arrangements if you are unable to arrange the direct deposit.

2021 Referees Shield Dates:

Round 1: 5/6 March

Round 2: 12/13 March

Round 3: 19/20 March

Finals: 26/27 March

All teams will participate in Rounds 1 to 3. There may be the opportunity to organise “consolation” matches during the finals series if sufficient teams show interest.

The Referees Shield is run entirely by QCSRA hence all enquiries should be directed to events@qcsra.org.au