

The **Referees Shield** is a pre-season competition run by QCSRA and sanctioned by the Association 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 teams who wish to participate in this competition to have a chance before the season starts to work out their team.

QCSRA are holding the "Referees Shield" pre-season competition again this year on the following proposed dates: **4/5, 11/12, 18/19 of March and the final being played on 25/26 March 2022 with 1/2 April as a wet weather backup**. 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 2022 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. We hope each team will play 6 matches over the course of the tournament.

Fields are required to be provided by the clubs for the both the Saturday competition (SM & SW) and additionally for the Friday night competition (O30's and 40's combined competition). Please advise if your club will provide suitable pitches for the competition. Fewer pitches will negatively impact the number of teams that can enter the competition. Clubs will 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 pitches. Entries will operate on a 'first in best dressed' 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 www.qcsra.org.au and click the 'Referee's Shield' tab. A Nomination Fee of *one hundred and forty dollars (\$140.00)* (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 below). Nominations will close at **6 p.m. Friday 18th February 2022** and must be accompanied by the Nomination Fee and full player list.

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

2022 Referees Shield Dates:

Week 1: 4/5 March 2022

Week 2: 11/12 March 2022

Week 3: 18/19 March 2022

Finals: 25/26 March 2022 (with 1/2 April Spare)

All teams will participate in weeks 1 to 3. There will not be any "consolation" matches during the finals series, only the matches nominated.

Corey James
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