



UNITED WORLD WRESTLING

TO ALL NATIONAL FEDERATIONS

Subject: 2016 referee's license and referee's categories

As you may have noticed with our athletes, the online purchasing system for licenses as well as our new technologies allow us to do more for the environment and allow us to save a lot of time.

For future years, we will therefore create a licence system for all international referees and this system will replace the stamps usually sent by post each year. We want to let you know that the validation of your referees at the end of the year is no longer necessary.

It is possible to purchase the referee's annual license at any time during the year. The license shall be valid from 1 January to 31 December of the year in question. Of course, any referee who has not paid his annual fee (and hence validated his license) will not be able to take part in international competition.

The new referee's international license will be sent as soon as payment for the annual fee - 100 CHF - is received. **The price is the same for all referee's categories (I S - I - II - III).** This license will remain the same throughout the international referee's activity. The license will include name, first name, country, date of birth and license number of the referee in question.

With the license's QR code, the referee's category will be checked by the assigned neutral referee or by the instructor. He will also be able to check if the annual fee has been paid. If that is not the case, the referee will not be allowed to take part in the competition and his National Federation will be penalised according to the regulations of international competitions.

You will find instructions on how to pay the annual fee (license's validation) below.

First of all, make sure there is a picture and a copy of the referee's passport on the Athena platform. If that is not the case, you need to download those documents because United World Wrestling needs to confirm the. When these documents will be confirmed, you will be able to purchase the license. Only after the reception of your payment, you will be able to enter the concerned referee in an international competition.

Please note that you have to download them at least two weeks before the first competition your referee will take part in, otherwise you might not have enough time to pay, and your payment will probably not be received by United World Wrestling. You can pay by credit card or bank transfer (in this case you will receive an invoice, payable immediately and the license will be validated as soon as payment is received).

The purchasing system is already operative on Athena platform, and hence I advise you to start registering your referees to avoid any eventual problems at the beginning of the year.

The referees' license will be valid only after payment is received. We will then activate the license and the referee will be able to take part in international competitions.

I also want to underline that (if you pay with invoice) the total amount of the bill needs to be settle before we validate your referee(s). By this sentence, I want to tell you that if you would like to pay 5 annual fees for your referees, they will be validated for the year in question only after the payment of 500 CHF. If we only received 400 CHF, nobody will be validated.

It may take some time to send the licenses, and we hereby inform you that your referees will be able to take part in the competition without having their license in their possession if payment has been received and validated. You can print the list of your referees on Athena. This list can be submitted to the assigned referee or instructor at the competition. He will check the validity of the license by scanning your referee's QR code.

PROCEDURE:

1. The NF must add picture and passport copy on Athena
2. Confirmation of those 2 documents by United World Wrestling
3. Online payment of the annual fee by the NF



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4. Reception of the NF payment for its referee
5. Validation of the referee's 2016 license by United World Wrestling
6. Preparation of the license by United World Wrestling
7. Referee's license sent to NF by United World Wrestling

** We remind you that your referee does not have to wait for his license to take part in international competition. As soon as the license is validated by United World Wrestling, he can take part in international competition.*

For new referees who take part in a candidate course, the National Federation has to add the referee in the Athena system as a course participant. The National Federation can already download his picture and passport copy. All the information about how to use Athena is explained on this following link: <https://unitedworldwrestling.org/athena>.

When the assigned instructor confirms to United World Wrestling that the referee in question has been promoted to the international category, we will prepare his license and it will be sent to his National Federation as soon as possible. At the same time, they will also receive the yellow and red cards, a pin's and the international referee badge, which he shall wear on his polo shirt.

We are discussing about the new referees' uniforms with a company. They will build an online website where you will be able to purchase the official polo and the red and blue wristbands. The grey trousers (the ones we've used so far) and black shoes will remain.

You will receive more detailed information in the following weeks.

Any referee who does not take part in an international competition during the year or who does not fulfil the obligations related to his category will be demoted to an inferior category the following year. I also remind you that any referee from category III who does not take part in international competition for two years will be taken off the international referees list, and the referee have to restart all candidate exams if they want to work at an international level again.

I would also like to insist on the new rule for promotion in category. A referee who reaches a certain category during the year has to work for at least one year in this precise category before trying to reach a higher category. The same goes for referees who have been downgraded. They cannot participate in an upgrade course but have to work at least one year in the category in question. For instance: Marc Dubois is in category I in 2014. At the beginning of 2015, he is downgraded to category II. He will have to work in category II all year round (2015) without being able to take a promotion course for category I. Only in 2016 he will be allowed to try to be upgraded again.

Also, all PM referees will lose their category at the end of 2016. Those who wish to take part in a candidate course to try and reach category III will be allowed to do so, and will not have to pay the examination fee. The National Federation of such a referee will have to let United World Wrestling know that they (the National Federation) will register an old PM referee to a candidate course. The assigned instructors will be notified and they won't cash the examination fee. Starting 1 January 2017, the PM category will no longer exist, and referees from this category won't be included in the list of international officials.

One last thing, that not all National Federations know about. I remind you that the age limit to register a referee to a candidate course is 40 years old. A referee older than 40 will not be allowed to take part in the course.

I hope I have given you all the information you needed, and wish to all of your referees a good upcoming season.

Should you have any questions regarding license, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jean-Daniel Rey
Director
United World Wrestling



Corsier-sur-Vevey, 11 November 2015

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