

# REFEREES

1st January 2011—31st March 2012

## **INTRODUCTION**

Given that matches are getting more competitive and teams are playing at a much faster pace these days, it is important that referees continue to strive for excellence on the field. We are pleased to share that the FAS Referees Committee continued to provide ongoing training for its referees from January 2011 to March 2012 with the key objective of ensuring that our refereeing standards improve and that the Laws of the Game are applied consistently.

That our referees continue to be assigned officiating duties for top Asian tournaments and matches such as the 2011 Asian Cup, FIFA 2014 World Cup Asian Qualifiers and 2011 Southeast Asian Games reflects the high regard in which our referees are held.

## **TOTAL NUMBER OF FAS REGISTERED REFEREES**

Please see below for a summary of the various categories of our 2011 FAS Registered Referees:

	2009	2010	2011
FIFA Referee	6	6	4
FIFA Referee (W)	1	1	1
FIFA Assistant Referee	8	8	8
FIFA Assistant Referee (W)	-	-	1
National	1	2	4
Class 1	28	29	31
Class 2	27	25	29
Class 3	100	104	137
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>215</b>



## **INTERNATIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

### **FIFA / AFC Appointments in 2011**

Our FIFA Referees and Assistant Referees continue to be appointed by AFC and FIFA to officiate in regional international tournaments and competitions.



## **2011 AFC Asian Cup Finals**

Abdul Malik, Jeffrey Goh and Haja Maidin officiated in the 2011 AFC Asian Cup Final Round in Doha, Qatar. They performed well and were rated among the top trios of AFC Referees for this competition. As a reward for their good performance, they were appointed by AFC to officiate the 3rd and 4th placing match between Uzbekistan and South Korea.

## **2011 SEA Games**

Our FIFA Assistant Referee Lim Kok Heng was appointed by AFC to officiate in the 26th SEA Games Football Competition in Indonesia from 3rd to 21st November 2011. He officiated a total of 5 matches.

## **AFC Project Future Referee Course**

AFC selected FAS Class 1 Referee Ahmad A'Qashah to attend the above mentioned development programme to groom young Referees for future international competitions. As part of the programme, Ahmad A'Qashah was invited to attend an attachment in England from 15 to 22 Jan 2011. He was commended for his good performance during this attachment and was subsequently included by FAS to officiate in the 2011 S.League.

FAS nominated Class 2 Referee, Nathan Chan, to officiate in the AFC U-13 Festival of Football held in Sabah in June 2011. In view of his good performance in the AFC U-13 Festival of Football, Nathan Chan was selected by AFC to be included in the AFC Project Future Referee course which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 3rd to 8th November 2011. Nathan was successful in this course and he was selected to attend an advance course which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 11 to 16 February 2012.

## **AFC Elite Referee Recruitment**

FIFA Referee Sukhbir Singh was assessed by AFC Recruiter Assessor Mr Samuel Chan of Hong Kong in 2011 and in view of his good performance he was selected to attend an AFC Elite Referee course. Sukhbir successfully passed the course and was certified by AFC to be on the list of AFC Elite Referees, who officiate in AFC Elite international competitions.

## **S.LEAGUE & PRIME LEAGUE REFEREES**

A total of 4 FIFA Referees and 6 Class 1 Referees, as well as 9 FIFA Assistant Referees & 11 Class 1 Assistant Referees were selected to officiate in the 2011 S.League season.

Please see below the list of S.League Referees & Assistant Referees:

## **Referees**

1	Abas Daud	FIFA
2	Abdul Malik	FIFA
3	Leow Thiam Hoe	FIFA
4	Sukhbir Singh	FIFA
5	K. Kalimuthu	Class 1
6	Ahmad A'Qashah	Class 1
7	Mohd Taqi	Class 1
8	Mohd Yazeen	Class 1
9	R. Ravisanthiran	Class 1
10	Johan Jahari	Class 1

## **Assistant Referees**

1	Jeffrey Goh	FIFA
2	Tang Yew Mun	FIFA
3	Edwin Lee	FIFA
4	Haja Maidin	FIFA
5	Eugene Chan	FIFA
6	Lim Kok Heng	FIFA
7	Mohd Faizal Abas	FIFA
8	K. Surindranath	FIFA
9	Rohaidah Mohd Nasir	FIFA
10	Andrew Kee	Class 1
11	John Doo	Class 1
12	Er Swee Ann	Class 1
13	Eugene Low	Class 1
14	Hari Bahadur	Class 1
15	Lim Kok Ngee	Class 1
16	Manoj Kalwani	Class 1
17	Mervyn Lim	Class 1
18	Muhd Syahir	Class 1
19	Ronnie Koh	Class 1
20	Ong Sung Teck	Class 1

These referees performed reasonably well in 2011 S.League season. FAS will continue to develop and train our referees by conducting regular training sessions to assist them in improving their decision making, man management, field movements and communication.

### **S.League & Prime League Training and Match Analysis Sessions**

FAS conducts monthly training and match analysis sessions for the S.League & Prime League Referees. During these sessions video clips of contentious incidents in S.League matches are highlighted with learning points for the benefit of our Referees. The Referees will review and comment on the decisions made by the Match Referee. Discussions on what the appropriate decisions and actions that should have been taken are ironed out during these sessions.

The FAS Referee Assessors will also highlight and advise on the appropriate decisions that should have been taken by the match Referee.

### **Laws of the Game Sessions for S.League Clubs**

The FIFA Laws of the Game sessions were conducted by the Referees' Department for all S.League Clubs in January 2011 and January 2012 prior to the start of the 2011 and 2012 S.League seasons.

The objective was to equip the players and club officials with a good level of knowledge and understanding of the FIFA Laws of the Game and to update them on any changes made by the International Football Association Board.

The sessions also gave the players and officials an opportunity to raise any issue they may have on refereeing.

### **Dialogue Sessions with Club Officials**

Two dialogue sessions were organised with Club Officials in 2011, one during the S.League mid-season and another session at the end of the S.League season. The sessions were positive, informative and fruitful as the Clubs provided valuable feedback to FAS. The Clubs appreciated the efforts of the Referees' Committee and pledged to work together to support the development of Singapore referees.

Regular visits were also made to Clubs to enhance the rapport and relationship and to provide regular update on refereeing matters. During these visits, certain contentious decisions which may have been made by the referees were discussed and explained. The Referees Department also took the opportunity to highlight the process and procedures FAS has to train and develop our referees and the corrective actions taken by FAS to assist the referees to deliver consistent performances during matches.

### **Mid-Season Referees Workshop 2011**

A mid-season workshop was conducted for our Elite Referees on the 28th & 29th of May 2011.

FAS invited Mr Pirom Anprasert, an experienced AFC Instructor from Thailand to conduct this workshop with the objective to improve the standard of Refereeing in the S.League, as well as to help to enhance our Referees' capabilities to perform better in the 2011 S.League season.

The 32 participants included the FAS Referee Instructors and Assessors. The programme included field demonstration pertaining to incidents that occurred during S.League matches, video viewing of incidents during S.League matches and classroom discussions.

### **Pre-2011 & 2012 S.League Season Seminar**

The 2011 S.League pre-season Referees seminar was conducted by FIFA Instructor, Ali AL-Traifi from Saudi Arabia for the S.League & Prime League Referees and Referee Assessors from 17 to 21 Dec 2010. 30 referees, 8 assessors and 3 observers attended the seminar.

The objective of the seminar was to train and share with our Referees the key aspects pertaining to refereeing in the Professional League as well as to update them on the Laws of the Game and other refereeing matters. The seminar incorporated both field training and theory lessons.

The seminar was well received by the participants and they learned to recognise fouls and apply correct sanctions, how to manage the penalty area and confrontations effectively, maintain relationship with media and coaches.

In preparation for the 2012 S.League Season, the pre-season Referee Seminar was conducted on the 27th to 29 January 2012 at the Jalan Besar Stadium.

This Seminar was conducted by Mr Shamsul Maidin, FIFA Technical Instructor, Mr M Ganesan, FIFA Fitness Instructor and Mr Azimi, FIFA Regional Development Officer, from Malaysia. 30 referees, 15 Assessors and 3 observers attended the seminar.

The objective of the seminar was to train and share with our Referees the key aspects pertaining to refereeing in the Professional League as well as to update them on the Laws of the Game and other refereeing matters in preparation for the 2012 S.League Season.

The seminar incorporated both field training and theory lessons.

The seminar was well received by the participants, they learned how to be proactive, to take precaution and to prevent incidents from taking place, recognise fouls and apply correct sanctions, manage confrontations, players and bench effectively.

### **REFEREE BASIC COURSES CONDUCTED IN 2011 & 2012**

Three Referees Basic Courses were conducted in the month of March, July and October

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2011. A total of 74 Referees registered for the course, only 54 Referees including 3 females passed the course. The total strength for the Referees had increased from 171 registered referees in 2009 to 215 in 2011.

In March 2012, FAS conducted a 5-day Referee Basic Course. 27 participants registered for the course.

### **TRAINING FOR REGISTERED REFEREES**

Progressive trainings and Project Talent Referees' trainings were conducted for our Referees twice monthly. Technical, tactical training and theory sessions were included. The Referees participated actively and the response was encouraging.

The above-mentioned programmes are part of the on-going efforts by FAS aimed at training and developing our younger Referees.

### **FAS REFEREE INSTRUCTORS**

FAS had trained and developed 7 Referee Instructors some of whom are also FIFA & AFC Instructors, as follows:

- (a) FIFA Instructor - Shamsul Maidin
- (b) FIFA Fitness Instructor – M Ganesan
- (c) AFC Instructors – John Chia, Visvanathan and Nazeer Hussain
- (d) Local Instructors – Augustine Arlando and Ali Samad

These instructors are helping to conduct courses, trainings and fitness test to further improve the overall standard and performance of our referees.

### **FAS REFEREE ASSESSORS**

FAS had trained and developed the following referee assessors, who assess the performance of our referees during S.League matches.

- (1) Shamsul Maidin
- (2) Lai Boon Teck
- (3) John Chia
- (4) K Visvanathan
- (5) Lau Kok Kong
- (6) M Ganesan
- (7) Augustine Arlando
- (8) Nazeer Hussain
- (9) Ali Samad

### **COURSES ATTENDED BY REFEREES IN 2011 & 2012**

The following referees attended the respective courses conducted by AFC and FIFA in year 2011.



- (1) Ahmad A'Qashah,  
15th-22nd Jan 2011  
AFC Project Future (Barclays Premier Referees Training)  
Warwick, England
  
- (2) Rohaidah Mohd Nasir,  
17th-24th April 2011  
FIFA / AFF for New FIFA Registered Referees & Assistant Referees  
Bangkok, Thailand
  
- (3) Kenneth Leong & Nathan Chan,  
28th-6th Jun 2011  
AFC U-13 Festival of Football 2011 (Preparatory Course)  
Sabah, Malaysia
  
- (4) Nathan Chan,  
3rd-8th Nov 2011  
AFC Project Future (Referees Selection Course 2011)  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The following Referees were selected to attend the Elite AFC Referees and Assistant Referees courses in Kuala Lumpur in December 2011 to prepare them to officiate in AFC competitions and matches in 2012.

FIFA Referees

Abdul Malik  
Leow Thiam Hoe  
Sukhbir Singh  
Albirami

FIFA Assistant Referees

Jeffrey Goh  
Tang Yew Mun  
Edwin Lee  
K Surindarnath  
Lim Kok Heng

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The following referees attended the respective courses conducted by AFC and FIFA in year 2012.

S/N	Date	Referee	Course
1	9 to 14 Jan	Sukhbir Singh	AFC New Elite Men Referees Course in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2	10 to 14 Jan	Abdul Malik Leow Thiam Hoe Tang Yew Mun, Edwin Lee, Jeffrey Goh, Lim Kok Heng K Surindranath	AFC Elite Men Referees & Assistant Referees Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3	12 to 16 Jan	Abirami Apbai	AFC Elite Women Referees Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
4	11 to 16 Feb	Nathan Chan	AFC Project Future Referee Batch 2011, First Development Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
5	23 to 28 Feb	Abirami Apbai	FIFA Women Referees Programme - Algarve, Portugal
6	26 to 30 Mar	Mohd Taqi Mohd Yazeen	FIFA/AFF/FAT Course for Newly Registered FIFA Referees & FIFA Assistant Referees 2012 - Bangkok, Thailand

### **COURSES ATTENDED BY REFEREE ASSESSORS / INSTRUCTORS IN 2011 & 2012**

The following Referee Assessors/Instructors attended the respective AFC & FIFA courses in 2011.



## COURSES ATTENDED BY REFEREE ASSESSORS / INSTRUCTORS IN 2011 & 2012

The following Referee Assessors/Instructors attended the respective AFC & FIFA courses in 2011.

S/No	Date	Name	Courses
1	8 to 14 Feb	M Ganesan	AFC Elite Referees Fitness Instructors Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2	15 to 18 Feb	K Visvanathan M Maniam	AFC Elite Referees Assessors & Recruiter Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3	15 to 23 Feb	John Chia Eng Wah	AFC Elite Referee Assessors & Instructors Course - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
4	25 to 27 Jun	Lai Boon Teck	Futuro III Head of Refereeing Course - Yangon, Myanmar
5	25 to 28 Jun	T Aravinthan	Futuro III Fitness Instructor Course - Yangon, Myanmar
6	25 to 30 Jun	Augustine Arlando Lau Kok Kong	Futuro III Technical Instructor Course - Yangon, Myanmar
7	12 to 16 Dec	Augustine Arlando Mohd Ali Samad Nazeer Hussain	FIFA/AFF/THA Refresher Course for Referee Instructors/Assessors - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Four FAS Referees Assessors are also in the AFC Elite Referees Assessors Panel. They are M Maniam, Shamsul Maidin, K Visvanathan and John Chia. These Assessors are appointed by AFC for high profile matches to assess the AFC Referees on their performances during the respective AFC competitions.

The following Referee Assessors/Instructors attended the respective AFC & FIFA courses in 2012.

S/No	Date	Name	Courses
1	2 to 5 Feb	K Visvanathan	AFC Elite Education Seminar 2012 - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
2	2 to 10 Feb	John Chia	AFC Elite Assessor/Instructor Seminar 2012 - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
3	19 to 14 Feb	M Ganesan	AFC Elite Referees Fitness Instructor Seminar 2012 - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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Three FAS Referees Assessors are also in the AFC Elite Referees Assessors Panel. They are Shamsul Maidin, K Visvanathan and John Chia. These Assessors are appointed by AFC for high profile matches to assess the AFC Referees on their performances during the respective AFC competitions.

### **FIFA ASSESSMENT MISSION TO SINGAPORE**

Mr Fernando Gracia, Senior Manager FIFA Referees Department visited Singapore for three days in late October, to evaluate the various Refereeing training and development programmes including the Refereeing structure in Singapore.

Mr Garcia mentioned after his evaluation that ***“... that in general, the development programmes are well organised. What is necessary to adjust is to have the level of refereeing in the same level as what the federation wants its refereeing to be, professionally.”***

***“When you are a referee, your dream is to be in the World Cup one day. And this is what should motivate referees, and maybe we have to increase the financial aspect. But having said that, money is not all, when you enter the referees’ organisation, you have to look at other objectives as well.”***

***“I have identified many positive things. They have a very good organised referee’s committee. They have as well, a referee’s department. Not many countries have a referee’s department with four full-time staff.”***

The Referees’ Committee in principle accepted Mr Fernando’s recommendation and will be implementing the recommendations in a phased approach.

### **- FAS REFEREES OUTREACH PROGRAMME**

In collaboration with SSC and the Ministry of Education, the FAS Referees Department conducted a two and a half day Referees Basic Course for 23 participants in the Junior Technical Outreach Programme from 19th to 21st October 2011 at the CCAB.

The objective of this course is to engage students and to share with them the Referees Development Pathway.

The students attended lessons on Laws of the Game and participated in practical sessions as well. These students officiated the FAS Football Fiesta that was held in November 2011 to gain more experience and exposure in refereeing matches.

### **- VEKKERO COMMUNICATOR SETS**

In July 2011, FAS purchased one set of the Vekker Communication System for the S.League Referees and this was first put to test on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011.

The Referees’ feedback was that the communicator sets had enhanced their communication and co-operation between Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials which led to fewer mistakes committed by the Referees. Following the positive responses from the Referees, an addition of 4 sets were purchased for the 2012 season.





## **FAS REFEREES ANNUAL DINNER**

This annual event was organised to celebrate the achievements of our referees and also to show our appreciation for their diligence and dedication to refereeing. Awards were presented by the Referees Committee to various young referees who performed well consistently in 2011. In attendance at the event were not only referees, but also included Club officials and sponsors as well as FAS Management and Staff. Mr Zainudin Nordin, FAS President was the Guest of Honour.

## **CONCLUSION**

In general, the referees' performances during our respective domestic competitions and matches in 2011 have been encouraging. The Referees will continue to work hard during their training sessions and will continue to give their best performances during matches. FAS will continue to work closely with FIFA and AFC to enhance the performance of our Referees in 2012.

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