



Referees Department E-Newsletter

1st Quarter 2019

FIFA Referees Representation

1. AFC Asian Cup 2019

The 2019 AFC Asian Cup was the 17th edition of the AFC Asian Cup, the quadrennial international men's football championship of Asia organised by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). It was held in the United Arab Emirates from 5 January to 1 February 2019.

For the first time, the Asian Cup final tournament was contested by 24 teams, having been expanded from the 16-team format that was used from 2004 to 2015. Under the new format, the finalists had to contest a group stage consisting of six groups of four teams, followed by a knockout stage of 16 teams and the quarters and semifinals.

The tournament was won for the first time by Qatar, who defeated Japan 3-1 in the Final. This was also Qatar's first ever top 4 finish in the competition. The defending champions (Australia), were eliminated by the hosts (UAE) at the quarter-final stages, who subsequently lost to the eventual champions in the semi-finals.



Muhammad Taqi and Ronnie Koh among the representatives for the Asian Cup 2019.





The tournament saw Taqi participating in his second Asian Cup while Ronnie was in his maiden one. A week preparatory course prior to the tournament consist of physical fitness test, practical training and classroom analysis sessions. Daily training were vigorous and dynamic as this was the first time the Additional Assistant Referee (AAR) and Video Assistant Referees (VAR) were used from quarter finals onwards.



Apart from the referees, FIFA Instructor, Mr John Chia and FIFA Fitness Instructor, Mr M Ganesan were also part of the technical and fitness team. Integrated practical & fitness training sessions with on field players simulating incidents in the game provides the match officials a platform to officiate the practice match with the AAR and the VAR.





With the consistent performances by them, they were appointed in the Round-16 match between Qatar & Iraq and also Taqi was part of the VAR team from the quarter finals until the final match between Japan & Qatar. The appointment of the match officials reflects the capability and potential of our local match officials and this will pathway for future local match officials to be part of the AFC prestigious tournament in time to come.





2. VFF U-19 International Football Tournament 2019

FIFA Referee, G.Letchman, was invited to officiate in the U-19 International Football Tournament hosted by Vietnam. Four teams participated in the tournament namely Thailand, Myanmar, China and the host nation.



Letchman was also appointed to officiate in the final match between Vietnam and Thailand where the former were crowned champions of the tournament by a goal to nil. In the third-place match, China beat 10-man Myanmar 3-2 to grab the bronze medal.





Referees Development

1. SPL Referees Pre-Season Preparatory Workshop

Singapore Premier League (SPL) Referees attended the two days pre-season workshop on the 26th & 27th January 2019 at Jalan Besar Stadium. The workshop, which consists of theoretical and practical training sessions mainly focus on the situations and scenarios, related to the new amendments of the Laws of the Game. The referees were assigned to individual groups for clips discussion and were then invited to do a presentation on their decisions for the match situations provided.





Prior to the SPL Workshop, shortlisted referees were scheduled for fitness training at Jalan Besar Stadium in preparation for their fitness test. For the current year, the Dynamic Yo-Yo test has been designated for the qualification of the SPL. Most of the referees attended the practical and fitness training sessions and passed the pre-requisites for the 2019 SPL season.





2. Progressive Training & Laws of the Game Refresher Workshop

Referees Department with the support from the qualified local technical instructors conducted the Laws of the Game refresher workshop (16th & 17th February) and training sessions for all referees from National Level up to Class 3 to provide them on the latest updates to the Laws of the Game. The instructor covered theoretical key topics such as penalty area incidents, offside situations, positioning & movement; to sharpen their understanding and this were translated in the practical training sessions where referees were put into on-field match scenarios and offside drills.





3. Referees Basic Course

The 1st batch of Referees Basic Course for this year was conducted in March 2019. 27 participants signed up for the four-day course and were put through theoretical and practical sessions by qualified technical instructors. The sessions emphasized on the importance of understanding football refereeing, correct interpretation, application of the Laws of the Game and its amendments. Participants sat for the theoretical and physical fitness test at the end of the four-day course to assess their theoretical understanding and physical condition.





4. AFC Referees Academy

The second module of the AFC Referees Academy took place last February with the aim of improving the quality of the continent's most promising referees by providing extensive and continuous learning, training and resources. Muhd Zulfiqar and Lim Liang Yi continued their learning journey which consists of technical aspects, physical aspects and etc. with the objective of being among the AFC elite referees in the future.





Other Activities

1) FAS Referees Connect 2019

Referees department had a productive session with all the referees during the FAS Referees Connect 2019 in last February. The event, which was held at the SportSG Auditorium, saw a huge attendance by the referees participating in the session. The objective of the session was to present the policies, upcoming plans and administrative procedures for 2019 and also create a positive camaraderie among the referees in the new season. In addition, Mr Haiyum Jaafar, Head of Football Science & Medicine, was invited to present to the referees on nutritional knowledge and the importance of a healthy diet for football athletes.





2) Warrix Sponsorship Signing Ceremony

The Football Association of Singapore signed a three-year partnership with Warrix Sport Sdn. Bhd. to provide all FAS-registered referees with a uniformed attire.

FAS President Mr Lim Kia Tong, who was present at the event, said: "It is important for us to continue to aim for and reach higher standards in our Beautiful Game. Match officials are a vital component of the game and we are delighted that Warrix shares our vision and is on board with us in this partnership. We have also looked into the progression of our local referees. By introducing more learning opportunities and ensuring a clear development pathway, we hope to bring more referees into the fold and expand our pool of officials."

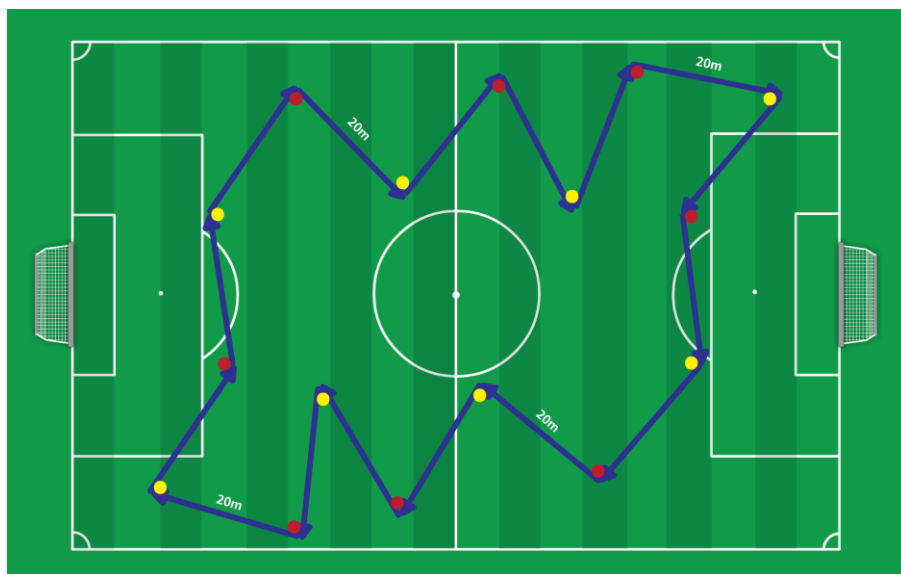
Under the partnership with Warrix, all FAS-registered referees from Singapore Premier League referees to FAS Class 3 referees will don Warrix apparel to officiate FAS-sanctioned matches for the domestic football season from 2019 - 2021. FAS Referee Assessors and Instructors will similarly wear Warrix attire when they conduct their official duties.



Fitness Training Methods

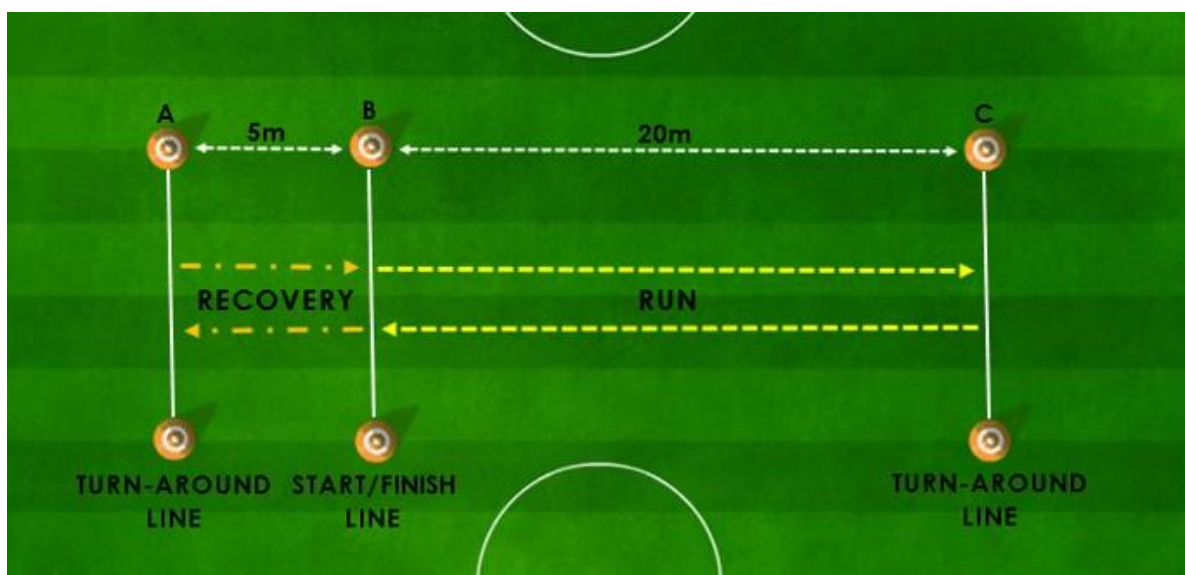
Training Method 1

i) Dynamic Yo-Yo Training



Target level:
17.6 to 18.2

ii) Classic Yo-Yo Training

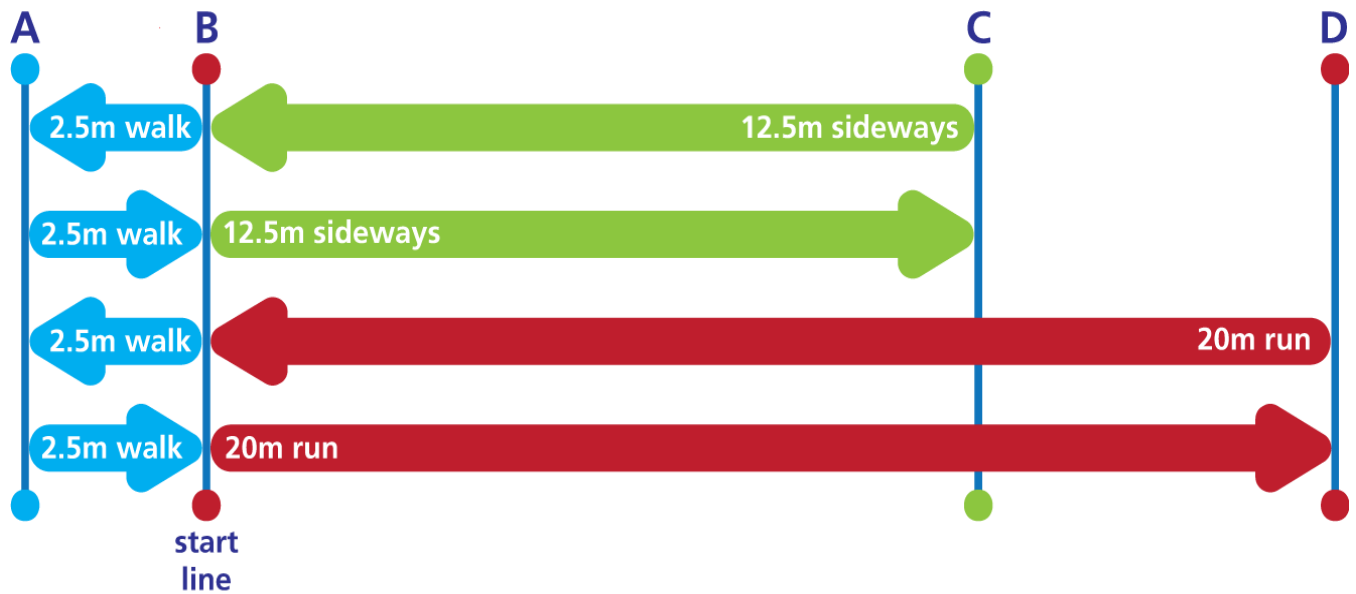


Target level:
17.4 to 17.8



Training Method 2

Assistant Referee Intermittent Endurance Test (ARIET)



Target Level:
15.5-3 to 16.0-1





Referees in Action

FAS – Warrix 2019 Attire



B Division Knockout Stage





SPL Match 2019



***Merlion Youth Cup
Final***

***Referees Booth @
Charity Shield 2019***



***Prepared by:
Referees Department***

