

Referees,

I've received a number of questions as to why a referee's name would show up highlighted in red after (or before) they have been assigned.

This is a "flag" built into our system that denotes a referee whose Ohio Concussion Certificate has expired (or will have expired) by the date of the assignment.

If your name is highlighted in red, you MUST complete the NFHS Concussion Management Course, as required by the state of Ohio for all sports officials (and coaches) who work with athletes 18 years of age or younger: <https://www.ovr.org/safesport/concussion.php>. You can still be assigned even though your name is highlighted, but you need to get this taken care of prior to the assignment.

Note that it is possible for your name to NOT be highlighted in red for some tournaments while it is for others. This is due to your concussion certificate expiration date, which is good for three years. For example, if you last took the online concussion course on February 20, 2016, any assignments you accept after February 20, 2019 (after the three-year period), will show your name highlighted in red.

When you complete the online course, save a copy of the certificate of completion and then forward it to STEVE DONAHUE - [Donahue@ovr.org](mailto:Donahue@ovr.org). DO NOT SEND IT TO ME.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Brian Hemelgarn  
OVR Referees' Chair