

AYSO INTERMEDIATE REFEREE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 – 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Which rule addresses the maximum duration a goalkeeper can possess the ball?**
 - A. Law 1
 - B. Law 2
 - C. Law 12
 - D. Law 3

- 2. What is the condition for a goal to be considered valid?**
 - A. The ball hits the crossbar and comes down
 - B. The ball fully crosses the goal line
 - C. The ball remains in the air
 - D. The ball is kicked by a defender

- 3. Which of the following is considered a direct free kick offense?**
 - A. Offside
 - B. Time-wasting
 - C. Kicking an opponent
 - D. Excessive celebration

- 4. When is the ball considered out of play?**
 - A. When the referee blows the whistle
 - B. When it crosses the goal line or touchline
 - C. When it hits the goalpost
 - D. When a player is injured

- 5. What defines 'reckless' foul play according to the rules?**
 - A. Acted with complete disregard for safety
 - B. Lack of attention or consideration
 - C. Results in a caution
 - D. Any type of contact without intent

- 6. What is the duration of halves in U-12 soccer matches?**
 - A. 20 minutes
 - B. 30 minutes
 - C. 35 minutes
 - D. 40 minutes

- 7. What happens if a player is shown a yellow card?**
- A. The player is immediately sent off.
 - B. The player must leave the field for at least five minutes.
 - C. The player receives a warning but can continue to play.
 - D. The player is replaced immediately.
- 8. What is NOT an element of the National Referee Program (NRP)?**
- A. Instruction
 - B. Assessment
 - C. Evaluation
 - D. Administration
- 9. Is a direct free kick awarded for an offside violation?**
- A. Yes
 - B. No
 - C. Only if the player interferes with another player
 - D. Only in the opponent's half
- 10. What should a referee do if a player shows dissent towards a decision?**
- A. Ignore it and continue the game
 - B. You can give them a warning and explain the decision
 - C. Award a free kick to the opposing team
 - D. Immediately show a red card

Answers

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1. C
2. B
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. B
7. C
8. C
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. Which rule addresses the maximum duration a goalkeeper can possess the ball?

- A. Law 1
- B. Law 2
- C. Law 12**
- D. Law 3

The correct answer is Law 12, which pertains to fouls and misconduct. One of the specific regulations within Law 12 addresses the maximum amount of time a goalkeeper can hold the ball in their hands. According to the Laws of the Game, the goalkeeper is allowed to have possession of the ball for a maximum of six seconds before they must release it. This rule is in place to ensure the game continues at a lively pace and prevents time-wasting strategies by teams. If the goalkeeper exceeds this time limit, the opposing team is awarded an indirect free kick from the spot where the goalkeeper was holding the ball. Understanding this rule helps referees enforce fair play and maintains the flow of the match. The other laws mentioned do not focus on this specific aspect of goalkeeping. Law 1 covers the field of play, Law 2 deals with the ball, and Law 3 addresses the number of players on the field. These laws, while crucial to the game, do not pertain to the duration a goalkeeper can hold the ball.

2. What is the condition for a goal to be considered valid?

- A. The ball hits the crossbar and comes down
- B. The ball fully crosses the goal line**
- C. The ball remains in the air
- D. The ball is kicked by a defender

A goal is considered valid when the ball fully crosses the goal line between the goalposts and beneath the crossbar. This criteria ensures that the entirety of the ball must pass over the line for the goal to count, which is essential to maintaining the integrity of scoring in soccer. The necessity for the ball to completely cross the line aligns with the official laws of the game, which state that if any part of the ball remains on or above the line, a goal has not been scored. The other options do not fulfill the requirement for a valid goal. For instance, if the ball hits the crossbar and does not cross the line, it cannot be counted as a goal. Similarly, if the ball remains in the air and hasn't crossed the line, or if a defender kicks it but it does not completely enter the goal area, these scenarios do not meet the criteria for a valid goal. Therefore, the requirement for the ball to completely cross the goal line is essential for scoring.

3. Which of the following is considered a direct free kick offense?

- A. Offside
- B. Time-wasting
- C. Kicking an opponent**
- D. Excessive celebration

A direct free kick offense occurs when a player commits a foul that directly leads to a free kick being awarded to the opposing team where the ball can be kicked directly into the goal without needing to touch another player first. In this context, the action of kicking an opponent is a clear foul that meets this criterion. It is a violation of the Laws of the Game that is considered to endanger the safety of the opponent and is therefore penalized with a direct free kick. The other situations mentioned do not qualify as direct free kick offenses. For instance, being caught offside is not a foul in itself but rather a violation of the rules regarding player positioning and timing when the ball is played. Time-wasting is generally considered unsporting behavior but does not lead to a direct free kick; it may result in an indirect free kick or a caution. Similarly, excessive celebration, while it may warrant a caution, does not constitute a direct free kick offense as it is not one of the fouls that can directly result in a free kick. Therefore, kicking an opponent is the clear choice for a direct free kick offense in this scenario.

4. When is the ball considered out of play?

- A. When the referee blows the whistle
- B. When it crosses the goal line or touchline**
- C. When it hits the goalpost
- D. When a player is injured

The ball is considered out of play when it crosses the goal line or the touchline, whether on the ground or in the air. This fundamental rule ensures that the game pauses for certain situations such as goal kicks, corner kicks, throw-ins, or when a goal is scored. Understanding this aspect is crucial for both players and referees, as it dictates when play can resume and what actions are permissible during those moments. In contrast, while the referee blowing the whistle does signal an event, such as a foul or the end of a period, it is the crossing of the goal line or touchline that officially determines the ball's status. Hitting the goalpost does not affect play; as long as the ball remains in the field of play after contact with the post, it is still considered active. Additionally, a player being injured may lead to a stoppage of play, but the ball is only out of play when it has actually crossed the defined boundaries of the field.

5. What defines 'reckless' foul play according to the rules?

- A. Acted with complete disregard for safety**
- B. Lack of attention or consideration
- C. Results in a caution
- D. Any type of contact without intent

Reckless foul play is defined as actions by a player that demonstrate a complete disregard for the safety of an opponent or for the consequences of their actions. This type of play indicates a higher level of danger than a simple careless action, as a reckless act not only involves potential harm but does so without concern for the safety of others involved in the game. When a player acts recklessly, it typically leads to the necessity of issuing a caution, as the rules aim to ensure safety on the field. It reflects an understanding that players must remain aware of their surroundings and the safety of others while playing. The key aspect of 'reckless' is the willful nature of the action, which is not met by simply lacking attention or consideration. That might imply carelessness, but not the conscious disregard that characterizes recklessness. Thus, the definition focuses on the intent and awareness involved in the player's actions, reinforcing the commitment to player safety within the game.

6. What is the duration of halves in U-12 soccer matches?

- A. 20 minutes
- B. 30 minutes**
- C. 35 minutes
- D. 40 minutes

In U-12 soccer matches, the duration of each half is set at 30 minutes. This time frame is established to balance player development with the physical capabilities of younger athletes. At this age, players are still developing their skills and understanding of the game, so having manageable match durations allows them to maintain their focus and energy throughout the game without becoming overly fatigued. While various choices may reflect different age groups or levels of play, understanding that U-12 matches are structured with 30-minute halves is essential for referees to properly manage the game and ensure players have an experience that is both enjoyable and developmental. This timing aligns with the guidelines provided by organizations governing youth soccer, which aim to promote skills development and keep young players engaged in the sport.

7. What happens if a player is shown a yellow card?

- A. The player is immediately sent off.
- B. The player must leave the field for at least five minutes.
- C. The player receives a warning but can continue to play.**
- D. The player is replaced immediately.

When a player is shown a yellow card, it serves as a caution rather than a disciplinary expulsion. This means the player receives a warning for their actions and can continue to participate in the game. Yellow cards are issued for various infractions, such as unsporting behavior, dissent, or delaying the restart of play, but they do not result in the player being removed from the match. Should a player receive a second yellow card in the same game, it would then escalate to a red card, leading to a dismissal from the match. The other choices suggest immediate removal from the game or mandatory time away from the field, which are not associated with receiving a yellow card. The yellow card system allows for a measure of discipline while still allowing the player the opportunity to correct their behavior.

8. What is NOT an element of the National Referee Program (NRP)?

- A. Instruction
- B. Assessment
- C. Evaluation**
- D. Administration

The National Referee Program (NRP) includes a variety of components designed to develop and promote effective officiating at all levels of soccer. Among these components, instruction and assessment are key elements. Instruction provides the necessary training and curriculum for referees to understand the rules and improve their skills. Assessment involves evaluating the performance of referees in real match situations, ensuring they meet the standards required for officiating. Administration, while not directly related to the performance of referees on the field, is critical for managing the overall structure and organization of the program, including scheduling, compliance, and coordination of training sessions. Evaluation, which may seem similar to assessment, typically refers to the broader process of gathering feedback about the program overall rather than evaluating individual performances in matches. This distinction highlights how the term "evaluation" does not serve as an official element in the same capacity as the others. Therefore, since evaluation does not specifically pertain to the structured elements that focus on referee development and performance within the NRP, it is recognized as not being a direct part of the program.

9. Is a direct free kick awarded for an offside violation?

- A. Yes
- B. No**
- C. Only if the player interferes with another player
- D. Only in the opponent's half

A direct free kick is not awarded for an offside violation because the offside rule is not classified as a foul under the Laws of the Game. Instead, an offside infraction leads to an indirect free kick being awarded to the opposing team. The offside rule aims to ensure fair play and prevent players from gaining an unfair advantage by lingering near the opponent's goal, but it does not involve any physical contact or misconduct that would typically result in a direct free kick. The options suggesting different conditions or instances for awarding a direct free kick missing the key fact that the penalty for being offside is consistently an indirect free kick, regardless of player behavior or location on the field. Understanding this distinction is essential for referees in applying the rules accurately during matches.

10. What should a referee do if a player shows dissent towards a decision?

- A. Ignore it and continue the game
- B. You can give them a warning and explain the decision**
- C. Award a free kick to the opposing team
- D. Immediately show a red card

When a player shows dissent towards a referee's decision, the most appropriate action is to give them a warning and explain the decision. This addresses the player's concerns and helps maintain communication and respect on the field. Dissent can disrupt the flow of the game, but directly ignoring it may lead to further escalation. By providing a brief explanation, you can clear up any misunderstandings while reinforcing the authority of the referee. In some situations, if dissent continues or escalates after the warning, a more serious disciplinary action may be warranted. However, the initial response should be to engage with the player constructively, rather than resorting to penalties that could negatively impact the game or the player's experience.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

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We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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