

**William Renderos – Region I Referee**  
**Huntington Station, New York**  
**Eastern New York State Soccer Association**

William is a USSF Grade 4 Referee who has been officiating the game at the national, regional and state levels for many years. He has participated in the U.S. Soccer Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup for USASA, USL and MLS teams as well as in numerous WPSL and NPSL semifinals. Renderos has also devoted his time to Region I USASA National Cups for both, rounds of qualification and finals. At the state level, William has officiated in the State Cup Finals and Interstate Cup Finals. Recognized for his participation in several tournaments, he was appointed to referee various USSF Development matches.

A truly mentor, Renderos has helped other colleagues advanced by instructing them and showing them the integrity of the game that he has learned through his bad and good experiences; the significance of the role of a team player and as a leader of the team; professionalism; code of conduct inside and outside the field; recommendation and assignment of high level competitive games; instructing them in laws of the games and experiences not covered by the book.

He has assisted with registration in new and active referees, assignment of referees, dedication to youth development of referees and mentoring, dedication to the family, the work place and the referees association's activities.

Mr. Renderos has collaborated unconditionally with his supervisors, colleagues and state referees administrators representing USASA and USSF with respect and honor. He has worked and continues to work endlessly to perform a qualified job in every game to represent professionalism as the soccer association he represents. He continuously strives for the improvement of the youth development of referees to excel because he believes they represent the future and success of the soccer association.

**Hilario "Chico" Grajeda ☞ Region II Referee**  
**Huber Heights, Ohio**  
**Southern Ohio Adult Soccer Association**

A very frequent face at Regional Tournaments since the 1990's, Hilario Grajeda's skills have advanced him to MLS officiating and to being a co-founder of the Professional Referee Academy. A National Referee since 2002, Grajeda has also officiated at USASA's Donnelly Cup, at the National Cups Finals, and at the 2003 Soccer Festival in Houston.

Chico has been active in conducting testing for professional and state recertification clinics in Dayton, Ohio, and is in his fifteenth year of officiating for the Southern Ohio Adult Soccer Association. Grajeda devotes considerable energies as a mentor for younger referees with on and off field issues, conducts assessments to help enhance younger referees' abilities, volunteers as a presenter in advanced clinics to assist referees with game-essential issues, and assists in entry-level clinics to help new referees with mechanics, positioning, and communication.

Regional Referee Administrator Ken Baldeosingh, in commenting on Hilario Grajeda's selection, said "Grajeda serves as an outstanding role model to all younger referees, both on and off the field of play. He is uniquely focused in advancing youth referees toward the adult game."

Grajeda resides in the Dayton, Ohio area with his wife Jenny and three children.

**Gary Owen – Region III Referee**  
**Plano, Texas**  
**North Texas State Soccer Association**

After achieving top honors in the 1997 Youth Regional Finals, Gary was asked to take part in the Youth National Tournament. Then in 1998, he achieved the honor of National Referee where he attended his first referee camp in California.

Subsequent to attaining his State Referee Grade 5, Gary was introduced to a much faster and exciting game of soccer called D-3 and the A-league, of the former USISL (now USL). He was always available when the North Texas State Soccer Association requested his assistance and was happy to be there. Owen quickly learned the key elements of becoming a proficient referee as he excelled to the State level and those achievements were noticed by all. He was then asked to be a part of the newly formed professional division of USSF called: Major League Soccer (MLS).

Mr. Owen has helped and given guidance to many colleagues in the Referee Program. Since 1998, he has extended a hand to referees who had not yet been as fortunate and needed more study time, by putting together study guides for those who did not pass the written test.

An active referee with a demanding schedule, Gary makes sure to have time to work as an assignor, assessor, instructor referee, administrator or volunteer participation in the referee mentor at any level of the game. Gary was ultimately asked by many referees to put together a fitness training regiment, which he immediately executed. He also put together various fitness programs for North Texas referees of all grades to help them achieve their goals.

He has been recognized for "off the field" activities as well. Every year, Gary attended the 3000-meter Club while in existence at the National Referee Camp. He feels honored to have been a part of the National Referee Program and he actually feels the camp transformed him into a better individual. Currently, he is helping with the set up of a complete indoor sports facility: soccer, gymnastics, full medical clinic, among other features. Mr. Owen will also be assisting the local Adult Co-Ed League and other programs such as the amputee program for youth players which will eventually be carried over to adults. This will provide a place for returning veterans to have a recreational program as well.

**Bill Miller – Region IV Referee**  
**Pleasanton, California**  
**California Soccer Association-North**

Bill has been an active referee for many years and registered with the USSF for 22 years. He holds a USSF Grade 8 Referee badge and has participated in several USASA Region IV Finals and USSF Development Academies.

Extending a hand has always been present on Miller's life. He has helped and given guidance to other referees by assessing, mentoring and teaching clinics. Clinics which he plans and organizes at the advanced level.

He not only devotes his time refereeing numerous games, but dedicates time to various activities off the field. Bill serves as Secretary and Assistant to the State Director of Assessments. Miller is a generous individual who drives to referees in need of guidance and development. One of his favorite things to do as a referee is to spend every Sunday with the San Francisco Soccer League assessing.