Contract for participation in USA tournaments with Referee Abroad SSD and US Officials.

This Contract ("Contract") is entered into between Referee Abroad SSD ("RA"), acting also on behalf of its American partner U.S. Officials, and the undersigned referee ("Referee").

By signing this Contract, the Referee confirms full acceptance of the Referee Abroad Terms & Conditions published on www.refereeabroad.com, which form an integral part of this agreement.

Referee Abroad SSD – Company details

Sports company registered in Italy under **OPES / CONI**
VAT No. (P. IVA): **04549050989**
Registered office: **Via Donatello 80, Brescia, Italy**

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1. Volunteer Status and Participation Conditions

The Referee participates as a **registered volunteer** for the entire duration of the USA tournaments.

Participation is **strictly conditional upon authorization by U.S. Soccer**, which will be granted only upon correct submission and approval of **all required documentation**, as outlined in the official acceptance email sent by Referee Abroad from **info@refereeabroad.com**.

Failure to comply with documentation requirements may result in exclusion from participation without refund.

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2. Participation Fee – Services Included

The participation fee includes the following services, organized and coordinated by Referee Abroad in cooperation with U.S. Officials:

- **Round-trip international flights** (Europe/Asia – USA) in **basic economy class**, according to airline policies
  (*no checked baggage, seat selection, upgrades, or additional services unless purchased independently by the Referee*);
- **Accommodation** in hotels (twin rooms) or shared housing (student dorms, Airbnb, etc.) arranged by the organizers; multiple check-ins and shared arrangements may occur depending on tournament logistics;
- **Meals on official tournament days only**, consisting of breakfast and lunch (no dinner);
- **Shared rental vehicles**, provided exclusively for tournament-related transportation and logistics;
- **Official Referee Abroad merchandise**;
- Presence of an **on-site group leader**, responsible for coordination, communication, and logistical support.

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3. Rental Cars – Fair Use, Fuel, Insurance & Tolls

Rental vehicles are provided **exclusively for official tournament purposes** and are subject to the following binding conditions:

3.1 Fair Use Definition

For the purposes of this Contract, **"fair use"** of rental vehicles is strictly limited to:

- Transfers **to and from the airport** to the tournament location;
- Travel **between accommodation and tournament venues** (fields, meetings, assignments);
- Local movements strictly necessary for daily logistics, including **shops, hotels, and official locations** related to tournament participation.

Any use outside the scope defined above, including **voluntary long-distance, leisure, or touristic trips undertaken during free days**, shall **not** be considered fair use. Limited non-long-distance use for leisure activities will be accepted in the referees' free time.

3.2 Fuel Policy

- Petrol costs must be **prepaid by the users**;
- Fuel expenses will be reimbursed **only if compliant with fair use** as defined above;
- Reimbursement is subject to verification and approval by the group leader or organizers;
- Fuel used for non-authorized or leisure travel will **not** be reimbursed.

3.3 Insurance and Roadside Assistance

- All rental vehicles include **full CDW insurance with zero deductible**, already included by the organizers;
- **No additional insurance is required**, regardless of statements made by rental company staff;
- **Roadside assistance is not included**. Should a driver voluntarily choose to add roadside assistance or any optional coverage, **all related costs shall be borne entirely by the driver** and will not be reimbursed.

3.4 Drivers

- Referees **aged 25 or older** may be required to act as drivers for operational needs;
- In such cases, the Referee will be **fully insured under the existing rental policy**, provided all rules and instructions are respected;
- Drivers are responsible for any misuse, fines, damages, violations, or unauthorized expenses.

3.5 Tolls

- **Tolls will not be reimbursed** under any circumstances unless specifically authorized by management;

- Drivers will be expressly instructed to **use non-toll roads whenever possible**.

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4. Costs Not Included / Personal Expenses

The participation fee does **not** include:

- Optional airline services beyond basic economy;
- Dinners on tournament days and all meals on free days;
- ESTA application fees and passport-related costs;
- Medical, health, or travel insurance beyond basic coverage;
- Taxi, Uber, or rideshare services without prior approval;
- Tolls, parking fines, traffic violations, damages, extra accommodation, or leisure-related travel.

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5. Insurance – Mandatory Awareness

Referees are **strongly advised** to purchase comprehensive travel insurance covering medical expenses in the USA, personal liability, accidents, and emergency repatriation.

A basic insurance is included through participation with Referee Abroad; however, this coverage is **limited** and **not sufficient** to cover potential medical expenses in the United States.

Referee Abroad and U.S. Officials shall not be held liable for any costs or damages arising from insufficient or missing insurance coverage.

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6. Duties, Assignments, and Fitness Declaration

Referees are expected to officiate **an average of three to four (3-4) matches per day** *(full length)*, in accordance with tournament scheduling and operational needs, and to perform their duties with **full focus, neutrality, and professional competence in every match**, regardless of match level, age group, or perceived importance.

Referees must attend **all scheduled educational, technical, instructional, and briefing sessions**, which constitute an **essential and mandatory component** of the tournament program. Attendance, punctuality, and active participation in these sessions are required and may be monitored. Failure to attend or engage appropriately may affect match assignments or continued participation.

All match appointments, duties, and schedules are managed **exclusively by U.S. Officials**, whose decisions regarding assignments, rotations, and workloads are final and not subject to negotiation.

By signing this Contract, the Referee formally declares and warrants that they are **physically, medically, and professionally fit** to officiate multiple matches per day under tournament conditions, including heat, travel demands, and compressed schedules, and that they are capable of **consistently delivering their best performance** throughout the duration of the tournament.

Any inability or unwillingness to meet these standards, **other than due to genuine circumstances beyond the individual's control, including verified injury or illness, and despite good-faith efforts to comply**, may be considered a breach of this Contract and may result in further action by the managing organization and the respective federations.

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7. Conduct, SafeSport, and Disciplinary Measures

Referees are required to maintain **the highest standards of professionalism** at all times during their participation in the tournament, including during matches, official events, travel, accommodation, and any activity connected to the tournament.

Referees must comply fully with:

- All applicable **local, state, and federal laws** of the United States;
- All **U.S. Soccer regulations**, codes of conduct, and competition rules;
- All **SafeSport policies** and safeguarding requirements;
- All instructions, guidelines, and operational rules issued by Referee Abroad, U.S. Officials, tournament organizers, or appointed group leaders.

In addition, Referees are expected to demonstrate, at all times:

- **Professional conduct**, appropriate to their role as match officials;

- **Respectful behavior** toward players, coaches, officials, tournament staff, accommodation staff, transportation providers, and fellow referees;
- **Good manners, appropriate language, and cultural awareness**, both on and off the field;
- **Punctuality and reliability** for all matches, meetings, briefings *(including Zoom sessions pre-tournament*), travel schedules, and assigned duties;
- **Respect for rules, procedures, shared resources, and property**, including accommodation, vehicles, and equipment.

Any behavior that is unprofessional, disrespectful, unsafe, disruptive, or inconsistent with the values and standards of Referee Abroad, U.S. Officials, U.S. Soccer may be considered a **serious breach** of this Contract.

Such violations may result, at the sole discretion of Referee Abroad and/or U.S. Officials, in **immediate removal from the tournament**, **termination of participation without any refund**, and, where appropriate, **reporting to relevant authorities, football associations, federations, or disciplinary bodies**, including the Referee's national or regional association.

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8. Free Days and Accommodation Commitment

Accommodation confirmed for free days is **binding**.

If the Referee voluntarily chooses alternative arrangements, they shall bear **all resulting costs**, including accommodation, transportation, and related expenses.

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9. Force Majeure

Referee Abroad shall not be liable for delays, changes, or cancellations caused by events beyond its reasonable control.

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10. Data Protection

Personal data will be processed in accordance with **GDPR (EU Regulation 2016/679)** and used solely for purposes related to tournament participation and administration.

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11. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

This Contract is governed by **Italian law**.
Any dispute shall fall under the **exclusive jurisdiction of Italian courts**.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT – VEHICLE, FUEL & INSURANCE RULES

☐ **I confirm that I have read, understood, and fully accept the rules regarding rental vehicles, fair use, fuel reimbursement, insurance coverage, roadside assistance, tolls, and driver responsibilities as set out in this Contract.**

REFEREE DETAILS

Full Name: _____
Nationality: _____
Passport No.: _____
Email: _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____