



## Linda Velie

Mrs. Linda Velie has served Washington State, Region IV and US Soccer for over 30 consecutive years in various capacities such as referee, instructor, assessor, assignor, and administrator. She is well known for her services in the referee community in the State of Washington as well as nationally.

**As Referee:** Linda started her soccer referee career by becoming first registered in June 1981 as a grade 8 referee and then in 1982 she upgraded to grade 6 State and then to grade 5 State in 1987. Currently she is registered as grade 15 Emeritus referee (US Soccer records only confirm back to 1986). Highlights of her referee career include 1989, the first female as referee in a Men's Professional game, attended National Camp in 1991 & 1992 and represented Washington in the Region IV Youth Championships 1982-1989.

**As Assignor:** Linda started as an assignor in 1996, having previously assisted Don Baker in developing Referee Assigning Program (1986). She started assigning in the Region IV Youth Championships in 1990, then became the Region IV Youth Referee Administrator in 1993 through 2003. She also was an Assignor Instructor from 1996 on.

**As Instructor:** Linda started as an instructor in 1985 (US Soccer records only confirm back to 1992). One of her first students was Sandra Hunt. She attended the CONCACAF International Course for Referee Instructors in Colorado Springs in 1988, then became a National Instructor in 1996. During this period and continuing through today, she has taught all levels of instructors/upgrading instructors and intermediate to advanced training for referees locally in Washington and throughout the United States. Documents she edited or wrote include "Procedures for Referees and Linesmen" for Robert Evans, NDRI 1988-1989, the pamphlet for USYSA, "Parents, Coaches, Referees, It's the Players' Game" 1995 and the pamphlet for USYSA, "Operation GET REAL" 1996.

**As Assessor:** Linda started as an assessor in 1982 (US Soccer records only confirm back to 1986) and reached the grade of State Assessor in 1991.

As Administrator: Linda was the Washington State Director of Instruction 1988-1991, State Youth Referee Administrator 2001-2003, (as above) Region IV Youth Referee Administrator in 1993 through 2003 and Referee Administrator for Region IV Girls ODP 1996-1996.

Awards (there are many others): Linda was the Finalist in Everett Herald "Man and Woman of the Year in Sports Award" 1996, Inducted into WSYSA's "Hall of Fame" 1999 and recipient of The Golden Scarf Award by the Seattle Sounders 2010.