

# 2021 AAU REFEREE PRE-TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

(Saturday May 29, 2021) ~~updated 6-3-21/6-12-21~~

Print this document and take it with you when you travel. Or access it on my website.

Welcome to Orlando!! My website address is [www.omnevb.net](http://www.omnevb.net) where you can always view all documents. Texting is preferred over calling. If you need to call and I don't answer, please leave a message. Most likely I will text you back.

Starting on **Monday June 14**, there will be a general phone number to reach the Officials' office staff. Use this number **531-772-3340** to contact Sue or a member of the office staff. Always include your name in your message. Do not send tournament messages directly to any staff member. The tournament phone can be used for emergencies at any time.

During the tournament, there will be a list of lead referees and their phone numbers. You can contact your area lead ref directly for any court issues.

(Please do not contact Sue before 6 am or after 10 pm unless it is an emergency.) Schedule issues are an emergency and should be texted to 531-772-3340.

## COVID UPDATES

Posted to my website are updated tournament covid requirements. However . . . it has still not been finalized if the referees will need to wear masks or not. Referees should still be prepared to wear masks, especially if you are blowing a whistle. It is still being determined if an electronic whistle can be used with or without a mask.

## HOTEL

Sheraton Lake Buena Vista Resort  
12205 Apopka Vineland Rd  
Orlando FL 32836  
407-239-0444

If you are driving, directions to the hotel can be viewed on the hotel's website.

If you have a Marriott Bonvoy number, you will only get points (or credits), if you personally pay for a room.

Each room has a refrigerator in the dresser beneath the TV. The hotel has laundry facilities. Microwaves are not allowed in guest rooms, but a general microwave is located in the lobby. The resort fee and parking fee are waived for our group.

Please DO NOT CALL the hotel and make special requests. If you call the hotel, they just call me to verify the request. If you have a request, please let me know.

Check in at the hotel is not until **4:00 pm**. So if you arrive earlier and try to check in and they have your room ready, then good for you. But if they do not have your room ready, do not pester the front desk staff. Anyone who harasses, bullies, intimidates, or raises their voice at any hotel staff will be dismissed from the tournament immediately. The hotel will store your luggage until your room is ready.

Even though, your room charges are covered by AAU, you will still need to provide a credit card at check-in for incidentals. Please be prepared to provide one.

Be patient, store your bags, go to officials registration, go to the grocery store, find something to eat, amuse yourself, but do not bother the front desk staff. Most rooms are pre-assigned and because we have so many rooms, the staff does not have much ability to make changes (or get your room cleaned) any quicker. If you are not happy, I have other referees who would love to take your place.

On Thursday June 17, the Majestic Palm C room will be available as an officials' lounge. You can store luggage or just hang out.

The hotel has opened up the Marketplace which is stocked with beverages, snacks, frozen meals, sandwiches.

## **HOTEL HOUSEKEEPING INFO**

At 6:00 PM (every day) during AAU, housekeeping will bring bathroom amenities and additional towels to the front desk to hand out if asked. This is to avoid calls to the desk and having runners deliver them to the rooms. So if you need/want towels, etc, stop at the front desk on your way to your room. If you need/want something else (ie, coffee cups, etc), stop at the front desk on your way out in the morning, make your request, then stop back when you return.

- Remember at no time, will you 'fuss' at any member of the hotel staff. Staffing has not returned to pre-covid levels, so be patient and considerate.
- In addition, housekeeping will "refresh" rooms which will entail:
  - Changing out towels
  - Emptying garbage
  - replace bathroom amenities
- Even floors will be refreshed on the following dates:
  - 6/20
  - 6/24
  - 6/28
- Odd Floor will be refreshed on:
  - 6/21
  - 6/25
  - 6/29

If you have a number of dirty towels, you can leave them outside of your door and they will be picked up during the day. But the only way you can get additional towels is to stop by the front desk after 6:00 pm. You can also leave reasonable amounts of trash outside your door. Request additional trash bags from the front desk.

## **TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO HOTEL**

There are many transportation options from the airport to the hotel. You can find options on the Orlando airport website at [orlandoairport.net](http://orlandoairport.net).

A local referee is also offering rides from the airport to the hotel for \$15 per person. If you are interested, text Felix Sepulveda (407-988-8701) in advance to set-up a ride. He will only accept exact cash or Zelle. This is an arrangement between you and him and has nothing to do with AAU, the airport, the hotel or me.

## **HOTEL ATTENDANCE DATES and ROOMMATES**

**Posted on my website is an online link to hotel dates and roommates.** I apologize if you are not rooming with your original roommate choice, but sometimes I need to adjust rooms and roommates according to arrival and departure dates to minimize the number of hotel nights we are using. If you have an extreme issue with your roommate, please let me know.

If you have a roommate you've never met before nor roomed with before, make sure you read the 'How to Be a Good Roommate' document posted on my website. You should contact your roommate in advance.

You need to check your hotel arrival and departure dates. Let me know if they are not correct.

### **PRE-TOURNAMENT MEETING**

If your first attendance year at AAU was in 2019 (2020 or 2021), you will be required to attend a pre-tournament meeting on Thursday June 17 at 8:00 pm. The meeting is only required for first time attendees, but everyone is welcome to attend. This meeting will be held in Majestic Palm D/E/F/G.

The second session mandatory pre-tournament meeting for first time attendees is at 5 pm on Monday June 21 in convention center room N330. The third session mandatory pre-tournament meeting for first time attendees is at 5:00 pm on Friday June 25 in room N330.

On June 21 and June 25, the bus runs continuously all day from the hotel to the convention center and back.

There will be a pdf powerpoint presentation sent out the week prior to June 14 for ALL referees to view.

### **OFFICIALS REGISTRATION**

In addition to checking into the hotel, all officials need to register as an official on the day prior to the start of the tournament. Officials Registration will be in the Royal Palm 3 ballroom on Thursday June 17 from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm. The Royal Palm ballrooms are located towards the back of the hotel property. Upon arrival at Officials Registration, please enter the doors by the pool. Proceed about ½ way down the hallway to get started.

If you are unable to arrive in time to check-in, you will have to come early the next morning to the convention center. If you do not arrive in time, you should text the AAU phone number (531-772-3340) upon your arrival into Orlando, so we know that you have arrived and will be ready to work the next morning. You should arrive at the convention center the next morning no later than 7:30 am.

Check-in for the second and third sessions will be held at the Officials office (N322) at the convention center on the day prior to the start of each session.

Referees at Officials Registration will be given a VIK (value in kind) package which will include an AAU polo shirt, an AAU t-shirt and a really cool AAU jacket. The 2 shirts, along with other shirts (that you must provide) will be worn as the uniform shirt. The shirts you provide should be either the certified officials gray, blue or white polo. If you do not have any of those shirts, you can wear a plain white polo that does not have ANY logos.

### **GROCERIES/FOOD**

The Winn Dixie grocery store, a couple of blocks from the hotel, has online ordering and delivery service. So if you want your groceries delivered, check it out at winndixie.com (use zip code 32836). I know nothing about the service. I just thought you might be interested. You can also walk, take an Uber or ask another referee for a ride. Walmart is another good delivery option.

No food is provided during the tournament, but you are welcome to bring your own. There is ice available for you in the back hallway at the convention center to put in your cooler, but it is not available for storage. There is a microwave located in the N322 office. No popcorn can be microwaved. Bring all the snacks/food you want, but you should be somewhat discreet about it. Put it in a gym bag or backpack. All food, including sodas that you bring needs to stay in the officials' lounge.

There are numerous restaurants within walking distance of the hotel.

### **TRANSPORTATION from the HOTEL to the CONVENTION CENTER**

We are using all the North and South A and B halls at the convention center and the 'A' hall of the West Concourse (older building on west side of I-Drive) for all 3 sessions. The officials offices are in the north halls (rm N322). To get from the hotel to the convention center, we have our own bus system. A schedule will be posted regarding departure times, etc.

You will board the bus in the back of the hotel by the Majestic Palm Ballrooms. The busses take about 45 minutes to make one round trip. Masks will be required on the bus.

We also use vans to transport referees when busses are not available. We will also use vans to transport referees to the West Concourse.

## **BUS SCHEDULE**

Bus drops off at North B entrance only. Bus picks at North A only.

Hotel to OCCC AM schedule 6:15am/7:00am/7:45am/8:30am/9:15am/10:00am

OCCC to Hotel PM schedule 7:15pm/8:00pm/8:45pm/9:30pm/10:15pm/11:00pm on days that shuttle

On Finals days (MO June 21/FR June 25/TU June 29) hotel departure at:

6:15am/7:00am/7:45am/8:30am/9:15am/10:00am

OCCC to Hotel PM schedule:

12:15pm/1:00pm/1:45pm/2:30pm/3:15pm/4:00pm/4:45pm/5:30pm/6:15pm/7:00pm

Individuals also drive to the convention center and need/want riders in the morning. You can ride with an individual if you want.

To get from the hotel to the WEST concourse, you **MUST TAKE A VAN** or a personal car. The bus does not go to the West concourse.

1. If you have your own car and you want to drive to the convention center, you must take a full carload of referees with you, if you want a parking pass.
2. There are only 50 parking passes available per day. If you choose to drive yourself and do not have a parking pass, there is no reimbursement of parking fees.
3. Most parking passes are gone by 7:15 am.
4. If you are planning to drive your personal car, please follow this plan in the back parking lot:
  - a. Do not drive in the lane closest to the hotel. Leave that lane open for the buses to drive in.
  - b. If your car is full and you need a parking pass, go to the 3<sup>rd</sup> lane from the building.
  - c. If you need to wait for passenger to fill your car, you should park in the 2<sup>nd</sup> lane from the building.

## **NAMETAGS**

Each referee will receive a nametag that will be worn at **ALL** times (yes, even when you are officiating). It is impossible for anyone to remember all of you. If you did not return your nametag at checkout last year, make sure you bring it with you this year. All nametags will be returned at checkout this year. If you want to keep yours, I will order you another one for a \$5 charge.

## **SHIRTS and VIK**

Sizes are not guaranteed, but we try to make sure you get what you requested. If you want a different size, you can exchange an unworn shirt or jacket after 10:00 am on the first day of play.

## **REFEREE MATCH PAY**

Regional/Provisional and non-certified referees will receive \$28 match pay. National/Junior Nationals will be paid \$31.

## **SHIRT of the DAY SCHEDULE**

FR 18	certified <b>white</b> officials polo/plain <b>white</b> polo (no logos)/previous year's AAU <b>white</b> polo
SA 19	Dig Pink (white polos or Dig Pink shirts with no competing logos)
SU 20	new AAU t-shirt (can wear white polo underneath)
MO 21	new AAU polo (gray)
TU 22	gray or white certified officials polo or ANY AAU previous year's polo
WE 23	Dig Pink (white polos or Dig Pink shirts with no competing logos)

TH 24	new AAU t-shirt (can wear white polo underneath)
FR 25	new AAU polo (gray)
SA 26	blue or white certified officials polo or ANY AAU previous year's polo
SU 27	Dig Pink (white polos or Dig Pink shirts with no competing logos)
MO 28	new AAU t-shirt (can wear white polo underneath)
TU 29	new AAU polo (gray)

Any **AAU** outerwear can be worn in the facility when not working. But the **ONLY** acceptable outerwear that **can be worn on the stand** is this year's new AAU jacket. Do **NOT** wear other organizations clothing in the facility.

The rest of the required uniform is navy dress pants with a navy or black belt, ALL white athletic shoes and all white socks. No shorts are allowed to be worn by the referees.

### **OFFICIALS' LOUNGE at OCCC**

The officials' lounge at OCCC will be on the third floor in room N320. There will be specific entrances and exits from the playing floor. So use the appropriate escalators (or elevator) up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Be aware this is a public elevator, so you need to be aware of parents with strollers and wheelchairs. The officials lounge on the south side will be room S310. You can leave your food and other items in the room.

### **CONFLICTS and CHANGES**

If you know of a time conflict (church, etc) prior to arriving at the tournament, please note that conflict in your AES account for that session.

If you encounter a time conflict after arriving at the tournament, you must enter a change request form that is only available online (on my website). If you have trouble completing the online form, stop in the office – N322 and there is a computer for you to use. There are **NO** paper copies of the change request form.

### **DON'T FORGET TO BRING:**

As you pack for this event, it's wise to bring a few things that you wouldn't normally bring.

- Umbrella (it rains almost every day in Orlando in the summer)
- A small portable cooler (to bring your lunch if you want)
- Flags

**Line Judge flags are not provided by the tournament, but if you own flags, please bring them. You can buy flags at the officials meeting if you want them. (\$25)**

Harold Webber will have officiating polos and other officiating gear to sell. If you want something specific, contact him in advance, so he makes sure to bring it with him.

Thang Nguyen will have masks in all colors that match the officials shirts.

### **FINALS DAY – HOTEL CHECKOUT**

You must remove your belongings from your hotel room prior to noon on your checkout date. Failure to do so will result in a penalty from me and an extra day charge by the hotel. The hotel will store your luggage, or you can bring it to the convention center.

### **TOURNAMENT COMMUNICATION**

**NEW**

I have developed some new lines of communication. Instead of you (the referee) trying to find your lead ref or trying to remember who to call at the desk, I have some new general phone numbers for everyone to use. You can put these number in your phone as:

North Desk (402-206-3407) (courts 1 – 62)

South Desk (402-547-3683) (courts 63 – 130)

West Desk (402-657-0272) (courts 131 – 171)

So now, there is just one number for you to call. The desk referee will then contact the appropriate person. You can call/text with equipment issues or if you need a lead ref to come to your court. If you do not include your name, make sure you court number. Make sure you know

These are temporary numbers and they will expire at the end of June. New numbers will be issued next year.