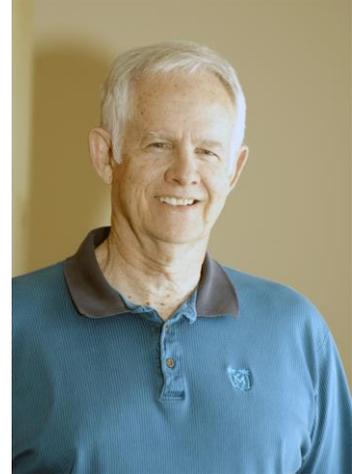


### **Bob Wertz, 2015 Hall of Fame Inductee, Referee**

For more than 40 years, Bob Wertz has contributed to referee programs at the state, regional and national levels of soccer in the United States, and his influence can be seen in hundreds of officials across the country. Wertz is a life member of the U.S. Soccer Federation Referee Program, as well as a State Referee emeritus and a National Assessor emeritus.

Wertz currently is the assessor coordinator for US Youth Soccer Region III, where he assigns all assessors to games and manages the assessor mentor program. He is also a high school rules interpreter, a state referee instructor and the local area coordinator for professional games in Louisiana.



All of Wertz's present duties are a continuation of a lifetime of contributions to refereeing in the United States. Beginning with his early days as an assistant state referee administrator in Baton Rouge, La., Wertz helped create significant advances in referee development and programs. From 2004-2010, he acted as chairman of the Youth Referee Committee for US Youth Soccer.

In his role as Youth Referee Committee chairman, Wertz filled a long list of accomplishments. Wertz transitioned referee assignments at the US Youth Soccer National Championships from grade-based to performance-based, and he initiated a feedback program to identify programs and procedures that needed improvement. He also presented at past US Youth Soccer Workshops on several referee-focused topics and developed a proposal to strengthen the training programs for youth referees, among several other impacts in the realm of soccer officiating.

Wertz was the 2002 recipient of the Eddie Pearson Award for contributions to the USSF Referee Program, and he has since become the namesake of an award given in US Youth Soccer Region III. The Bob Wertz Award is presented to a participating referee at the US Youth Soccer Region III Championships who displays leadership and support to his or her fellow referees.

**[VIDEO](#): Wertz Inducted into US Youth Soccer Hall of Fame**