

Ian “Bill” Davey Award:



Ian “Bill” Davey was elected into the USASA Hall of Fame for his contributions to soccer. The Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee described the people who received this honor as people who put in decades of tireless contributions with one common goal - the advancement of the game which we all love.

Bill has been passionate about soccer his entire life. He has served the USSF and the State of Kansas for many years as a Referee, Instructor, Assessor, and Assignor across all levels of competition. Bill’s contributions to soccer in the State of Kansas include much more than his roles as a Referee.

- Bill founded the Air Capital Soccer Association, a Youth Club based in Wichita, Kansas, in 1984.
- Bill was instrumental in establishing the Club’s Scholarship Foundation in 1987, which awards yearly College Scholarships to the Club’s incoming freshman students.
- Bill served both the Youth and Amateur Associations in numerous capacities including, President of the local Youth League, Head Referee for both the Amateur and Youth Leagues, and past President of the Kansas Amateur Soccer Association, and is currently the State Registrar for the Kansas Adult Soccer Association, USASA Region 2 Treasurer and Tournament of Champions Commissioner.

As a Referee Administrator, Bill has served as the State Director of Assessment, was the Amateur Representative when the SRC was initially formed, and has been the Kansas State Referee Administrator for 10 of the last 12 years.

Ian “Bill” Davey’s service to the game of soccer represents passion, commitment and dedication to making our game available to the players, coaches and fans of Kansas and a commitment to the “Fair Play” mission of FIFA. This award is given to Kansas Referees who carry on these high standards for passion, commitment and dedication in the development of the Kansas Referee.

- **Tony Palomino - Ian “Bill” Davey Award Winner – 2009:** As a Referee, Tony was committed to consistently getting better. Tony advanced himself to become a USSF State Level Referee. He was also a certified Referee Instructor. He officiated at the USSF Youth and Amateur levels, was a member of NISOA (National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials of America working college matches), and was named the National Federation of High School Referee of the Year for Kansas Girl’s Soccer in 2004.

Tony’s performance as a Referee, while exceptional, is only a part of his contribution to the Referee Development Program in the State of Kansas. His longer lasting contribution is his dedication to others and our sport demonstrated by his helping new Referee’s get better. Tony will be remembered for being at soccer fields mentoring new Referee’s every weekend for years. The members of the State Referee Committee know that our Kansas Referee’s are better, much better, because of his dedication. Tony’s impact on our sport will be evident for many years. Because of this, we are pleased to present Tony with the “Ian Bill Davey Award”, recognizing his service to the game of soccer, his passion, commitment and dedication to making our game available to the players, coaches and fans of Kansas and his commitment to the “Fair Play” mission of FIFA.

SRC Service Award:

Have you ever noticed that soccer fans are vocal, and one of their favorite activities is complaining about their Referee? Referees are made, not born. There are a number of people who participate in the tasks of making new Referees and making current Referees even more effective. The most visible and known people are the technical members of the State Referee Committee – the State Referee Administrator, the State Youth Referee Administrator, the State Directors of Instruction and the State Director of Assessment. However, the only way these appointed members of the State Referee Committee can accomplish their responsibilities is with the assistance of volunteers who are committed beyond “the usual what is in it for me”.

The State Referee Committee Service Award recognizes contributions made by the recipient in service to other Referees in the areas of recruiting, retaining, educating, and assessing. These are contributions which will be realized for a long time after the recipient “retires”. These contributions will be perpetuated by the “next generation” of Referees. This Award is given to a Kansas Referee who has contributed this extra level of service to the development of the Kansas Referee.

- **Mike Steck - SRC Service Award Winner – 2009:** Mike has been a Referee, a Certified Instructor and a Certified Assessor. He served the youth as a member of the State Referee Committee. Mike is not a “wall flower”. He will complain on occasion and is not afraid to challenge the status quo.

There should be no doubt that Mike believes in his mantra, “do it for the kids”. This is why Mike has been on the sidelines, watching young Referee’s for years and sharing ideas on how they could improve. When he identifies talent, he not only pushes them to be better. He makes sure that they are recognized for their potential and performance.

Last year the Young Referee’s of the year came from the Louisburg Soccer Club, Mike’s home base. Kansas has been fortunate to have multiple winners of the United States Youth Soccer Association National Referee of Year (both male and female), and Mike was a part of the success of Gina, Jessica and Jon.

Mike’s contributions to our sport will be felt for many years because of these young Referees. Because of this, we are pleased to present the State Referee Committee Service Award to Mike Steck, recognizing his service to the game of soccer, his passion, commitment and dedication to our Kansas Referees.