

BEST PRACTICE #3


I use observations to measure an official's ability.



Intentional game observations are powerful tools in helping officials get better. They help the officials by providing feedback on what they are doing well and what needs improvement. Observations also provide you with information about an official's ability level and stage of development.

Best practices for observation programs:

- Use veteran officials and trained Certified Observers/Raters to complete observations. This lends credibility to your organization's ranking system.
- Have a system for vetting those who want to give back or earn money through observing.
 - Observers must be knowledgeable and experienced.
- Have a mechanic in place that allows coaches to provide feedback after games.

	This functionality is available for \$99 (as of this printing). A coach evaluation allows you to read about any problems that occur and see what officials are doing on a game-to-game basis, as well as any patterns officials engage in, positive or negative. The coach evaluation should at least pertain to professionalism, communication, and fitness. Whatever format is used, the evaluation needs to be fair and effective.
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USA Lacrosse offers Observation Grants to assist local organizations in conducting observations. Additionally, Officials Development Grants from the USA Lacrosse can be used to create a local grant which mirrors the structure of these national observation programs.



Susie Ganzenmuller Grant



Scott Boyle Grant

<https://www.usalacrosse.com/grants-for-officials-organizations>