

Claude Pickering has been a dedicated and tireless supporter and practitioner of tennis officiating for over 50 years. Claude began his officiating career by working on-court at tournaments of all levels. As he gained experience, he began to work as a referee and chief umpire.

Claude has acted as president in the Southern California tennis umpire organization for two terms, and has spent much of his time and energy on improving the perception of officiating.

A former union negotiator, Claude used his skills to improve the pay scale of officials by helping tournament directors and committees understand the value of qualified officials.

In the early 2000s, Claude moved to the Phoenix area and continued his invaluable support by contributing to the recruitment, training and development of new officials.

Claude continues to officiate today and consistently scores perfect marks on his certification exams each year.