



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

All coaches, assistant coaches, players, and spectators shall support the referee before, during, and after the game. Failure to do so undermines the referee's authority and could create a hostile environment for players, the referee, coaches and assistant coaches.

NO ONE IS TO ADDRESS THE REFEREE DURING OR AFTER THE GAME!!!!

Coaches/Assistant Coaches - Allowable Exceptions

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication
- Making substitutions
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues

At half time or at the end of the game:

- Asking a referee to explain a rule(s) in a polite and positive way
- After the game all players and coaches should shake hands and thank the referee

Penalties

- 1st Minor Infraction - Referee should ignore
- 2nd Minor Infraction - Referee should issue a verbal warning
- 3rd Minor Infraction - Referee should issue a caution
- 4th Minor Infraction - Referee should issue an ejection
- 1st Serious Infraction - Referee should issue a caution or ejection depending on the seriousness of infraction per FIFA.
- 2nd Serious Infraction - Referee should issue a caution or ejection depending on the seriousness of infraction per FIFA.

Accumulation of two cautions in one match is equivalent to an ejection.

Spectators - Allowable Exceptions

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication
- Pointing out emergencies or safety issues

ABSOLUTELY NO SARCASM, NO HARASSMENT, AND NO INTIMIDATION!!!!



Penalties

- 1st Infraction - Referee should stop the game and ask the coach to quiet the offending spectator.
- 2nd Infraction - Referee should stop the game, give a verbal warning to the coach, and ask the coach to warn the spectator that the next infraction will be an ejection or the referee will abandon the game.
- 3rd Infraction - The referee shall instruct the coach to direct the spectator to leave the field. The referee should abandon the game if the spectator does not leave the field.

Communications among players and referees are governed by the FIFA Laws of the Game.

REFEREE SUPPORT

Everyone, especially coaches and assistant coaches, shall provide support to the referees at all times.

1. Coaches are responsible for assistant coaches, players, fans and their own behavior.
2. Any coach who does not comply with a referee's request to deal with a fan shall be issued misconduct as deemed appropriate by the referee.
3. Anyone responsible for the verbal or physical assault of a referee prior to, during, or following a game will be subject to review by the Marlboro Board of Directors and the league in which they are participating.
4. Any team that refuses to provide the name and address of the responsible person(s) for the verbal or physical assault on a referee will be subject to review by the Marlboro Board of Directors and the league in which they are participating.

Referee Issues

If during a game you feel the referee isn't handling the game correctly you can:

- 1) Remove your team from the field of play and terminate the game.
- 2) If the game is in Marlboro, involve the Referee Director or President if they are at the field.

You should e-mail the Referee Director with details involving the game, the referee's actions and your concerns. If the game is in Marlboro, the Referee Director will investigate and take the appropriate steps. If the game is in another town the Referee Director will contact that town's Referee Director and give them the details.

Last Amended: April 19, 2010