

Zero Tolerance Rule

Every coach and ALL spectators shall support the referee. Failure to do so undermines the referee's authority and has the potential to create a hostile environment for the players, the referees, and the spectators. Consequently we have adopted the following rule:

Coaches are responsible for fan behavior. Any coach who does not comply with the referee's request to quiet the fan shall be issued a misconduct warning.

Any coach or fan who verbally assaults a referee will be given a warning or be ejected from the game. Depending upon the degree of assault. The game will not resume until the fan is removed from the playing area.

Coaches - Allowable Exceptions:

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication
- Pointing out emergencies

At half time or at the end of the game:

- A coach can ask a referee to explain a rule(s) in a polite and courtesy way.
- A coach may give polite and friendly feedback to a referee
- ABSOLUTELY no sarcasm, no harassment and no intimidation

Penalties:

- 1st Minor infraction - Referee should ignore
- 2nd Minor infraction - A verbal warning
- 3rd Minor infraction - Technical Foul
- 4th Minor infraction - Ejection from the game. The referee shall instruct the coach to leave the building. The game will not resume until the coach has left the playing area. Should the coach not leave in a timely manner that team will forfeit the game.
- 1st Serious infraction - Warning or ejection depending on seriousness of infraction.

Spectators - Allowable Exceptions:

During the game:

- Responding to a referee initiating communication
- Pointing out emergencies

Penalties:

- 1st Minor Infraction - Referee should ignore
- 2nd Minor Infraction - Referee should stop the game and ask the coach to quiet the offending spectator.
- 3rd Minor Infraction - A verbal warning. Referee should stop the game and ask the coach to warn the spectator that the next infraction will be an ejection.
- 4th Minor Infraction - The referee shall instruct the coach to direct the spectator to leave the playing area. The game will not resume until the spectator has left the playing area. Should the spectator not leave in a timely manner that team will forfeit the game.